# Racing NSW

# Barrier Management Policy

**Approved and Endorsed by Racing NSW Board- 23 February 2009**
**[amended 23.11.11]**

# Racing NSW Barrier Management Policy

## Preface

The responsibilities of starters and barrier staff relating to the conduct of a race meeting are significant as their processes, decisions and responses to events encountered in their duties at the start, directly affect the safety and welfare of both horse and rider and the integrity of the race.

The objective of this policy is to provide a uniform framework for barrier management in New South Wales. It is anticipated that adherence to the principles of the 'Racing NSW Barrier Management Policy' will lead to an improvement in the standard of starting practices and personnel management at the barriers. It is expected that the adoption of the policy will also facilitate a more consistent state based approach to barrier management.

## INDEX

## 1. Appointment of the Starter
AR8(s) gives the Board of Racing NSW the power to appoint any official necessary for the conduct of a race meeting. This necessarily includes the Starter and his deputy who may be employed on a race club or regional basis.

## 2. Pecuniary Interest
No starter, Veterinary Surgeon, Farrier, Assistant Starter or Barrier Attendant may operate on any race in which he/she has a pecuniary interest (i.e. a bet or owning interest).

## 3. Starters Conflict of Interest
No Starter shall be permitted to start a race in which he has an interest in a horse. Should a Starter have an interest in a race at a race meeting in which he is working, he must at the earliest opportunity, and no later than acceptance time, advise Stewards so that alternative arrangements for the starting of that race may be made.

## 4. Barrier Staff and Conflicts of Interest
Racing NSW is committed to attracting suitably qualified part-time barrier staff that are not in any way associated with a racing stable. In practice Race Club's, particularly those country based, due to lack of availability of suitable personnel, are often required to employ licensed persons such as stablehands so that a race meeting is able to be serviced.

Any member of the barrier staff who has a conflict of interest at a race meeting must advise the Starter of same prior to the commencement of the race meeting. Where a Stablehand is engaged as a barrier attendant and his employer (Trainer) has runners engaged, the Starter must ensure that such person is not attendant upon a stable runner, except in exceptional circumstances such as a fractious horse requiring immediate attention.

## 5. Trainers
A Trainer employed as a barrier attendant, who has a runner engaged for a particular race, must stand down from his duties for that race and must not be present at the start. If officiating as a Clerk of the Course, the trainer must avoid any contact with his horse(s) where practical.

## 6. Paperwork
Upon arrival on course, at a minimum of one hour prior to the advertised starting time of the race meeting, the Starter must obtain from Stewards a copy of the Official Racebook, Racing NSW generated 'Starters Report' (see Appendix 1) and Racing NSW generated 'Brands and Markings Report' (see Appendix 2). The Starter must rely upon the Racing NSW generated 'Starters Report' to load runners in their correct order. Under no circumstances may any other report be relied upon by the Starter to assist him in the process of loading runners.

The Starter will obtain details of any scratchings and/or riding changes from Stewards and make those changes to the 'Starters Report'. It shall be the Starter's sole responsibility to cross check the barrier order in the 'Starters Report' against the official racebook and notify Stewards of any discrepancy which will then be investigated by Stewards.

## 7. Starters' Reports
Starters' reports, which contain abbreviated comments of starters concerning peculiarities of a horse in respect to barrier manners, should be taken on an advice

basis by the Starter. If it is advisable to update, amend, add to or remove comments, the Starter should do so before returning the document to the Stewards at the conclusion of the meeting so that computerised records can be updated.

## 8. Additional Raceday Information
Stewards will advise the Starter of any additional raceday issues affecting the starting operation or barrier positioning, such as exhibition gallops between races, and provide any additional instruction as they see fit.

## 9. Check Time with Stewards
Prior to proceedings the Starter must confirm that the time on his watch is accurate by checking with Stewards or simulating time with the Telstra Service accessed by dialling 1194.

## 10. Communication
The Starter must ensure that he obtains from Stewards at the commencement of the day a two-way radio, and is required to test that communication line prior to the running of the first event. Mobile phones are a valuable back-up source of communication should the two-way radio fail and the starter should ensure he has exchanged mobile telephone numbers with the relevant members of the Stewards panel. The importance of reliable communication between Starter and Stewards is critical.

## 11. Minimum Barrier Staff Requirements
The minimum number of barrier attendants for meetings conducted in NSW is as follows:
Metropolitan: Ten attendants
Other TAB: One attendant per two horses (maximum eight)
Non-TAB: Four attendants (ten plus starters – five attendants)

In the case of meetings conducted in the country and provincial areas, the Chief Steward has the authority to adjust the number of barrier staff dependent upon the balance of horse numbers.

## 12. Duties of Assistant starter
The Assistant Starter must signal to the Starter that the final runner has been loaded and that all gates are closed. Should no Assistant Starter be available, the Starter must delegate this responsibility to some other suitable person.

The Assistant Starter may undertake any of the tasks carried out by the Starter as delegated, and will also perform any other additional tasks as directed by the Club or Starter including being accountable for gear used in the loading process such as leads, blindfolds and barrier blankets.

## 13. Horse Identification
At all Racing NSW conducted race meetings and official barrier trials, every engaged runner must be identified by a designated official prior to it competing. Whilst the Starter and/or his assistant(s) are generally required to perform this role, Stewards or other Race Club Officials may from time to time be responsible for the identification of horses. Horse identification must be carried out with the aid of the Racing NSW generated "Brands and Markings Report" and a Racing NSW approved microchip scanner.

When identifying horses, officials must adhere to the following procedural requirements:

- Engaged runners for each race may only be identified by the official(s) when entering, or after having already entered the mounting enclosure. Under no circumstances are officials to rely on identifying runners in their tie-up stalls or any other location prior to the event.

- Engaged runners are to be positively identified with the use of the microchip scanner and checked off on the 'Brands and Markings Report' to ensure that each horse has been saddled up with the correct saddlecloth number. Any discrepancy  relating to the brands and markings of a runner or an incorrect saddlecloth number must be reported to Stewards without delay.

- Any horse that returns to the tie-up stall area must be re-identified upon re-entering the mounting enclosure.

- Only in exceptional circumstances as sanctioned by the Stewards whereby the microchip scanner is unavailable, may Officials make their identification using only the 'Brands and Markings Report'.

## 14. Barrier Attendants, Safety Apparel and Attire

Each member of the barrier staff handling horses on raceday, are to be supplied by the Race Club, with a safety vest and a helmet, both of a standard approved by Stewards. The safety vest and helmet must be worn at all times when handling horses at the start. Safety vests must be fully zipped and worn in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and helmet chin straps properly fastened. Footwear should be made of leather. Sports shoes or open toe shoes are not permitted.

Should a uniform not be supplied by the club to barrier staff, the minimum standard of dress shall be long pants and t-shirt. Shorts are not permitted. No unauthorised advertising is to be worn by barrier staff.

## 15. Transportation of Barrier Staff

Barrier staff must only be transported to starts in vehicles designed for that purpose. Due to occupational health & safety requirements, barrier staff must not be transported on the back of table-top trucks or utilities etc.

## 16. Hazards capable of causing injury to horse and rider

Prior to the first race, the Starter must conduct an inspection of the barrier stalls to identify any hazard capable of causing injury to horse or rider. An identified hazard that cannot be removed or rectified, must be reported to the Chief Steward immediately for his action. Under no circumstances is a camera or any other unauthorised apparatus to be fitted to the barrier stalls, unless prior permission is granted by the Chief Steward.

## 17. Liaison with Track Manager

Positioning at Correct Starting Point

The correct positioning of the barrier stalls for each race shall be the responsibility of the Starter. Starters must consult with the Racecourse Manager to ensure the correct positioning of the barriers and receive advice on distance markers, particularly when the moveable rail is out from its true position. Prior to the start of each event the

starter must ensure that barriers have been positioned at the correct starting point and on the correct angle and in the event of any query, or concern regarding the exact positioning of the start, the Starter must immediately notify the Stewards.

Run Out Rail
The Starter must liaise with the track manager if a run-out rail is to be used from a chute start to ensure the rail is fully and correctly positioned prior to the horses leaving the mounting yard.

## 18. Positioning from Running Rail
The barrier stalls shall be positioned such that the horse drawn the inside stall will be at least two horses from the inside running rail and the horse drawn the outside positioned at least two horses from the outside fence.

The Stewards or Starter may order that the barrier stalls be moved a distance wider on the track to improve the run to the first turn or address an issue with the track surface. If there is to be an alteration to the starting position the Starter must inform the Stewards and a public announcement to that effect should be made prior to the commencement of betting on such event.

When positioning the barrier stalls starters must be cognisant that sufficient space for a horse to avoid the barrier stalls is allowed should a horse be riderless or take charge of its rider in the preliminary.

## 19. Removal of Barriers from Course Proper
Where barriers are positioned in the home straight or other section of the track that forms part of the course or pulling up area, the Starter will make the necessary preparations to ensure that the tractor, connected to the barrier stalls, is running when the start is effected and that no obstacles prevent the barrier stalls being promptly removed from the racetrack. Further, the Starter must supervise the repositioning of the running rail well before the field approach that point.

Should a difficulty be encountered with the removal of the barrier stalls from the racetrack after the field have jumped away, the Starter must notify Stewards without delay and immediately secure the cooperation of the Clerks of Course.

## 20. Distance Sign
The starter shall ensure that any distance sign located on the barriers is altered prior to the event to reflect the correct distance of the race.

## 21. Testing
The barrier stalls must be tested by the Starter prior to the first race and any unresolved problems must be reported to Stewards immediately. The barrier stalls must be retested each time they are moved to another starting point or where there has been any malfunction.

## 22. Maintenance
The maintenance of barrier stalls is the responsibility of the Race Club and as a minimum should be serviced and tested in the week leading up to each race meeting.

## 23. Head Dividers
All barrier stalls, except those used in the conduct of picnic race meetings must have fitted, Head Dividers of a design approved by Stewards. Barrier attendants must take

particular care when holding a horses head to the side that it is not positioned behind the head divider and in all circumstances the horses head is released as the start is effected.

### 24. Barrier Extenders

Barrier Extenders may be used on barriers, however prior permission for its use must first be obtained from Stewards which necessarily will include a gear change notification to RISA. Further, the type of barrier extender must be of a design and standard approved by Stewards and is the responsibility of the trainer to ensure prior to race day that the facility is available at the race-club.

### 25. Kickboards

Kickboards may be employed at the barriers however their use should be limited to instances where horses at particular starts are inclined to slip on jumping due to lack of footing and in any account their positioning must be inspected and approved by the Stewards.

### 26. False Start Equipment and Testing

The required minimum standard of any false start system in operation during the conduct of a race meeting will consist of one flashing light and siren and ideally three flashing lights and sirens positioned within 100m – 200m from the start point and approximately 1.5 metres to the inside running rail. The false start equipment must be tested by an official designated by the Starter, prior to the first race and for each subsequent race where the equipment has been re-positioned due to a different starting point.

In exceptional circumstances where the equipment is non-operational or no such equipment is available, an official with a satisfactory form of communication with the Starter, shall be positioned approximately 200 metres after the start and provided with a flag or towel to signal to riders a false start, as ordered by the Starter. In this situation it shall be the responsibility of the Starter to alert riders to the change in procedure and to ensure the false start official is positioned where no danger is posed to rider or horse.

### 27. Farriers

It shall be mandatory for a farrier to be present behind the barrier no later than 5 minutes prior to the advertised starting time for each race. The starter shall direct the Farrier should a horse require farriery attention.

### 28. Positioning of Ambulance and Other Vehicles at the Start

At the commencement of the day the Racecourse Manager or other designated club official must notify the ambulance driver of the ambulance's positioning prior to the start of each race and the route to be taken to follow the field. The starter must check for the presence of the ambulance as a race may not be started if the ambulance is not in position and the Stewards must be advised immediately of the absence of the ambulance.

The ambulance must be stationed at or near the start once runners have arrived at the barriers, and should persons require medical attention at the start, the ambulance must be so positioned as to be able to proceed to that point promptly. If a single ambulance is in operation then unless exceptional circumstances cause Stewards to determine otherwise, the ambulance vehicle must be able to follow the field.

All vehicles should be removed from the course proper where possible, however, if the ambulance or other vehicles must be on the course proper, the Starter should take responsibility to avoid vehicles being stationed in too close a proximity to horses parading behind the barrier and direct that they be located in the safest position available.

### 29. Starters Gear
A Starters Gear Bag shall be kept at the start and contain the following gear: towels, leads, buggy whip, long rope, blinkers, pacifiers, blindfold, tongue-tie, nose roll, winkers, bridle (ring-bit), breastplate, martingale, girth, surcingle, goggles and jockeys whip. In hot/humid weather the Starter should ensure a supply of chilled bottled water is available behind the barrier.

### 30. Banned gear
Stockwhips, Twitches and the Oogly Boogly Stick, may not be used to load horses on raceday or in official barrier trials, jump-outs or practice barriers.

### 31. Barrier Blankets
The use of barrier blankets will be permitted at race meetings in the metropolitan, provincial and country areas on a limited basis subject to the following conditions:

- Design of blanket approved by Stewards, and to include dual straps attached to the barrier.
- Trainers must obtain approval of the starter to use a barrier blanket by the horse performing satisfactorily with the blanket on at jump outs or trials and must notify RISA of a gear change for the horse concerned.
- Trainers must notify the Race Club at acceptance time if the barrier blanket is required at a race meeting.
- The Race Club shall then notify the starter to ensure a barrier blanket is available at barrier.
- Continued use of a blanket on a horse is at the discretion of the starter and a horse passed to race in a trial wearing a barrier blanket must gain the approval of the starter before such blanket is removed whereby the trainer will notify RISA of a gear change.
- At all times the use of a barrier blanket shall be at the sole discretion of the starter who shall oversee the proper fitting of the barrier blanket on the horse.

### 32. Authorisation of Gear Adjustments
No alteration to the gear of a horse at the start may take place without the approval of the Stewards and the supervision of the Starter.

### 33. Loading Procedures
The following loading procedures must strictly be adhered to:

- Upon arrival at the start, the Starter must conduct a role call to establish that all engaged runners are present behind the barrier. Prior to runners being loaded, the Starter will announce to the riders and barrier attendants, in a clear and audible manner, the barrier order with scratchings having already been removed from that order.

- A horse sent with the permission of the Stewards to the barrier early may not be loaded earlier than four minutes prior to the advertised starting time for the race.

- Starters are not to commence loading runners until the last horse has arrived behind the barriers, unless otherwise directed by Stewards.

- In fields consisting of 10 runners or less, horses shall be loaded in their barrier order.

- A Starter shall however have discretion to divide the field into two banks and load horses simultaneously in barrier order within that bank of runners.

- In fields with an even amount of runners, a starter shall divide the field into two even banks and load horses simultaneously in barrier order within that bank of runners. Eg 10 runners divided into two banks of 5 runners (barriers 1-5) and 5 runners (barriers 6-10).

- In this example the horses drawn 1 and 6 would be loaded first, with 10 loaded slightly last.

- In fields consisting of 11 or more runners (odd numbers of runners), horses will be divided into two banks and loaded simultaneously in barrier order within that bank of runners. Eg. 13 runners divided into a bank of 6 runners (barrier 1-6) and 7 runners (barriers 7-13). In this example the horses drawn 1 and 7 would be loaded first.

- In the metropolitan area where there are at least two Assistant Starters, and field sizes of 18 or more, that field may be divided into three banks of runners and loaded accordingly.

- Once the entire field has been loaded it shall be the responsibility of the Assistant Starter to signal to the Starter, that a start may be effected.

## 34. Early Loading of Runners

Upon successful application to Stewards by the connections of a runner, a horse may be loaded into the barriers first, despite having drawn a wider gate. Applications may be received by Stewards in circumstances where there is evidence of a horse having experienced loading difficulties previously, or illustrated some other form of misbehaviour.

## 35. Application to load horse last

Under no circumstances may approval be given to load a horse last or later than its prescribed order of loading.

## 35(a). Proximity to Barriers

It is the responsibility of the Starter to ensure all horses remain in close proximity when marshalled behind the barriers. Under no circumstances must a horse be allowed to progress away from the barriers and must immediately be taken control of by the Clerk of course or barrier attendants if it does so.

## 36. Loading Horses with Front Gate Open

Due to its dangerous nature, the practice of loading horses with the front gate open is not recommended at race meetings and official barrier trials conducted in NSW.

Horses being walked through practice stalls provided by race-clubs for education purposes is acceptable.

### 37. Horses being reversed into Barriers

The practice of horses being reversed into the barriers at race meetings and official trials is banned.

### 38. Riders Dismounting Behind Barrier

Riders may only dismount behind the barrier upon receiving permission from the Starter. Such permission is to be granted in the circumstances of a gear adjustment or a rider's safety being compromised due to his/her mount's fractious behaviour, in which case that horse should be loaded into the barriers without delay. If permission is granted for a horse to be loaded riderless, such rider may only dismount at the order of the starter immediately prior to entering the barriers.

### 39. Rider query or objection to placement of horse in barrier

Any query or objection from a rider to the Starter or Barrier Staff, concerning the barrier position he/she is entitled to start from or the positioning of the barriers, must be communicated immediately to the Chief Steward for a ruling.

### 40. Passing horses at Official Barrier Trials

LR41 requires a horse to have competed in an official barrier trial to the satisfaction of the Stewards before being eligible to race. In addition, AR8(t) gives Stewards the power to refuse a horses nomination until it has barrier trialled to their satisfaction. Unless the permission of the Stewards to the contrary is obtained a horse barrier trialling to obtain a clearance to race must barrier trial in the gear in which it is to race.

If a horse fails a barrier test it will usually be required to satisfactorily complete two further successive barrier trials prior to being passed to race. The following conditions, unless varied by the Stewards, shall apply as guidelines when determining whether or not a horse's trial is deemed satisfactory:

- Horse must be tractable and able to be ridden satisfactorily to the barrier.
- Horses may be assisted in the loading process only by being led into the barrier or having minimal encouragement by no more than two attendants positioned behind the animal.
- A horse must be loaded in a reasonable period of time (not exceeding 90 seconds).
- A horse must not be unduly fractious or unruly whilst held in the barriers.
- A horse must jump away clearly and perform tractably out of the barriers.
- Subsequent to each trial the Starter shall report any unsatisfactory barrier performance to the Stewards. The Starter may also make any notification on the Starters Report that will assist in the loading of any horse at a future trial or race.

### 41. Flashing Light System

All barrier stalls operating at TAB conducted race meetings must be fitted with a blue and red flashing light. The blue light is to be in operation as the field is being loaded and that light is then cancelled and the red light immediately illuminated when the last horse is loaded to indicate that a start is imminent.

## 42. Positioning of Starter

Starters shall retain discretion to position themselves where they feel most comfortable to effect the best starts that being beside or in front of the barriers in elevated positions.

## 43. Starter on Stand

The starter must be on his stand no later than as the second last horse is being loaded. A Starter must not delay his progress to the starters stand to the degree he is required to run from behind the barriers to get into position on his stand.

## 44. Damage to Stalls

In instances where the stall(s) open prematurely, are broken open by a runner(s) or other significant barrier malfunction whereby it is advisable to thoroughly re-check the operations of the barrier stalls the Starter shall confer with the Chief Steward and unload the remaining horses.

## 45. Fractious Horses and the Barrier Attendant

Whilst the primary role of a Barrier Attendant is to load horses into the barrier, they will also be called on to assist in pacifying a fractious horse and aiding the safety of a rider in the barrier stalls. When 'staying up' with a horse already loaded into the barriers, barrier attendants are directed they must remain alert and that as soon as the gates commence to open they must immediately release their hold on the horse irrespective of whether or not the horse is still fractious. This avoids confusion as to whether the horse was denied a fair start on grounds of a barrier attendant still having a hold of the horses head when the start was effected. Under no circumstances may a barrier attendant hit a horse leaving the barriers with his hand or other object. If a horse refuses or is reluctant to jump it may not be assisted in anyway by a barrier attendant until it is retired from the event.

## 46. Race Deadlines and Clashes

The Starter must contact the Chief Steward at his earliest opportunity to notify of any circumstance which is likely to lead to a delay in the start of the race (i.e. broken gear, farriery attention).

Unless otherwise directed by the Chief Steward the Starter must always endeavour to start each race as close as possible to its advertised starting time. Whilst the Chief Steward will ordinarily have access to a monitor with SKY Channel vision to reduce the chances of clashing with another venue, it is desirable that the Starter has a functioning radio at the barrier. Any order to delay the start of a race to avoid a race clash, may be overruled by the Starter if in his opinion such delay places a horse or rider in imminent danger.

## 47. Veterinary Examinations at Barriers

It is mandatory to have a Veterinary Surgeon present behind the barrier for any race conducted in NSW to assist in the safety, health and welfare of both horse and rider. Only Veterinarian's approved by Racing NSW may officiate at NSW TAB conducted race meetings. If the race is run on the course proper the rider should be ordered to remount so as the horse does not escape onto the racing circuit.

All officiating Veterinarians will be provided a copy of Racing NSW's 'A Guide for Official Racing Veterinarians in New South Wales' which provides a framework for the delivery of veterinary services to the NSW Thoroughbred Racing Industry and outlines in comprehensive detail the responsibilities of the raceday official

Veterinarian. It is the officiating Veterinarian's responsibility to understand, and conduct their raceday duties in accordance with this publication. Should a horse become cast, or rear and hit its head or get a leg on or over a structure or make head contact with the barriers, then the Starter or the Veterinary Surgeon on his own volition will require the horse be unloaded and vetted.

## 48. Withdrawal at the barriers

Stewards should be alerted, via walkie talkie by the Starter, at the earliest opportunity should there be a circumstance that may warrant the ordering of a veterinary examination of a horse behind or in the barrier. During this process the Stewards may need to speak directly via walkie talkie or mobile phone with the Veterinary Surgeon if, for example, a horse is suspected to have hit its head on a barrier structure. Barrier staff may be required to provide assistance in removing gear i.e. blinkers.

If an undue delay is likely (i.e. a horse breaks through the barriers) the Starter should confirm with the Chief Steward regarding the backing out of loaded runners.

If more than one horse requires Veterinary examination this fact should be communicated to the Stewards so that any withdrawals are done in an orderly manner with, if possible, the one announcement and one withdrawal time applying. If a horse cannot be loaded within a reasonable period of time a recommendation should be made by the Starter to the Stewards for its withdrawal.

When a horse is to be withdrawn the Starter must await the order of the Stewards before dispatching the remaining runners. Before the order is given to start the race the following protocol must be adhered to.

a. The Stewards may elect in the first instance to order the horse withdrawn be returned to the mounting enclosure, with the assistance of the Clerk of the Course, if such action can be completed without causing an unnecessary delay and compromising the safety of horses and their riders that have already loaded into the barrier.

b. If the Stewards elect not to return the withdrawn horse to the enclosure, then the withdrawn horse must have a long lead placed on it and be handed to the possession of an experienced and capable barrier attendant. The attendant, whenever possible should ensure that the withdrawn horse is either led onto an alternate track or into a chute on the same track, if such action can be completed without causing an unnecessary delay and compromising the safety of horses and their riders that have already loaded into the barrier. Wherever possible an additional barrier attendant should also be assigned to assist in handling the withdrawn horse and if it is deemed appropriate the rider should stay mounted or remount the horse to assist in securing the horse. In circumstances where the horse is lame or potentially injured or poses as safety risk to the rider then the horse should remain riderless.

c. The Clerk of the Course should assist the barrier attendant in handling the horse whilst the race is being run and only once the race has been completed and the field is returning to the mounting enclosure should the withdrawn horse be handed to the Clerk of the Course, who may lead the horse back to the mounting enclosure.

### 49. False Start Procedures

The Starter may consider signalling a false start where in his opinion runners were not afforded a fair start. These circumstances may include mechanical failure of the barrier stalls such as gates opening prematurely, slowly or not at all. However, should one stall not open (perhaps two in a large field), the Starter has the option of allowing a race to proceed with a view to Stewards subsequently declaring that horse or horses a non-runner under AR 134A, rather than attempting the difficult task, particularly with inexperienced horses or in sprint races, to recall the field. If a horse breaks through the front of the barrier a recall is necessary however, the decision to signal a false start shall ultimately be at the discretion of the Starter who shall report such matter urgently to the Chief Steward via walkie talkie.

### 50. Attendance at Stewards Inquiries

Should any horse be unruly behind the barriers or after being loaded, and most particularly when that behaviour results in a late scratching, the Starter will generally be called to give evidence at a subsequent Stewards inquiry. In circumstances where there is an application from connections to declare a horse a non-runner on the grounds of it being denied a fair start, the Starter and any relevant Barrier Official attending such runner, shall without delay, report to the Stewards Room where they may be called to give evidence

### 51. Flag Starts

Flag starts are banned at all NSW TAB conducted race meetings. However in exceptional circumstances where the barrier stalls become unavailable because of a malfunction or some other unforeseeable circumstance at a non-TAB race meeting, the Stewards may order a race or races to be effected under a flag start.

### 52. Open Top Barrier Stalls

Open top barrier stalls of a design approved by Racing NSW may be used in the conduct of NSW race meetings and barrier trials.

### 53. Manual Starts

Should the electronic starting mechanism fail the starter may start a race by manual operation provided that he notifies the Chief Steward of that intention and further that all riders are alerted.

### 54. Blindfolds

At all times the rider must dismount prior to a blindfold being applied to a horse whether at official trials or at a race meeting.

The use of a blindfold in conjunction with a barrier blanket is not recommended, and the combination of the gear should only be contemplated with acquiesce of the trainer and further should be first tested in an official trial.

If a blindfold is to be used in conjunction with a barrier blanket, the barrier blanket must at all times be fitted prior to the blindfold being applied.

The lead on a horse fitted with a blindfold at all times must be held by an experienced barrier attendant and a second lead where possible should be attached to the velcro of the blindfold and also held loosely by that attendant. This will enable the attendant to quickly release the hood if the horse becomes uncontrollable and pulls away.

**A blindfold shall not be applied by the Starter to a horse on race day unless such horse has satisfactorily worn that gear in official trials or jump outs.**

Starters should note part (2) <u>BLINDFOLDS, STALLION CHAINS & DUALLY HEADCOLLAR</u> of the Register of Nationally Approved Gear and ensure horses that are approved to have blindfolds, stallion chains or dually head collars fitted, are notified to the Stewards for inclusion on the Starters Report.

**Register of Nationally Approved Gear**
*BLINDFOLDS, STALLION CHAINS & DUALLY HEADCOLLAR*

**1) Approval for use:** *For the purpose of AR.140B(1),Blindfolds, Stallion Chains and Dually Headcollars maybe used at the barriers in races or trials, subject to the conditions set out in this rule.*

**(2) Permission to use:** *Prior to being permitted to use a Blindfold, Stallion Chain or Dually Headcollar in a race, a horse must enter the barriers to the satisfaction of a Starter, or person authorised by the Stewards, with a Blindfold, Stallion Chain or Dually Headcollar prior to acceptance time.*

**(3) Conditions of use:** *For safety reasons the Blindfold, Stallion Chain or Dually Headcollar will be fitted as late as possible and the rider will be required to dismount*

*[Blindfolds amended 23.11.2011]*

## APPENDIX 1 – STARTERS REPORT

**Racing New South Wales**
**Starters Report**
**For Meeting: 10.01.2009 Rosehill Gardens**
**Race 3 - 01:45PM - 1500 M**

| Barrier | Barrier Draw | Rider | Cloth No | Horse | Starter Report |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | Jeff Lloyd | 7 | Needlebox (NZ) | Barrier blanket.; |
| | 2 | Mitchell Beadman | 2 | Come in Spanner | - |
| | 3 | Rod Quinn | 5 | Bright Mind (GB) | Head & Tail.; stay; |
| | 4 | Nathan Berry | 3 | Ledger | - |
| | 5 | Daniel Ganderton | 6 | Kings Pride | - |
| | 6 | Kerrin McEvoy | 4 | Gently Bentley | - |
| | 7 | Robert Agnew | 1 | Pacino | - |
| | 8 | Kathy O'Hara | 8 | Wally Hatter | Lead on, chase up; |

**For Meeting: 10.01.2009 Rosehill Gardens**
**Race 8 - 05:03PM - 1300 M**

| Barrier | Barrier Draw | Rider | Cloth No | Horse | Starter Report |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | Chris Munce | 2 | Thunderbirdsarego | - |
| | 2 | Tim Clark | 7 | Triple Down | Lead, chase up.; |
| | 3 | Kathy O'Hara | 8 | Druid | - |
| | 4 | Jamie Quinnell | 5 | Miraculist | - |
| | 5 | Kerrin McEvoy | 3 | Dynamite Dancer | - |
| | 6 | Jay Ford | 12 | Follows Me | - |
| | 7 | Nathan Berry | 10 | Hemony | Tail, Stay up; Lead on; |
| | 8 | Rod Quinn | 4 | Wing Forward | - |
| | 9 | Carissa Lambert | 14 | Cape Pallister (NZ) | Head - rears; Stay up, Tail.; |
| | 10 | Mitchell Beadman | 1 | Intermac | - |
| | 11 | - | 6 | Rapauric | stay; |
| | 12 | Jeff Lloyd | 11 | Madibagold | Stay up; |
| | 13 | Daniel Edmonds | 9 | Delightful One | - |
| | 14 | Daniel Ganderton | 13 | Encosta Fortune | Stay (REARS).; |

## APPENDIX 2 – BRANDS AND MARKINGS REPORT

### Racing New South Wales

### COMBINED GEAR, BRANDS AND MARKINGS

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**Race 1**
**01:10PM**     **SUNSET RACING, 12TH DECEMBER HANDICAP   (3Y 0-76)              1550M**

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**1 Fusakeo**     BR  G  3   (985100010821900)                    Gai Waterhouse

Brands:

G|
H|

                                                 Numerals:           133 / 5

Markings:     Head = Snip, Few White Hairs, NF = Nil, OF = Pastern, NH = Fetlock, OH = Fetlock
Lugging Bit  4/11/2008
Approved Race Plates (Front)  12/10/2008
Approved Race Plates (Hind)  12/10/2008
Blinkers  22/09/2008

**2 Lotseventy**     CH  G  3   (985100010883099)                    Kris Lees    8/10/2008

Brands:

ŪPT

                                                 Numerals:           1 / 5

Markings:     Head = Blaze, NF = Nil, OF = Nil, NH = Pastern, OH = Pastern
Approved Race Plates (Front)  10/05/2008
Approved Race Plates (Hind)  10/05/2008
Lugging Bit  10/05/2008

**3 Romany Star**    B  C  3   (985100010883614)                    Robert Pearse  26/06/2007

Brands:

                                                 Numerals:           252 / 5

Markings:     Head = Star, NF = Coronet, OF = Coronet, NH = Fetlock, OH = Nil
Approved Race Plates (Front)  8/10/2008
Approved Race Plates (Hind)  8/10/2008
Lugging Bit  1/10/2008

**4 Pay And Play**    B OR BR  G  3   (985100010882643)                    Chris Waller

## APPENDIX 3 – RULES OF RACING

**AR 7(t)** To appoint or to approve the appointment by any Club of any official any deputy or assistant official. For the purposes of this provision the term "official" means a person appointed to carry out official duties at a race meeting, but does not include the Club Secretary.

**AR 8.** To assist in the control of racing, Stewards shall be appointed according to the Rules of the respective Principal Racing Authorities, with the following powers:-

(a) To make, alter, or vary all or any of the arrangements for the conduct of any race meeting under their control.

(d) To regulate and control, inquire into and adjudicate upon the conduct of all officials and licensed persons, persons attendant on or connected with a horse and all other persons attending a racecourse.

(f) To determine all questions arising or objections made in reference to racing at the meeting.

(l) To order down any rider without assigning any reason and if they think fit to substitute another rider.

(m) To prohibit any horse from starting in any race.

(n) To order the removal from any horse of any shoes, racing plates, equipment or gear which has not been approved or is in their opinion unsuitable, unsafe or ineffective.

(p) In exceptional cases to extend the time allowed for weighing-out, declaring weight, for starting or for any other thing required by the Rules, or conditions of a race.

(q) If the conditions are in their opinion unsafe for racing, or in case of urgent necessity, or with the permission of the Committee of the Club for any other reason,

(ii) to alter the distance of any race.

(r) To remove at any time during the hours of racing in their discretion the Judge, Starter, Clerk of Scales, Clerk of Course, Timekeeper, or other official and appoint a substitute for any such official.

(s) To appoint any official or any deputy or assistant necessary for the conduct of a meeting if the Committee of the Club have failed or omitted to do so.

(t)  To refuse or reject the nomination of any horse at any time for any period and/or until such horse has trialled, barrier trialled or passed any required veterinary examination to their satisfaction.

(u) To order the withdrawal of a horse from any race at any time before the start if in their opinion it is unfit to run or unable to start without unreasonable delay.

**AR 39.**   No person shall act in an official capacity as Steward, Veterinary Surgeon, Handicapper, Judge, Starter, Clerk of the Course, Clerk of the Scales, Farrier, Barrier Attendant or Timekeeper, or as Assistants or Deputies of any of the above in respect of any race in the result of which he has a pecuniary interest.

**AR.124.**  Every horse unless otherwise permitted by the Stewards shall be presented in the mounting yard no later than fifteen minutes prior to the advertised start time.

**AR.125.**   Every horse shall parade and proceed, without delay, to the start as directed by the Stewards.

**AR.126.** Every race shall be started by the Starter or such person appointed by the Principal Racing Authority, Committee of the Club or the Stewards in accordance with these rules.

**AR 127.**  The horses shall be started by the official Starter or his substitute appointed by the Committee of the Club or by the Stewards in accordance with these Rules, and no rider whose horse is once under the Starter's orders shall be allowed to go back and correct his weight except with the permission of the Starter or Stewards.

**AR.128.**  (1)  Every rider shall ensure that his horse occupies its allotted barrier stall that is in the respective order as previously determined by the barrier draw.

(2)   If any horse starts from an incorrect barrier stall, the Stewards prior to the declaration of correct weight may confirm the official order of placings, declare the race to be void, or declare any horse concerned a non-starter".

**AR.129.**   An open barrier or flag start must be specifically authorised by the Stewards, whereupon the Starter may remove any unruly horse from the place allotted by the barrier draw;  and in such case he shall place it at such a distance to the outside of, or behind, the other runners where it cannot gain any advantage for itself, or cause any danger or prejudice the chances of any other horse;  or if he considers it necessary he may recommend its withdrawal by the Stewards.

**AR.130.**  If the start is from barrier stalls, no horse may start outside the barrier stalls and any horse which refuses to enter its barrier stall after all reasonable efforts have been made to place it therein, or any horse which becomes unduly fractious after being placed in its stall it may be withdrawn by the Stewards who may make such orders as are considered appropriate in respect to betting on such event.

**AR.131.**   If a race be started from the incorrect starting position the Stewards may declare such race void and may further order that such race be re-run on that day.

**AR.132.**  The Starter may signal a false start if he considers -
(a)      the barrier stalls have malfunctioned,
(b)      a horse has broken through the barriers before he had effected the start, or
(c)      for any reason, a fair start had not been effected.

**AR.132A.** In the event that a false start has been signalled by the Starter and/or an official appointed for the purpose each rider must immediately restrain his mount and return to the starting point without delay.

**AR.133.** Unless a false start has been signalled by the Starter or the official appointed for the purpose all riders shall ride their mounts so as to fulfil their obligations under AR.135(b)

**AR.134.** The decision of the Stewards shall be final and conclusive upon any question of whether a start has been effected or whether a horse is declared a non-starter. "


**AR 134A.** If in the opinion of the Stewards any horse was riderless at the time a start was effected, or was encumbered by equipment applied with the permission of or at the direction of the starter, or if a horse was denied a fair start and such occurrence materially prejudiced the chances of that horse finishing in first, second or third placing, the Stewards may declare such a horse to be a non-starter and may make such order regarding betting as provided for separately in the Rules of Betting. Provided that a horse which is ultimately declared first, second or third placing in a race shall not be declared a non-starter.

**AR 164.** An objection may be made by a Steward or Starter in his official capacity without any deposit and in the case of matters referred to in A.R. 165 at any time before weight is declared.

**LR41.** (1) Every horse must have competed in an official barrier trial to the satisfaction of the Stewards before being eligible to race, unless otherwise determined by the Stewards.
(2) Any horse trialling for the purpose of obtaining a permit to start in a race must carry the gear in which it is to race, unless otherwise specifically authorised by the Stewards.