



**Racing
Victoria**

AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF RACING

Amendment No 189 – Issued 26 March 2020

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 11A

RACE MEETINGS WITH LESS THAN THREE STEWARDS

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

LR 11(1) mandatorily requires that there be at least three Stewards at every race meeting (except non-TAB and Picnic race meetings). There may be circumstances (e.g. during the current COVID-19 situation) where it is not possible for three Stewards to be in attendance at a race meeting.

If three Stewards are not able to be in attendance at a race meeting, for whatever reason, the race meeting would not be allowed to proceed due to the operation of LR11(1). While LR 11(2) provides a capacity to nominate Deputy Stewards, the current restrictions on persons permitted on-course means that there is almost no likelihood of that rule being able to be relied upon.

The implementation of LR 11A provides maximum flexibility and contingency in the event that three Stewards are not available. If LR 11A needs to be utilised, remote support mechanisms will be in place to assist the Stewards at the racecourse, thereby ensuring that the highest levels of integrity are maintained.

Amendments effective from 25 March 2020

LR 11A BE ADDED AS FOLLOWS:

LR 11A Race meetings with less than three Stewards

(1) Subject to LR 11A(3), if there are less than three Stewards present and competent and willing to act at a race meeting, and there are no available appropriate persons at the race meeting able or willing to be nominated pursuant to LR 11(2), then the requirement in LR 11(1) does not need to be adhered to.

(2) For the purposes of this rule, “appropriate persons” cannot be:

(a) licensed / registered as a Trainer, Jockey or Stable Employee under these Rules (or the Rules of another PRA); or

(b) otherwise conflicted from acting as a Deputy Steward (as determined in the opinion of the Stewards).

(3) Application of LR 11A(1) requires the prior approval of either the Executive General Manager – Integrity Services or the Chairman of Stewards.

AMENDMENT TO THE VICTORIAN LOCAL RULES OF RACING: LR 104A

COMMENCEMENT OF SUSPENSIONS

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT

A recent decision in the Victorian Racing Tribunal demonstrated that if a jockey is suspended, and a meeting is transferred or cancelled, it is unclear whether the period of suspension ought be reduced and/or increased.

Accordingly, and following consultation with the VJA, the amendments to LR 104A assist in providing greater certainty and clarity as to the suspension period that is to be served, when a suspension is imposed by reference to the amount of race meetings to be missed.

Amendments effective from 24 March 2020

LR 104A BE DELETED AND REPLACED AS FOLLOWS:

LR 104A Commencement of suspensions

~~Subject to LR 104B and these Rules, the commencement of a suspension imposed by the Stewards upon a rider for a riding offence under AR 131 shall take effect from midnight on the date that the Stewards made their decision to suspend the rider unless the Stewards in their discretion otherwise require the suspension to take immediate effect.~~

LR 104A Commencement of suspensions

- (1) Subject to LR 104B and these Rules, the commencement of a suspension imposed by the Stewards upon a rider for a riding or whip offence under these Rules shall take effect from midnight on the date that the Stewards made their decision to suspend the rider unless the Stewards in their discretion otherwise require the suspension to take immediate effect.
- (2) If the Stewards impose a suspension on a rider for a particular number of race meetings, the duration of that suspension will be determined by calculating the race meetings as scheduled at the time the suspension was imposed, irrespective of whether a race meeting is subsequently abandoned, transferred or otherwise changes during the period of suspension or deferment.

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>