



AMENDMENTS TO AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING

Amendment - AR 79

Background

VAAG identified an inconsistency in AR 79 – Horses with bleeding, the inconsistency being;

In subrule (4)(b) which deals with horses - which in the opinion of Stewards have had an attack of bleeding – i.e. the appearance of blood at both nostrils, the qualifications for a return to starting in a race, after the mandatory stand down period of 3 months, are;

- (i) a gallop of at least 1,000 metres; or
- (ii) a official trial or jump-out:

in the presence, and to the satisfaction of a Steward.

Whereas, in subrule (8) which deals with a horse that displays blood at one nostril, the qualifications for a return to starting in a race only provides the following option;

- “a satisfactory gallop of at least 1,000 metres in the presence of a Steward.”

VAAG proposed to amend subrule (8) to be consistent with subrule (4)(b).

COSC considered the VAAG recommendation at their meeting of 23 April 2025 to amend AR 79 as proposed and progress the matter to RA for consideration.

The Racing Australia Board approved that AR 79(8) be amended with the changes and additions below in red.

AR 79(8)

- (8) Unless the Stewards are satisfied that the presence of blood referred to in subrule (7) is attributable to external trauma, then before racing again the horse is required to ~~undergo a satisfactory gallop of at least 1,000 metres in the presence of a Steward~~
- a) undergo a gallop of at least 1,000 metres; or
 - b) participate in an official trial or jump-out:
- in the presence, and to the satisfaction of a Steward.

Date of effect: 1 June 2026