AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF RACING
Amendment No 151 – Issued 29 April 2015

Racing Australia (formally the Australian Racing Board) has approved the following four amendments to the Australian Rules of Racing, effective from 1 May 2015.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

Currently AR 85A(3) provides that “With the exception of licensed stablehands, no person otherwise licensed may be licensed as a riders agent.” The rule operates to prevent all licensed persons (except stablehands) from being rider agents. The rule does not provide Principal Racing Authorities with the flexibility or discretion to decide whether a licensed person may also be a rider’s agent.

Therefore, it is necessary the rule be amended to allow PRAs, in their discretion, to issue rider agent licences to persons already holding separate licences.

Amendment effective from 1 May 2015

AR 85A(3) BE DELETED AND REPLACED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 85A

(3) With the exception of licensed stablehands, no person otherwise licensed may be licensed as a riders agent.

AR 85A

(3) A licensed person may not also be licensed as a riders agent, except where:
(a) the person is a licensed or registered stablehand; or
(b) otherwise authorised by a Principal Racing Authority in its discretion.
AMENDMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING: AR 146 & AR 143

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

A specific rule of racing has been introduced to confirm a policy of Stewards, that whilst the rider remains in contact with the horse or its gear, it is deemed to have carried its weight. Whilst such incidents happen infrequently, having a specific rule erases any question or doubt should the circumstances arise.

Amendment effective from 1 May 2015

AR 146 BE ADDED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 146 Subject to compliance with AR 142, a horse shall be deemed to have carried its weight from the start of the race to the finish line if in the opinion of the Stewards, the jockey remains in contact with the horse or any part of the horse’s gear from the start of the race to the finish line.

AR 143 BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 143 Subject to AR 146, if a horse carries less weight than the weight it should carry:
(a) It shall be disqualified for the race, provided that a rider shall be allowed by the Clerk of the Scales a half kilogram for the weight of his bridle; and
(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the rider and/or any other person at fault may be penalised.
SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

Whilst AR 165(1) determines that the deadline for the lodging of an objection is “at scale before the riders of all placed horses are weighed in,” it is now custom and practice for jockeys (and/or connections) to seek to view the Stewards videos before making a decision whether to lodge an objection.

This rule therefore requires updating, as today seldom are objections lodged by the deadline set out in AR 165(1).

AR 165(1) will be amended with a broad discretion of the Stewards to allow the lodgement of an objection to be at any time up to the signalling of correct weight.

Amendment effective from 1 May 2015

AR 165(1) BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 165

(1) Any objection by the persons authorised by AR 161 against a horse or horses, on the ground of:
   (a) an interference as provided for in AR 136(1); or
   (b) his not having run the proper course; or
   (c) the race having been run over a wrong course; or
   (d) grounds provided for in AR 137A; or
   (e) any other matter occurring in the race;
   shall be made to the Steward at scale before the riders of all placed horses are weighed-in or at any other time allowed by the Stewards prior to the signalling of correct weight.
AMENDMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING: AR 177B(2)(l) & 178D(7)

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

It is necessary that AR 177B(2)(l) be amended so that Xenon and Argon gas are defined as hypoxia inducible factor (HIF) activators.

It is further necessary to address the situation where there is only one laboratory in the world to test for a particular substance.

Amendment effective from 1 May 2015

AR 177B(2)(l) BE DELETED AND REPLACED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 177B

(2) For the purposes of subrule (1), the following substances are specified as prohibited substances:-

(l) hypoxia inducible factor (HIF) stabilisers, including but not limited to ITPP (myo-inositol trispyrophosphate).

AR 177B

(2) For the purposes of subrule (1), the following substances are specified as prohibited substances:

(l) hypoxia inducible factor (HIF) stabilisers, including but not limited to cobalt and ITPP (myo-inositol trispyrophosphate), and hypoxia inducible factor (HIF) activators, including but not limited to xenon and argon.

AR 178D(7) BE ADDED AS FOLLOWS:

AR 178D

(7) Where there is only one Official Racing Laboratory with the capability to analyse a sample to detect and/or certify as to the presence of a particular prohibited substance in that sample and that Official Racing Laboratory detects that prohibited substance in a sample taken from a horse:

(a) the reserve portion of the same sample and, except in the case of a blood sample, the control of the same sample, together with advice as to the identity of the prohibited substance detected is to be referred to that Official Racing Laboratory with the analysis to be supervised by a qualified analyst who was not responsible for the initial certified finding;

(b) in the event of the second analysis by that Official Racing Laboratory to which a sample was referred pursuant to AR 178D(7)(a) detecting the same prohibited substance, or metabolites, isomers or artefacts of the same prohibited substance, in the referred reserve portion of the sample and not in the referred portion of control, the certified findings of both analysts of that Official Racing Laboratory shall be prima facie evidence that a prohibited substance has been detected in that sample for the purpose of these rules.

To view the current version of the Rules of Racing, please visit the following link to the Racing Victoria website: http://www.racingvictoria.net.au/p_Rules_of_Racing.aspx