

**NEW ZEALAND
THOROUGHBRED RACING**



**NZTR/RIU PROCEDURES AND
PROCESSES TO BE FOLLOWED
FOR RACE/TRIAL MEETING
ABANDONMENT'S AND TRACK
PERFORMANCE ISSUES**

DECEMBER 2015

CONTENTS

1.0 Race/Trial Meeting Abandonment Protocols.....	4
2.0 RIU Race/Trial Meeting Incident and Abandonment Reports.....	4
3.0 NZTR Race/Trial Meeting Abandonment Report.....	4
4.0 Subsequent Remedial Work	4
5.0 Venue facilities are defined as including	5
SITUATION ONE:	
1.0 Decision to Abandon or Continue.....	6
SITUATION TWO:	
1.0 Decision to Abandon.....	7
2.0 Process.....	7
SITUATION THREE:	
1.0 Decision to Abandon.....	9
2.0 Process.....	9
Nominated Trainer Representatives to be used during Abandonment Protocols Process.....	11

NZTR AND RIU MANAGEMENT HAVE DEVELOPED STANDARD ABANDONMENT PROTOCOLS THAT MUST BE FOLLOWED WHEN:

- A race/trial meeting is threatened with being abandoned prior to race/trial day; or
- Where the state of the racing surface or venue facility (as defined below) becomes an issue prior to racing/trialling starting on the day or during the race/trial meeting and the race/trial meeting either continues or is abandoned.

1.0 Race/Trial Meeting Abandonment Protocols

Where there is a threat that a race/trial meeting is going to be abandoned the appropriate Situation Protocol (attached as Appendix 1-3) must be followed.

2.0 RIU Race/Trial Meeting Incident and Abandonment Reports

In all circumstances where an incident has occurred or a hazard has been identified at a race or trial meeting the Chairman of Stewards in the case of a racemeeting or Stipendiary Steward in charge in the case of a trial meeting must complete the RIU Race/Trial Meeting Incident and/or Abandonment Reports on the day and forward a copy to nominated staff within NZTR, the RIU and the Club.

3.0 NZTR Race/Trial Meeting Abandonment Report

Where a race or trial meeting is abandoned the NZTR Manager Infrastructure and Health & Safety will contact the venue's Racecourse Manager and obtain a detailed report on what work was carried out on the racing/trial surface in the last two weeks leading up to the race/trial meeting.

The NZTR Manager Infrastructure and Health & Safety will produce a summary report based on information received from the RIU raceday inquiry, the venue's Racecourse Manager's report and any input provided by the NZTR National Venue Inspector.

Based on the recommendations from this report NZTR will instruct the Club to take all practical steps to ensure the situation is not repeated in the future.

Any press release concerning race/trial meeting abandonments will be coordinated between NZTR, RIU and the Club.

4.0 Subsequent Remedial Work

Where remedial work is carried out by the Club subsequent to abandonment, then this remedial work must be inspected by the NZTR National Venue Inspector or the local Stipendiary Steward before the next race/trial meeting is held at the venue to ensure the racing/trial surface is suitable to conduct a race/trial meeting on. Where appropriate it may be suitable to use the course proper for racing surface gallops once the remediation work has been completed.

5.0 Venue facilities are defined as including

1. The racecourse/racing surface;
2. The stabling area;
3. The float park;
4. The birdcage and or assembly saddling area;
5. The access and egress between these areas;
6. The working areas utilised by the Stipendiary Stewards/JCA (i.e. Offices, Judicial Towers);
7. Jockey Rooms.

The venue facilities as defined in this document specifically do not include other public/members and Club administrative areas on the racecourse.

SITUATION ONE:

SAFETY CONCERNS ARE RAISED ABOUT THE RACING SURFACE, ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS OR OTHER ASPECTS OF THE VENUE PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED DAY OF A RACE/TRIAL MEETING

CRITERIA FOR THE DECISION TO ABANDON OR CONTINUE THE RACE/TRIAL MEETING ON THE SCHEDULED DAY

The question of whether a race/trial meeting should be abandoned prior to the scheduled day of the race/trial meeting due to concerns about the condition of the racing surface or other aspects of the venue must be approached as a health and safety issue (taking into account the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work Act). The prime consideration in reaching a decision to abandon is whether the condition of the racing surface is such that it is not reasonably practicable to eliminate or minimise risks to the health and safety of Riders or other aspects of the venue pose a health and safety risk to other people attending the race/trial meeting.

Before any decision is made to abandon a race/trial meeting, prior to the scheduled day of the race/trial meeting the Club must be proactive in contacting the local Stipendiary Steward and the NZTR National Venue Inspector so the situation can be fully evaluated and whether any action could be taken to eliminate or minimise any risk that has been identified and, as a result, allow the race/trial meeting to continue on the scheduled day.

If any such action is taken, the local Stipendiary Steward must determine, after consulting with the NZTR National Venue Inspector, Club representatives, including the Racecourse Manager, and if available local Trainers and Riders that the risks to health and safety have, so far as is reasonably practicable, been eliminated or minimised by that action before deciding that the race/trial meeting can continue on the scheduled day.

1.0 Decision to Abandon or Continue

From a practical point of view the decision on whether to abandon or continue with the race/trial meeting on the scheduled day, including whether any remedial work should be carried out or any other action taken prior to making that decision, rests with the local Stipendiary Steward in consultation with the NZTR National Venue Inspector and Club representatives, including the Racecourse Manager.

1. If the Stipendiary Steward determines that the race/trial meeting can take place on the scheduled day, then the Stipendiary Steward must continue to monitor the safety of the racing surface/venue in the days leading up to and during the race/trial meeting.
2. If the race/trial meeting is to be abandoned, then the Stipendiary Steward must immediately notify:
 - the Club and NZTR National Racing Bureau who will arrange to make an appropriate industry and media announcement (in the case of both race and trial meetings);
 - NZRB Raceday Control and Trackside (in the case of race meetings)
3. If the race meeting is to be transferred to another day/venue then the Club must seek permission from NZTR and the NZRB before a final decision is made as to the new day/venue.

SITUATION TWO:

SAFETY CONCERNS ARE RAISED ABOUT THE RACING SURFACE, ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS OR OTHER ASPECTS OF THE VENUE PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF A RACE/TRIAL MEETING

CRITERIA FOR THE DECISION TO ABANDON OR CONTINUE THE RACE/TRIAL MEETING

The question of whether a race/trial meeting should be abandoned due to concerns about the condition of the racing surface must be approached as a health and safety issue (taking into account the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work Act) and be dealt with as a Stipendiary Stewards' Inquiry.

The prime consideration in reaching a decision to abandon is whether the condition of the race racing surface is such that it is not reasonably practicable to eliminate or minimise risks to the health and safety of Riders.

Before any decision is made to abandon a race/trial meeting, the Stipendiary Stewards must consider whether any action could be taken to eliminate or minimise any risk that has been identified and, as a result, allow the race/trial meeting to continue.

If any such action is taken, the Stipendiary Stewards must determine (after consulting with the other parties identified in the Abandonment Protocols) that the risks to health and safety have, so far as is reasonably practicable, been eliminated or minimised by that action before deciding that the race/trial meeting can continue.

1.0 Decision to Abandon

The decision on whether to abandon or continue with the race/trial meeting, including whether any remedial work should be carried out or any other action taken prior to making that decision, rests with the Stipendiary Stewards under Rule 602 (1) (b).

2.0 Process

1. Immediately any safety concerns become known to the Club, the Club must advise the local Stipendiary Steward (in the case of race/trial meetings) or if known the Chairman of Stewards (in the case of a race meeting)

In the case of when concerns are raised directly with a Stipendiary Steward the Stipendiary Steward must immediately advise the Club.

The Chairman of Stewards (in the case of race meetings) or Stipendiary Steward in charge (in the case of trial meetings) must then open an Inquiry.

2. In running the Inquiry, the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward must:
 - gather all relevant information relating to the safety concerns that have been raised;
 - consider input from the Racecourse Manager;
 - consider input from the Club General Manager/Chief Executive or their nominee;
 - consider input from available riders;
 - consider input from available trainers;
 - the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward must inspect the racing surface with the Racecourse Manager and Club General Manager/Chief Executive or their nominee, and if they are available, riders and trainers; and
 - take into account any other information considered relevant by the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward (e.g. weather forecasts and local weather patterns).

3. The Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward must consider the views of the Racecourse Manager, Club General Manager/Chief Executive, available riders and available trainers regarding the practicalities of eliminating or minimising the hazard as far as is 'reasonably practicable'. This may include but is not limited to:
 - delaying the races/trials;
 - applying appropriate machinery to the area of the racing surface to eliminate or minimise the hazard; and/or;
 - shifting the running rail or carrying out any other necessary remedial work.
4. Having considered the views of the Racecourse Manager, Club General Manager/Chief Executive or their nominee, available riders and available trainers, the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward will decide whether any recommended remedial work should be carried out to enable the risks to health and safety that have been identified to be eliminated or minimised so far as is reasonably practicable.
5. Following the completion of any remedial work (if considered appropriate), the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward must inspect the affected area of the racing surface with the Racecourse Manager, Club General Manager/Chief Executive or their nominee, available riders and available trainers, to determine whether the risk has been eliminated or minimised as far as is 'reasonably practicable'.
6. If the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward determines the race/trial meeting can take place then they must continue to monitor the safety of the racing surface in the period leading up to the race/trial meeting and throughout the race/trial meeting.
7. If the race/trial meeting is abandoned, then the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward must notify:
 - the Club and (if applicable) arrange with the Club to make an appropriate on-course announcement;
 - NZTR National Racing Bureau (in the case of both race/trial meetings);
 - Trackside (in the case of race meetings); and
 - NZRB Raceday Control (in the case of race meetings).
8. Where a race meeting is delayed for any reason, the Club must advise NZRB Raceday control and agree amended start times for the races, and the NZTR National Racing Bureau.
9. If the race meeting is to be transferred to another day/venue then the Club must seek permission from NZTR and the NZRB before a final decision is made as to the new day/venue.

Note: The above process may be influenced by availability of persons arriving on racing surface.

SITUATION THREE:

SAFETY CONCERNS ARE RAISED ABOUT THE RACING SURFACE, ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS OR OTHER ASPECTS OF THE VENUE DURING A RACE/TRIAL MEETING

CRITERIA FOR THE DECISION TO ABANDON OR CONTINUE THE RACE/TRIAL MEETING

The question of whether a race/trial meeting should be abandoned due to concerns about the condition of the racing surface must be approached as a health and safety issue (taking into account the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work Act) and be dealt with as a Stipendiary Stewards' Inquiry.

The prime consideration in reaching a decision to abandon is whether the condition of the racing surface is such that it is not reasonably practicable to eliminate or minimise risks to the health and safety of Riders.

Before any decision is made to abandon a race/trial meeting, the Stipendiary Stewards must consider whether any action could be taken to eliminate or minimise any risk that has been identified and as a result, allow the race/trial meeting to continue.

If any such action is taken, the Chairman of Stewards (in the case of race meetings) and the Stipendiary Steward in charge (in the case of trial meetings) must determine (after consulting with the other parties identified in the Abandonment Protocols) that the risks to health and safety have, so far as is reasonably practicable, been eliminated or minimised by that action before deciding that the race/trial meeting can continue.

1.0 Decision to Abandon

The decision on whether to abandon or continue with the race/trial meeting, including whether any remedial work should be carried out or any other action taken prior to making that decision, rests with the Stipendiary Stewards under Rule 602 (1) (b).

2.0 Process

1. Immediately any safety concerns are raised, the Chairman of Stewards on the day (in the case of a race meeting) or the Stipendiary Steward in charge (in the case of a trial meeting) must open a Stewards Inquiry.
2. In running the Inquiry, the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward must:
 - gather all relevant information relating to the safety concerns that have been raised;
 - meet in committee with the riders riding at the race/trial meeting to obtain and consider their views;
 - consider input from the Racecourse Manager;
 - consider input from the Club General Manager/Chief Executive or nominee;
 - consider input from the Trainers Association nominated trainer representatives;
 - Undertake an inspection of the site of any incident with the nominated rider representatives riding at the race/trial meeting, the Racecourse Manager, the Club General Manager/Chief Executive or nominee, Trainers Association nominated trainer representatives, unless the Chairman of Stewards/Stipendiary Steward and all other involved parties agree otherwise; and
 - photograph and record any issues identified with the racing surface during the inspection process.

3. In addition, the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward may gather information relating to the safety concerns that may include but not limited to:
 - reviewing television coverage of the incident; and/or
 - take into account any other information considered relevant by the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward (e.g. weather forecasts and local weather patterns).
4. The Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward must consider the views of the rider representatives, Racecourse Manager, Club General Manager/Chief Executive or their nominee and the Trainers Association nominated trainers representative regarding the practicalities of eliminating or minimising the identified hazard as far as is 'reasonably practicable'. This may include but is not limited to:
 - delaying the races/trials to allow areas of the racing surface to dry;
 - delaying the races/trials for such other reasons as may be identified to allow the races/trials to safely proceed.
 - applying appropriate machinery to the affected area of the racing surface to eliminate or minimise the hazard; and/or
 - shifting of the running rail or carrying out any other necessary remedial work.
5. Having considered the views of the rider representatives, Racecourse Manager, Club General Manager/Chief Executive or their nominee and the Trainers Association nominated trainer representatives the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward will decide whether any recommended remedial work should be carried out to enable the risks to health and safety that have been identified to be eliminated or minimised so far as is reasonably practicable.
6. Following the completion of any remedial work (if considered appropriate), the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward must inspect the affected area of the racing surface together with the rider representatives, Racecourse Manager, Club General Manager/Chief Executive or their nominee and the Trainers Association nominated trainer representatives to determine whether the risk has been eliminated or minimised as far as is 'reasonably practicable'. In reaching this decision, the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward must seek the views of the other involved parties.
7. If the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward determines that the race/trial meeting is to continue, then they must continue to monitor the safety of the racing surface throughout the balance of the race/trial meeting.
8. If the race/trial meeting is to be abandoned, the Chairman of Stewards or Stipendiary Steward must notify:
 - 8.1 the Club and arrange for the Club to make an appropriate on-course announcement;
 - 8.2 NZTR National Racing Bureau (in the case of both race/trial meetings);
 - 8.3 Trackside (in the case of race meetings)
 - 8.4 NZRB Raceday Control (in the case of race meetings)
9. Where a race meeting is delayed for any reason, the Club must advise NZRB Raceday Control and agree amended start times for the remainder of the races at the race meeting.
10. If the race meeting is to be transferred to another day/venue, then the Club must seek permission from NZTR and the NZRB before a final decision is made as to the new day/venue.

NOMINATED TRAINER REPRESENTATIVES TO BE USED DURING ABANDONMENT PROTOCOLS PROCESS

RIU will select two trainer representatives from the trainers listed:

NORTHERN	CENTRAL	CANTERBURY	SOUTHERN
Chad Ormsby	John Wheeler	Andrew Carston	Kelvin Tyler
Nigel Tiley	Allan Sharrock	Michael Pitman	Terry Kennedy
Richard Collett	Gary Vile	John Parsons	Shane Anderton
Donna Logan	Kevin Gray	Kevin Hughes	Murray Hamilton
Stephen McKee	John Bary	Terri Rae	Sally McKay
Tony Pike	Guy Lowry	Neill Ridley	
Graham Richardson			

