



**Racing  
Victoria**

## **Farrier Licensing Policy**

Applicable to licensed farriers and persons applying for farrier or apprentice farrier licence.

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Version 1.2*

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## 1. PURPOSE

### 1.1. Purpose and Authorising Provision

This Racing Victoria Licensing Policy (**Policy**) sets out the requirements that a person must satisfy to be granted a licence to shoe or plate horses for racing under AR 107 and the conditions upon which a person may hold a licence.

An updated copy of the Rules of Racing (**Rules**) can be located at the Racing Victoria Website - <https://www.racingvictoria.com.au/the-sport/racing/rules-of-racing>.

### 1.2. Commencement and Transitional Provisions

These Licence Rules come into operation and effect on and from 1 April 2018.

Unless otherwise provided for, all licences, permits, approvals, authorisations and any other rights or privileges granted under or pursuant to the Rules prior to 1 April 2018 are deemed to continue in full force and effect until their expiration.

## 2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

### 2.1. Definitions

In this Policy:

**Applicant** means the applicant for a licence to shoe or plate horses for racing pursuant to this Policy.

**AR** means an Australian Rule of Racing.

**Carnival Days** means in relation to race meetings conducted by the:

- (a) Victoria Racing Club:
  - (i) Victoria Derby Day;
  - (ii) Melbourne Cup Day;
  - (iii) Oaks Day; and
  - (iv) Stakes Day;
- (b) Melbourne Racing Club: Caulfield Cup Day; and
- (c) Moonee Valley Racing Club: Cox Plate Day.

**Criminal Record Check** means a National Police Certificate or recognised equivalent.

**Licensing Panel** has the same meaning as in the Racing Victoria Rules of Racing.

**LR** means a Local Rule of Racing of Racing Victoria.

**Policy** means the Farrier Licensing Policy pursuant to the Rules of Racing of Racing Victoria.

**Prospective Trainer Reference** means a written reference from a licensed thoroughbred trainer who has a bona fide intention to employ the Applicant to shoe or plate horses engaged to run in a race or official trial.

**Racing Disciplinary History Assessment** means an assessment by Racing Victoria of an Applicant's racing disciplinary record in Victoria or other relevant jurisdictions as required. Relevant considerations in this assessment include, but are not limited to:

- (a) an Applicant's history of compliance with the Rules;
- (b) any penalties received by an Applicant for breaches of the Rules; and
- (c) the existence of current charges against an Applicant or trainer and/or investigations into potential breaches of the Rules.

**Work Reference** means a reference provided in respect of an Applicant by a previous employer regarding the Applicant's standard of work in shoeing and plating horses and other relevant factors

## 2.2. Interpretation

Unless the context requires to the contrary, words and expressions used in this Policy have the meaning given to them in the Rules.

## 3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRANT OF FARRIER LICENCES

In addition to any specific requirements set out in this Policy or in the Rules, it is a requirement for the grant of any Farrier licence that the person:

- (a) **Experience:** has the practical, pre-requisite experience reasonably required to carry on the vocation of a Farrier or Apprentice Farrier competently.
- (b) **Training:** has completed or is enrolled in the Certificate III Farriery Trade with a registered TAFE organisation.
- (c) **Skill:** has the ability necessary to carry on the vocation of a Farrier or Apprentice Farrier and has passed the training requirements.
- (d) **Age:** is at least 15 years of age.
- (e) **Suitability:** has satisfied Racing Victoria that he or she is suitable to hold a licence or registration in line with the 'Racing Victoria Suitability Policy', taking into account any fact(s) or matter(s) that it considers appropriate.
- (f) **Knowledge:** has a knowledge of the Rules of Racing relating to Farriers.
- (g) **Prescribed Forms:**
  - (i) The Farrier Licence Application form, including its requirements; and
  - (ii) the Applicant must acknowledge and agree to be bound by this Policy and the Rules, and adhere to the specific "Licence Conditions" outlined in the Policy;

Where a Farrier is employed by Racing Victoria the following forms must also be completed:

- (iii) The Private Interest and Probity Declaration; and
- (iv) The Betting Declaration.
- (h) **Assessments:** has satisfied the following assessments:
  - (i) National Police Record Certificate;
  - (ii) Racing Disciplinary Record;
  - (iii) Interview with Racing Victoria; and
  - (iv) Knowledge of the Rules of Racing relating to Farriers

### 3.1. Categories of Licences

An application for the grant of a Farrier licence may be made for the following categories:

- (a) Farrier;
- (b) Visiting Farrier;
- (c) Visiting International Farrier;
- (d) Apprentice Farrier;
- (e) Visiting Apprentice Farrier;
- (f) Visiting International Farrier; and
- (g) Any other category as Racing Victoria allows from time to time.

### 3.2. Visiting Licences

In addition to satisfying the “General Requirements for the Grant of Farrier Licences” as outlined in part 3 of this Policy or in the Rules, it is a requirement for the grant of any visiting licence to shoe or plate racehorse that:

- (a) The person holds a current and active Farrier or Apprentice Farrier licence issued by his or her home-based Racing Authority; and
- (b) If the person’s home-based licence expires, is cancelled, revoked or becomes inactive for any reason, any licence issued by Racing Victoria will cease immediately and as a consequence, he or she will not be licensed to shoe or plate thoroughbred racehorses for racing in any capacity within Victoria.

### 3.3. The Directors

An application to the Directors for the grant or renewal of a farrier’s licence must:

- (i) be in such form;
- (ii) provide such information; and
- (iii) be accompanied by such fee, as is prescribed by the Directors from time to time and published in the Prescribed Fee Schedule.

Should an Applicant wish to seek relief from any requirement, the Applicant must apply in writing to Racing Victoria and outline the relief sought, and reasons for the request for relief.

The Directors, without giving any reasons, may:

- (a) refuse to grant a farrier’s licence to shoe or plate horses for racing; or
- (b) grant a farrier’s licence subject to such terms and conditions as the Directors think fit, including, but not limited to, restrictions regarding duration, locality or both.

### 3.4. Revocation

The Directors may at any time revoke a farrier’s licence including without limitation where the holder of the farrier’s licence:

- (a) is not actively using the farrier’s licence; or
- (b) ceases to meet the requirements to be granted a farrier’s licence in accordance with the Rules.

### 3.5. Expiration

All farrier's licences expire on the 31 July next after issue, unless cancelled, suspended or revoked.

## 4. GENERAL LICENCE CONDITIONS FOR FARRIERS

In addition to any obligations, requirements and conditions as provided by this Policy or the Rules, an Applicant must agree and acknowledge that, following the grant of a licence, the conditions set out below will apply:

(a) **Role of a licensed farrier in accordance with LR 47A:**

Horses to be attended by licensed farrier:

(1) Unless otherwise authorised by the Stewards, horses engaged to run in a race or official trial must arrive at the Course having been shod or plated by a licensed farrier or his or her registered employee.

(2) The Stewards may authorise exceptions under sub-rule (1) either:

a. on an ad hoc basis; or

b. by registering certain persons in accordance with LR 47D to shoe horses presented for races or official trials under such conditions or for such period of time as the Stewards see fit.

(3) Any horse that has been shod or plated under sub-rule (2) of this rule must be presented for inspection to the farrier's supervisor, or any other person appointed by the Stewards, upon arrival at the Course.

(4) Any person who breaches any part of this Policy or who causes any part of this Policy to be breached may be penalised by the Stewards.

(b) **Inherent Requirements:** has the inherent physical and mental traits required to carry on the vocation of a farrier.

(c) **Intent:** intends to shoe or plate horses in Victorian races on a regular basis.

(d) **Permission to Train:**

**Trainer:** A Farrier licence-holder is eligible to make application for the grant of a Trainer's licence, subject to meeting the Trainer licensing requirements set out under the Rules and Racing Victoria's Trainer Licensing Policy.

**Pre-Trainer:** A Victorian Farrier licence-holder is eligible to make application for the grant of a Pre-Trainer's licence, subject to meeting the Trainer licensing requirements set out under the Rules and Racing Victoria's Trainer Licensing Policy.

## 5. FARRIER LICENCE

(Including Visiting and Visiting International Farrier Licence)

### 5.1. Background to a Licence

The Farrier Licence (**Farrier Licence**) is granted to professional Farriers. A holder of a Farrier Licence has no restrictions or limitations as to where he or she can shoe horses for races and is eligible for annual entitlements and benefits.

### 5.2. Requirements for the grant of a Farrier Licence

In addition to satisfying the “General Requirements for the Grant of Farrier Licences” as outlined in part 3 of this Policy, it is a precondition to the grant of a Farrier Licence that the Applicant:

- (a) Experience: has completed a Farrier Apprenticeship
- (b) Criteria: has attained the Certificate III Farriery Trade qualification in accordance with the Animal Care and Management Training Package (or recognised equivalent qualification).
- (c) Work References: The Applicant must provide one (1) Work Reference (in writing) to the satisfaction of Racing Victoria.
- (d) Prospective Trainer Reference: The Applicant must provide one (1) Prospective Trainer Reference (in writing) to the satisfaction of Racing Victoria.

### 5.3. Ticketing and Car Parking

Subject to ongoing compliance with the terms and conditions of his or her Farrier Licence, a Farrier Licence-holder (including visiting) receives for the period of the Farrier Licence, the following annual entitlements and benefits:

- (a) Ticketing: Raceday Service Identification Card (permitting access to all Horse Areas whilst on official duties, and General Public Areas).

## 6. APPRENTICE FARRIER LICENCE

(Including Visiting Apprentice Farrier Licence)

### 6.1. Background to a Licence

Farrier’s Apprentices (formally known as Farrier’s employees). The Apprentice Farrier Licence (**Apprentice Licence**) is granted to new and inexperienced Farriers. A holder of an Apprentice Licence is eligible for annual entitlements and benefits.

A licensed farrier must not employ or retain in employment any person in connection with the performance of farriery on racehorses unless such person is registered by the licensed farrier in accordance with this Policy. An application for registration of a farrier’s apprentice must be made by a licensed farrier.

### 6.2. Requirements for the grant of an Apprentice Farrier Licence

In addition to satisfying the “General Requirements for the Grant of Farrier Licences” as outlined in part 3 of this Policy, it is a precondition to the grant of an Apprentice Licence that the Applicant:

- (a) Employment: Unless otherwise approved by Racing Victoria, a licensed farrier is not permitted to employ an Apprentice farrier unless:
  - (i) 25 years or older: the Farrier is 25 years of age or over and has had at least one year's experience as a Farrier; or
  - (ii) under 25 years: if the Farrier is under 25 years of age, the Farrier has had at least three years of experience as a Farrier.
- (b) Criteria: is enrolled in the Certificate III Farriery Trade qualification in accordance with the National Racing Training Package (or recognised equivalent qualification). Proof of enrolment will be required for submission.
- (c) Race Day Attendance: The Applicant agrees to spend at least one day at the races during their Apprenticeship shadowing a Racing Victoria Farrier.

The Directors may from time to time prescribe educational and experience qualifications which must be attained as a precondition for a person to be registered as a farrier's apprentice.

### 6.3. Ticketing and Car Parking

Subject to ongoing compliance with the terms and conditions of his or her Apprentice Farrier Licence, an Apprentice Farrier Licence-holder (including visiting) receives for the period of the Apprentice Farrier Licence, the following annual entitlements and benefits:

- (a) Ticketing: Raceday Service Identification Card (permitting access to all Horse Areas whilst on official duties, and General Public Areas).

## 7. REVIEW AND APPROVAL

This Policy is reviewed annually and as required. This may occur due to a change of operation, new legislative obligation, government recommendations or recommendations as a result of audits.

Where revisions are required, changes will be tracked in red for review by the relevant Senior Management Team member, and for recommendation to the Racing Victoria Board for approval.

If approved, a tracked, clean (both in Word) and PDF copy of the Policy will be saved, and then sent to Legal, Risk and Compliance. A copy may also be provided to People & Culture for uploading onto Racing Victoria's intranet (the Stable).

Any changes to the Policy is noted in the "version" table at section 6 below.

## 8. VERSION

Version	Nature of Change	Reviewing Party	Approval date
1.0	Implementation of Policy.	EGM-ISD RV Board	1 August 2019
1.1	Amendment to new template.	EGM - ISD RV Board	16 February 2021
1.2	Change to a new template format and adjust trainer licence categories as per Board approval.	EGM-ISD	8 December 2022