

NZTR CIRCULAR No.24

18 February 2022

NZTR CIRCULAR 2021/22 – No.24

TO RACING CLUBS AND OTHER RECOGNISED INDUSTRY ORGANISATIONS

COVID - ATTENDANCE AND RACE OR TRIAL MEETINGS

As is well understood, under the 'Red Traffic Light' setting, 'vaccinated events' such as race meetings may only host defined groups of up to 100 persons.

NZTR is fully aware of the difficulties that this creates for racing clubs, both in terms of RSVP of intending patrons, and in the conduct of the day where there are costs and obligations to ensure mask wearing and adherence to restriction of patron movements on the racecourse. In the past, particularly immediately after changes in alert levels, 'closed door' meetings were necessary.

Nevertheless, with the present 'Red Traffic Light' setting seemingly likely to endure for some months, in support of the interests of owners wishing to follow their horses in racing, and having consulted major clubs, NZTR requests and expects that clubs plan for and conduct 'limited attendance' race meetings with one or more defined groups of up to 100, with priority provided to owners.

Clubs must ensure that hosting of patrons is in accordance with the current NZTR COVID Directive ([access via link](#)) and with the attached planning and approval template.

Recognising that not all clubs may have the staff or systems to manage the RSVP process, NZTR is calling club managers with an offer of assistance in this regard.

On club request, and depending on availability of these contracted staff, NZTR may be able to arrange and fund a 'COVID Support Officer' to help clubs on raceday to help or observe entry (including sighting or scanning of persons 'My Vaccine Pass'), and in ensuring that patrons or licenceholders adhere to mask wearing requirements and requirements to remain in allotted areas. Please contact me at least two weeks prior to your meeting if you wish to receive this assistance.

Please also note, that in consultation with clubs that all Trial meetings will be conducted as 'closed door' events.

AMENDMENTS TO NZTR COVID DIRECTIVE

Please note that the current NZTR COVID Directive ([access via link](#)) has been updated with the following amendments:

- Trial meetings to be run as 'closed door' meetings [3.1(a)(v)];
- Requirement that Strappers Bibs are not to be worn [3.4(a)(xi)]; and


- Remove COVID testing requirements that prevailed before introduction of Rapid Antigen Testing, and added detail on how Rapid Antigen Testing should be conducted.

Licenceholders requirement to display NZTR ID cards

As is stipulated in the Directive (2.1(f)(v) & 3.1(g)(vi)), Licenceholders are required to clearly display their NZTR ID cards. This requirement is expected to be met. NZTR will assist in this in coming weeks by distributing display pouches with a choice provided of lanyard, belt clip or armband.

Rapid Antigen Tests – Trials meetings

Please note that NZTR has secured additional supplies of Rapid Antigen Tests. This allows testing of riders and club or integrity officials working around the jockey rooms to now also be undertaken at Trials meetings, commencing 22 February 2022.



Martin Burns

GM – Welfare & Sustainability

e martin.burns@nztr.co.nz

Issued by the Office of New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing

106-110 Jackson Street, Petone, Wellington 5012

Tel: +64 4 576 6240, Fax: +64 4 568 8866