



AMENDMENTS TO AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING

Proposed Amendment - AR 88C, AR 88D, AR 88E and AR 85

Summary

At a meeting of the Veterinary and Analytical Advisory Group (VAAG) noted that the recently adopted Prohibited Practice Rules – AR 88C, AR 88D & AR 88E; and also, the current rule dealing with “firing procedures” – AR 85, does not explicitly prohibit persons from performing these procedures, whereas the rules dealing with shockwave therapy (AR 86), intra-articular injections (AR 87), injections (AR 254) and injections of Cobalt salts (AR 254A) makes provision in this regard.

The Veterinary and Analytical Advisory Group (VAAG) proposed amendments to AR 85, AR 88C, AR 88D & AR 88E to include a sub-rule which reads as follows;

“A person must not:

- (a) administer;
- (b) cause to be administered;
- (c) attempt to administer; or
- (d) be a party to the administration of (insert relevant procedure).

to the horse at any time.”

The Chairmen of Stewards Committee (COSC) then unanimously supported the proposal of VAAG to include a sub-rule to each of AR 88C, AR 88D, AR 88E and AR85 which prohibits a person from engaging in the procedures covered by the relevant rules (“prohibition clause”).

Consultation with and by the PRA’s was undertaken between May 2024 and August 2024. The PRA’s have confirmed their support for this amendment.

1. Amend AR 85 as follows:

AR 85 Horses that have had a firing procedure

(1) If a horse has been subjected to a firing procedure in Australia:

- (a) the horse is ineligible for; and
- (b) a person must not enter or start the horse in, any race, official trial, jump-out or trackwork.

(2) If a horse is subject to a firing procedure, the owner of the horse or that owner's authorised agent must provide written notification of that to the Stewards as soon as practicable. The Stewards will then seek to ensure that:

- (a) details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race are recorded in Racing Australia's national online database; and
- (b) if applicable, the Thoroughbred Identification Card of the horse is endorsed with details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race.

(3) A person must not:

- (a) administer;
- (b) cause to be administered;
- (c) attempt to administer; or
- (d) be a party to the administration of a firing procedure,
to the horse at any time.

Date of effect: 1 November 2024

2. Add to AR 88C as follows:

AR 88C Horses that have had blistering procedure

(1) If a horse has been subjected to a blistering procedure in Australia:

- (a) the horse is ineligible for a minimum period of 12 months; and
- (b) a person must not enter or start the horse in any race, official trial, jump-out or trackwork.

(2) If a horse is subject to a blistering procedure, the owner of the horse or that owner's authorised agent must provide written notification of that to the Stewards as soon as practicable. The Stewards will then seek to ensure that:

(a) details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race are recorded in Racing Australia's national online database; and

(b) if applicable, the Thoroughbred Identification Card of the horse is endorsed with details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race.

(3) A person must not:

(a) administer;

(b) cause to be administered;

(c) attempt to administer; or

(d) be a party to the administration of a blistering procedure,
to the horse at any time.

Date of effect: 1 November 2024

3. Amend AR 88D as follows:

AR 88D Horses that have had chemical castration or immunocastration

(1) If a horse has been subjected to a chemical castration or immunocastration procedure in Australia:

(a) the horse is ineligible for a minimum period of 12 months; and

(b) a person must not enter or start the horse in any race, official trial, jump-out or trackwork.

(2) If a horse is subject to a chemical castration or immunocastration, the owner of the horse or that owner's authorised agent must provide written notification of that to the Stewards as soon as practicable. The Stewards will then seek to ensure that:

(a) details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race are recorded in Racing Australia's national online database; and

(b) if applicable, the Thoroughbred Identification Card of the horse is endorsed with details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race.

(3) A person must not:

(a) administer;

(b) cause to be administered;

(c) attempt to administer; or

(d) be a party to the administration of a chemical castration or immunocastration procedure,
to the horse at any time.

Date of effect: 1 November 2024

4. Amend AR 88E as follows:

AR 88E Horses that have had a bloodletting procedure

(1) If a horse has been subjected to a bloodletting procedure in Australia:

- (a) the horse is ineligible for a minimum period of 12 months; and
- (b) a person must not enter or start the horse in, any race, official trial, jump-out or track work.

(2) If a horse is subject to a bloodletting procedure, the owner of the horse or that owner's authorised agent must provide written notification of that to the Stewards as soon as practicable. The Stewards will then seek to ensure that:

- (a) details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race are recorded in Racing Australia's national online database; and
- (b) if applicable, the Thoroughbred Identification Card of the horse is endorsed with details of the procedure and the horse's ineligibility to race.

(3) A person must not:

- (a) administer;
- (b) cause to be administered;
- (c) attempt to administer; or
- (d) be a party to the administration of a bloodletting procedure,
to the horse at any time.

Date of effect: 1 November 2024