



UPDATE TO REGULATIONS FOR COVID-19

Please see the following updated Regulations clauses 1-4 with preceding note from Martin Burns from NZTR:

AMENDED HORSE WELFARE DIRECTIVE

The attached Directive was updated today to include provisions specific to those Trainers or pre-trainers with their own self-contained properties. NZTR's very clear expectation is that all involved in racing must recognise that, with the focus of our health care professionals on the COVID-19 pandemic, they should not be taking any unnecessary risks. The advice from authorities is to apply common sense and do not do anything which might require someone else having to put themselves in danger to assist you, nor impose on the health care sector which we all need support in the country's effort to quickly quell and overcome COVID-19.

Please contact Martin Burns (martin.burns@nztr.co.nz or 027 5110 348) if you require any clarification.

Definitions

1.0 For the purpose of this Directive **staff** means any person working for a trainer whether paid or unpaid.

Exercise of Horses

2.0 This Directive includes provisions enabling exercise of horses under COVID-19 ALERT LEVEL 4, restrictions where needed to ensure the continued welfare of the horse. The welfare of the horse is encompassed by both its mental and physical wellbeing, and NZTR recognises that: 2.1 The mental

wellbeing of some horses may be negatively impacted by monotony if only exercised on treadmills or horse walkers.

2.2 Some horses require light ridden exercise to avoid becoming overweight.

2.3 The continuation of pre-training practices that provide graduated learning of young horses is important to their development.

3.0 Light ridden exercise of a horse under COVID-19 ALERT LEVEL 4 restrictions is permitted if the Trainer considers that it is necessary for the horse's wellbeing and alternatives would not be effective, if the exercise is conducted: 3.1 At a private property; and

3.2 The horse and staff and/or Trainer are resident on the same property, and all persons remain fully compliant to the government's requirements under COVID ALERT LEVEL-4; and

3.3 The property includes suitable areas or an existing circuit upon which light ridden exercise can be safely conducted.

4.0 If light ridden exercise is justified and permitted under paragraphs 2.0 and 3.0, the following prohibitions are stipulated on the grounds of personal safety at a time when the public health system is dedicating to combatting COVID-19:

4.1 Galloping or fastwork is prohibited.

4.2 Education through jump-out starting gates is prohibited

4.3 The horse may be ridden only at a trot, canter or up to half-pace.

4.4 Horses may only be ridden at a distance of 50 metres or more from other ridden horses.

4.5 A very cautious approach must be taken to a decision to ride a very inexperienced horse or a potentially fractious horse.

For regular updates on the Covid-19 situation for trainers, please go to the Trainers' Association website. For a full listing of the regulations please click the

following link. <https://www.nztrainers.co.nz/media/1183/nztr-directive-covid-19-alert-level-4-husbandry-and-stabling-of-thoroughbreds-27-march-2020.pdf>

ADVICE FOR THOSE OVER 70

We have also had advice in regards those over 70 years of age receiving dispensation. A trainer aged 73 called the Covid-19 Hotline (0800 22 66 57) this afternoon and was advised that he is able to go to the stables. He told them truthfully that he had a horse with a badly cut leg, which required dressing daily plus he makes up the feeds (doesn't trust anyone to do it properly)! The advice given was he could go to the stables, but to try and stay in his "bubble" - which is the two that live with us, and to keep a fair distance from the other worker, as well as to make sure that cleanliness and wiping down is followed.

UPDATE ON FARRIERS

Farriers are able to be called out if there are "EXTREME OR CRITICAL CASES". The farriers have been told they should also take the opportunity to register with MPI under the Essential Services.