



AMENDMENT TO RULES OF RACING

Amendment No 157 – Issued 11 February 2016

The Racing Victoria Board has approved the following amendments to the Victorian Local Rules of Racing, effective immediately from 11 February 2016.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

The Racing Victoria Board has approved the following amendments to the Rules relating to the qualification criteria for horses in hurdle and steeplechase races.

Previously, horses that had already qualified in Victoria in a prior jumps racing season, needed to complete a further Victorian Official Trial to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel for hurdle and steeplechase races, to be qualified for the current season.

It was not possible for a horse to participate in an official trial in South Australia and for that trial to be used for re-qualification purposes.

The Jumps Review Panel recommended a change to the Local Rules to enable horses to be re-qualified for the current season based on a satisfactory official trial over the same distance and number (and similar design) of obstacles before the South Australian Stewards.

It is noted that the Jumps Review Panel has previously qualified the relevant horse on jumping ability in Victoria and/or that horse may have already raced in both Victoria and South Australia on many occasions. Further, it is noted that:

- The hurdles and fences in South Australia are similar.
- A horse can race in South Australia to qualify for the current season (if previously qualified)
- Trials are run over the same distances or longer.
- The trials are run under the same conditions.
- Victoria has an excellent relationship with South Australia regarding jumps racing.
- The Jumps Review Panel reviews and liaises with South Australian Stewards on all matters jumps racing.
- There are significant costs to owners in transporting horses to Victoria to trial.

AMENDMENT TO THE LOCAL RULES OF RACING: LR 60B(3) and LR 60C(2)

Amendment effective from 11 February 2016

LR 60B(3) and LR 60C(2) BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

LR 60B Qualification for hurdle races [heading amended 4/3/10, 4/2/11]

- (1) Prior to a horse participating in its first Official Hurdle Trial, that horse must have schooled to the satisfaction of a Steward over three Approved Hurdles. [added 4/3/10; amended 4/2/11]
- (2) Subject to LR 60B(3), a horse is qualified to accept in a hurdle race if it has:
 - (a) previously completed the course to the satisfaction of the Stewards in a jumping race at a registered race meeting in Victoria and trialled to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in one Official Hurdle Trial in Victoria over at least 10 Approved Hurdles and over a distance of at least 2800 metres; or
 - (b) trialled to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in two consecutive Official Hurdle Trials in Victoria with one trial being over at least eight hurdles and a distance of at least 2400 metres, and the other trial being over a distance of at least 2800 metres and over at least 10 Approved Hurdles; or
 - (c) trialled to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in one Official Hurdle Trial in Victoria over at least 10 Approved Hurdles and a distance of at least 2800 metres, if, having been approved:
 - (i) interstate or overseas to compete in a hurdle race; or
 - (ii) in Victoria to accept in a hurdle race in the previous racing season;it has yet to start in a hurdle race or has failed to complete the course in a hurdle race; or
 - (d) completed the course in a hurdle race at a registered race meeting outside Victoria, and then trialled in Victoria to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel, over at least 10 Approved Hurdles and a distance of at least 2800 metres; or
 - (e) completed a hurdle race in South Australia to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in the same calendar year; or
 - (f) completed a hurdle race in New Zealand to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in the same calendar year of the jumps racing season, and also schooled over a minimum of three Approved Hurdles to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel.
- (3) Where a horse has qualified to accept in a hurdle race in a previous jumps racing season, that horse is not qualified to accept in a hurdle race in any future jumps racing season unless it has:
 - (a) completed a further trial to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in one Official Hurdle Trial over at least eight Approved Hurdles and a distance of at least 2400 metres; or
 - (b) completed a hurdle race in South Australia to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in the same calendar year of the jumps racing season; or
 - ~~(c) completed a further official trial in South Australia to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel over at least eight Approved Hurdles and a distance of at least 2400 metres; or~~
 - (d) completed a hurdle race in New Zealand to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in the same calendar year of the jumps racing season, and also schooled over a minimum of three Approved Hurdles to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel.

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LR 60C Qualification for steeplechases

- (1) Subject to LR 60C(2), a horse is qualified to participate in a steeplechase race if it has:
 - (a) previously completed the course to the satisfaction of the Stewards in a steeplechase race at a registered race meeting over modular steeplechase obstacles and trialled to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel on at least one occasion over a minimum distance of 2800 metres and over at least 10 Approved Steeplechase Obstacles; or
 - (b) completed the course in a steeplechase race at a registered race meeting, or outside Victoria, over non-modular steeplechase obstacles and then trialled to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel over a minimum distance of 2800 metres and over at least 10 Approved Steeplechase Obstacles; or
 - (c) completed the course to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in two hurdle races at a registered race meeting and trialled in Victoria to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel on one occasion over a minimum distance of 2800 metres and over a minimum of 10 Approved Steeplechase Obstacles; or
 - (d) completed a steeplechase race in South Australia to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in the same calendar year; or
 - (e) completed a steeplechase race in New Zealand to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in the same calendar year of the jumps racing season and also schooled over a minimum of three Approved Steeplechase Obstacles to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel; and
- (2) Where a horse has qualified to accept in a steeplechase race in a previous jumps racing season, that horse is not qualified to accept in a steeplechase race in any future jumps racing season unless it has:
 - (a) completed a further trial to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel over at least eight Approved Steeplechase Obstacles and a distance of at least 2400 metres; or

- (b) completed a steeplechase race in South Australia to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in the same calendar year of the jumps racing season; or
- (c) completed a further official trial in South Australia to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel over at least eight Approved Steeples and a distance of at least 2400 metres; or
- (d) completed a steeplechase race in New Zealand to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel in the same calendar year of the jumps racing season and also schooled over a minimum of three Approved Steeplechase Obstacles to the satisfaction of the Jumps Review Panel.

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>