



**Racing
Victoria**

AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF RACING

Amendment No 195 – Issued 14 January 2021

The Racing Victoria Board has approved the following amendments to the Victorian Local Rules of Racing.

AMENDMENT TO THE VICTORIAN LOCAL RULES OF RACING: LR 16(2)

APPROVAL FOR HORSES TO START IN A RACE

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

Racing Victoria has implemented a Co-ops Safety Group (the **Group**).

One of the main aims of the Group has been to reduce the number of barrier incidents, and by extension, injuries to jockeys and barrier attendants. This is due in part to the increase in injuries being sustained due to incidents at the barriers (whether at race day or trials) caused by fractious or recalcitrant horses. The manner in which horses gain their approval to race (as well as horses gaining re-instatement following a Stewards embargo) has been identified as an area in which improvement can be made to greater test these horses.

It has also been identified that the current Local Rule of Racing which deals with horses gaining an approval to race does not accurately reflect the current practice of horses being loaded (whether at races or trials) in which they are led in by a barrier attendant with another barrier attendant (or two) also guiding it in from behind.

Accordingly, the Group, in consultation with Australian Trainers' Association, Victorian Jockeys' Association, Barrier Attendants, Stewards and several race clubs created a set of guidelines to ensure that a clear set of requirements are adhered to prior to any horse gaining an approval to race (the **Guidelines**). The Guidelines are named "Guidelines – Approval to Race: Loading Process".

The information within the Guidelines will replace the specific requirements expressed in LR 16(2).

The Guidelines will be uploaded to the RV website in the Rules of Racing section.

Amendments effective from 1 February 2021

LR 16(2) BE DELETED AND REPLACED AS FOLLOWS:

LR 16 Approval for horses to start in a race

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~~**LR16 (2)Horses to be ridden into the starting stalls:** A horse taking part in a jump-out or official trial for the purpose of obtaining approval from the Stewards pursuant to LR 16(1) must be ridden into the starting stalls with, if required, the assistance of only one person who may lead it into the stalls.~~

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LR16 (2) Guidelines for horses obtaining an approval to race: A horse taking part in a jump-out or official trial for the purpose of obtaining approval from the Stewards pursuant to LR16(1) must obtain such approval in accordance with the Racing Victoria “Approval to Race: Loading Process” Guidelines.

To view the current version of the Rules of Racing, please visit the following link to the Racing Victoria website: <http://rv.racing.com/racing-and-integrity/rules-of-racing>