



GENERAL TRAINING TRACK RULES

1. Closure / Restricted Entry to Facilities

The Course Manager may close or apply restrictions to any or all of the Waikato Racing Club ('Racing Club') facilities whenever they deem it necessary or expedient to do so for repair, maintenance or because of poor visibility or hazardous conditions (caused by bad weather or any other circumstances that may arise).

2. Discretion to Amend Rules

The Course Manager has the discretion to amend these general training track rules to facilitate the daily operation of the Racing Club facilities.

3. Track Opening Hours

The track will be opened at the discretion of the Course Manager or track official acting on the authority of the Course Manager.

A Racing Club staff member acting on the Course Manager's or track official's behalf must be on duty before any horse goes on to the track.

Generally the tracks at the Racing Club will be open for use by Permit holders during the following hours:

Monday to Saturday	6.30am to 10:00am
Sunday and Public Holidays	CLOSED
Trial and Race Days	6.00am to 8.00am

A Permit holder may use the tracks outside these hours to train horses only by arrangement with the Course Manager.

4. Track Indicator Board

The tracks available for use by a Permit holder on a particular day will be shown as "open" on the Track Indicator Board, which will also display the track and pool closing time each morning. No track shall be worked on other than those displayed as "open". The direction in which horses are to be worked on the tracks will also be displayed on the Track Indicator Board each morning.

5. Special Conditions or Restrictions

Special conditions or restrictions may at times apply to the Racing Club facilities. When special conditions or restrictions apply they will be displayed on the Track Indicator Board.

6. Riding Helmets, Vest, Boots & Jewellery

Every person mounted on a horse at the Racing Club facilities must be wearing a riding helmet and vest approved by NZTR (which has not been modified) and which are to be correctly fastened at all times. Riding boots are to have a smooth sole with heels.

A person shall not ride a horse (including at races, trials, jumpouts or trackwork) at the Racing Club facilities with any jewellery, adornment or piercing affixed to an eyebrow, lip, nose, tongue or ear. Upon application, a Stipendiary Steward may grant permission for a rider to ride with a stud in an ear(s).

7. Riders' Gear Check List

All riders are responsible for checking that their horse's bridle, saddle and all other tack is fitted correctly and tightened to their own satisfaction before mounting their horse.

8. Faulty Horse Tack or Riding Gear

The Course Manager, or other track officials may refuse any rider or horse access to any of the Racing Club facilities if any part of their riding gear or horse tack is damaged or faulty that may cause safety concerns.

9. Helmet Lights

In foggy or inadequate light conditions, all riders mounted on a horse must be wearing a suitably bright red or orange or other approved helmet light, which is to be in good working order and turned on at all times while such conditions prevail. Access to tracks will be denied to any rider not wearing such a helmet light.

10. Track Instructions

All riders must have their work instructions before going onto the track to advise the track official of which track they are working on and whether they are galloping or not. The track official will advise the rider of other horses galloping and organise these gallops.

11. Pregnancy Guidelines

Any pregnant track rider must notify her pregnancy to NZTR, who then have the right to notify appropriate training track authorities. The rider is also required to obtain a consent form and medical form (for certification of her fitness to ride in the circumstances). The rider shall provide these forms together with the NZTR pregnancy guidelines to the examining medical practitioner.

After the examining medical practitioner has considered the pregnancy guidelines and examined the pregnant rider, the examining medical practitioner may issue (if they consider the rider fit to participate in track work) a medical clearance for the pregnant rider to continue riding until: if the rider is in her first trimester, to the end of the first trimester of the pregnancy if the rider is beyond the end of the first trimester, for a seven day period.

In providing such clearance to ride, the medical practitioner is to acknowledge that he/she has read and discussed the pregnancy guidelines with the pregnant rider.

12. Crossing Tracks

All trainers, riders, attendants, track users and visitors are to pay special attention to approaching horses when crossing tracks. Be aware of which tracks are open and which direction horses will be approaching from. Tracks may only be crossed at the designated crossing. *No person or horse and rider are to cross the path of approaching horses.*

All trainers, riders, attendants, track users and visitors are to remain vigilant about the possibility of loose riderless horses. If it is safely possible, and the person has the necessary skill and expertise, a person may assist with catching or preventing the horse from running into the path of any approaching horse.

13. Loose Horse Containment

All experienced people in attendance shall assist in the containment, if safely possible, of any loose horse. Attention must be paid to, and acted upon accordingly, when the warning device to alert riders and handlers is activated.

14. Inexperienced or Unruly Horses

All trainers must respect the safety of other riders and horses by working or swimming inexperienced or unruly horses after daylight and when the facilities are not so busy.

These horses must be ridden or led by a suitably experienced rider or attendant.

The Course Manager or track official may refuse or restrict entry to any of the Racing Club facilities to any horse that may be judged unruly or difficult to ride or handle.

15. Riders' Responsibilities

In respect to safety matters, a rider is responsible for their own actions in determining whether or not they feel safe in any aspect of their business of riding a horse at the Racing Club facilities.

16. Trainers' Responsibilities

In respect to horse safety and training facility suitability, trainers or other persons acting in their absence are advised to inspect the tracks prior to working their horse/s and if not satisfied with any aspect they should not work the horse/s on or in the facility in question and promptly advise the Course Manager of the issue.

17. Racing Club/Training Track Provider Responsibilities

The following procedures must be implemented:

- a) Formalised procedure to be established for a situation when an issue of track safety is raised or has been identified. This should include input from the following:
 - Experienced jockey or track rider(s)
 - Experienced local trainer(s)
 - Course Manager
- b) Course Managers should not make decisions until they have considered input from all the above parties.
- c) A sign-off procedure should be established.
- d) Ensure the above procedures are effectively implemented including a system of ongoing compliance and addressing reported incidents of non-compliance.
- e) The decision on whether to use the track cannot be left up to the individual users. A Racing Club cannot contract out of its responsibilities under the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992.
- f) Racing Clubs have a duty under Section 26 of the Health & Safety in Employment Act 1992, that when a serious harm accident occurs not to interfere with the accident scene unless authorised to by an Inspector (see attached information). Procedures are to be established to ensure compliance with these requirements.
- g) Immediately following a training track accident or incident, the Course Manager (or designated deputy) is required to make a judgement call, after consultation with the parties mentioned in (1), before training can continue. That can happen only after it has been ascertained that the condition of the track did not contribute to the accident.