



# THE NORTHERN TERRITORY LOCAL RULES OF RACING

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*This book replaces all previous issues*

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## DEFINITIONS

**NT 1.** In the interpretation of these Rules (and of any program of a race meeting held thereunder), the following words, unless the context otherwise requires, shall have or include meanings as follows;

**“Approved Medical Officer”** means an appropriately qualified medical practitioner approved by the Board.

**“Australian Rules of Racing”** means and includes the rules adopted by the Australian Racing Board and such additions, amendments or deletions as shall be made from time to time.

**“Barrier Trial”** means a trial on the flat under the control or supervision of the Stewards.

**“Country Area”** means the area outside a radius of 40 kilometres from the General Post Office Darwin and/or the Post Office Alice Springs.

**“Course”** means any race course or training ground over which the Principal Racing Authority or any other Club has or exercises control, management or supervision for racing or training purposes, whether such control, management or supervision is permanent, temporary or intermittent and, when the context permits, any parking or other area which is used by any Club in connection with racing and the administrative offices of the Principal Racing Authority or any Club.

**“Entry”** includes **“Nomination”**.

**“Handicap”** is a race in which the weights the horses carry are to be adjusted, after the time limited for entering, according to the judgement of the person/s appointed to frame the handicap upon the merits of the horses, for the purpose of equalising their chances of winning.

**“Horse”** includes mare, gelding, colt or filly.

**“Metropolitan”** means those races run in the Northern Territory which have Group or Listed status. (*Amended 1st November, 2001*)

**“Official”** means and includes a Member of the Committee, Secretary,

Steward, Veterinary Surgeon, Handicapper, Judge, Starter, Clerk of the Course, Clerk of the Scales, Barrier Attendant, employee, servant or agent of a Club or Association and also any other person appointed by the Principal Racing Authority or Stewards to perform any service or act or to carry out any duty for a Club or Association.

**“Rider”** means any person who is licensed as a Jockey, Apprentice to ride in races, Approved Rider or who is allowed to ride trackwork under the Rules. (*Amended 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2004*)

**“The Rules”** or **“The Northern Territory Local Rules of Racing”** means and includes the Australian Rules of Racing and the Local Rules of Racing and Rules of Betting incorporated as one set of rules and read, construed and interpreted as one.

A **“Weight-for-Age Race”** means a race in which weights are apportioned to horses according to their age and sex, and remains a weight-for-age race even if there are penalties and allowances or the race be confined to horses of the same age.

## **APPLICATION OF THESE RULES**

- NT 2.** The Local Rules shall come into operation on the first day of July 2000 and any other Local Rules of Racing previously in force shall be repealed as from that day.
- NT 4.** The provisions of Australian Rules of Racing 5 and 6 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to these Local Rules.

## **SPECIAL POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE PRINCIPAL RACING AUTHORITY**

- NT 5.** The Principal Racing Authority shall have power:-
- (a) At any time before eight o'clock in the morning of the day on which any race meeting is to be held, to postpone such meeting;
  - (b) To direct any person to make a Statutory Declaration touching any matter which is or may be the subject of enquiry by the Principal Racing Authority or by any person authorised in that behalf by the Principal Racing Authority ;
  - (c) To delegate to any member of the Principal Racing Authority or to any Official of the Principal Racing Authority or any other person any power or authority vested in the Principal Racing Authority under the Rules which is not expressly required by the Rules to be exercised by the Principal Racing Authority itself;
  - (d) To warn off any course any person whose presence thereon is, in the opinion of the Principal Racing Authority, not desirable;
  - (e) To publish a Racing Calendar containing such information and particulars relating to racing as are required or authorised by the Rules to be published or advertised together with such other information as the Principal Racing Authority may from time to time determine;

(f) To give any direction necessary or expedient in connection with any act matter or thing not provided for by the Rules;

(g) Generally to carry the Rules into effect and, without limiting the generality of such power, to give any direction or to make any regulation which the Principal Racing Authority may deem necessary or expedient for the purpose;

**NT 6.** The Principal Racing Authority shall from time to time appoint Stewards to act at race meetings held by registered racing Clubs.

**NT 7.** The Principal Racing Authority may

- (a) second one or more Stewards employed by another Principal Racing Authority and appoint them to act as Stewards for the purposes of the Rules
- (b) define the term of office and remuneration of such Stewards. *(Amended 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2015)*

**NT 8.** (b) The subject matter, the proceedings from time to time and the decision upon any such enquiry and a fair summary of the facts found or of the evidence may be published by the Principal Racing Authority or Authorised Official either orally or in writing and in any Racing Calendar or any newspaper or otherwise as the Principal Racing Authority or the Authorised Official thinks proper.

## **STEWARDS**

**NT 9.** The powers conferred by the Rules on the Stewards shall be exercisable by the Chairman of Stewards and such other Stewards as are present and act at such meeting. If the Chairman of Stewards is not present, one of the Stewards so present shall act as the Chairman of Stewards.

**NT 10.** (a) No race meeting shall be held unless there shall be present at least two Stewards able and willing to act. If at any time on the day of such meeting there be less than two such Stewards, then the Steward so present and able and willing to act or the Committee of the Club conducting the meeting shall appoint a Deputy or Deputies sufficient in number to enable the meeting to be held or continued.

(b) If no Steward be present at such meeting or be able and willing to act, the Secretary of the Club shall nominate two persons to act as deputy Stewards.

(c) Two Stewards shall form a quorum.

(d) At all meetings or proceedings of the Stewards the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting as well as deliberative vote.

(e) Any power to make a declaration or decision affecting betting and vested in the Stewards by a Rule made by the Licensing Commission or other lawful authority shall be exercisable by the Stewards acting at the race meeting concerned. *(Amended 15 March, 2011)*

**NT 11.** The Stewards may exclude or reject from all places under their control any person who is liable to expulsion under the Rules of Racing or Rules of Betting of the Northern Territory or under any regulation or resolution of the Principal Racing Authority or the Club, whether such resolution apply to general classes of persons or to particular persons or offences.

**NT 12.** If at any race meeting any act matter or thing shall arise which is not provided for by the Rules it shall be determined by the Stewards in such manner as they shall think fit.

**NT 14.** The Stewards may alter the distance of any race, provided that no race shall be varied by more than 200 metres.

**NT 15.** (1) The Stewards may at any time require any licensed jockey, or any person granted permission to ride in races or track work, to undergo a physical and/or medical assessment by an "Approved Medical Officer"  
(2) If in the opinion of the Stewards any such assessment is unsatisfactory, insofar as race riding or track riding is concerned, they may suspend the license or permit of such jockey or permit holder.  
(3) Any rider who fails or refuses to submit to any such fitness or medical assessment procedure when required to do so may be punished by the Stewards. *(added 5.2.2010)*

**NT 17.** The Stewards may at the request of the rider defer for a period of no longer than three (3) days, the commencement of any suspension imposed by them upon a rider, provided that such rider has been officially declared as the rider of a horse on one of these days.

## **APPEALS**

**NT 18.**(a) Any person who is aggrieved by a decision of the Stewards may appeal to the Principal Racing Authority by lodging with the Principal Racing Authority within four (4) days after such decision, a Notice of Appeal in writing setting out the grounds thereof. A deposit of \$100 must accompany such notice. Provided that such appeal may be referred by the Principal Racing Authority to be heard by the Committee of the Alice Springs Turf Club.

(c) Alternatively, when the decision of the Stewards

(i) Impose a fine greater than \$1,000

(ii) Impose a suspension or disqualification for a period longer than 3 months

(iii) Suspend or disqualifies a horse for a period longer than three (3) months

(iv) Impose a fine of more than \$500 together with a suspension or disqualification for longer than one (1) month

The aggrieved person may appeal to the Independent Appeals Tribunal, by lodging a Notice of Appeal accompanied by a fee of \$200, within seven (7) days of such decision with the Secretary of the Tribunal. Any such appeal will be conducted within the terms of the *Northern Territory Racing and Betting Amendment Act No.39 of 1990*.

**NT 20.** Where on, or subsequent to, the lodging of an appeal to the Principal Racing Authority, the appellant makes application under the provisions of ARR 200 to the Principal Racing Authority to suspend the operation of a decision of the

Stewards pending the hearing of such appeal, the appellant shall lodge on the making of the application a further deposit of \$100.

**NT 21.** Until the hearing of the appeal or the rehearing of the case, the decision of the Stewards shall be valid and in force unless otherwise ordered by the Principal Racing Authority.

**NT 22.** (a) Should an appellant wish to be represented by counsel at the hearing of an appeal, he must make application to the Principal Racing Authority at the time of lodging the Notice of Appeal.

(b) The Principal Racing Authority may appoint counsel to instruct the Principal Racing Authority or to represent the Stewards at any appeal.

**NT 23.** Upon notice of any appeal being lodged, the Stewards shall deliver to the Secretary of the Principal Racing Authority as soon as possible, a true copy of the transcript of evidence taken before them.

**NT 24.** The Principal Racing Authority shall cause to be given to the appellant and to the Stewards such notice of the time and place appointed for the hearing of the appeal as the Principal Racing Authority deems sufficient but the Principal Racing Authority may hear and determine the appeal notwithstanding the absence of the appellant or the Stewards or any of them.

**NT 25.** (a) The Principal Racing Authority may hear the appeal either upon the notes of evidence taken by the Stewards or upon the case stated by the aggrieved person and the Stewards, or they may rehear the case upon affidavits or statutory declarations or on *viva voce* evidence, or in any way they think fit, either in the presence of the parties and Stewards or in the absence of them or either of them

(b) Except by leave of the Principal Racing Authority, no fresh evidence shall be allowed at the hearing of any appeal.

(c) The Principal Racing Authority may quash, set aside, alter, vary, increase or add to the punishment imposed by or

confirm the decision of the Stewards or refer the case on appeal back for rehearing or the decision for reconsideration, and they shall have power to draw inferences of fact and to give any judgement or decision and make such order as in their opinion the justice of the case requires and may make such order as they deem fit with reference to the deposit or deposits lodged.

**NT 26.**(a) The powers aforesaid may be exercised by the Principal Racing Authority notwithstanding that in the Notice of Appeal only part of the decision may have been objected to or sought to be reviewed, varied or otherwise dealt with.

(b) The powers aforesaid may also be exercised against any or all other person or persons who may be considered by the said Principal Racing Authority to be implicated, although he or they may not have appealed from such decision, or may not have been dealt with by such Stewards, and in the exercise of such last-mentioned power, with reference to any person who may not have appealed or have been dealt with by such Stewards, due notice shall be given him by the Principal Racing Authority of their intention to investigate and deal with the matter in relation to him.

**NT 27.** An appeal once lodged may only be withdrawn with the permission of the Principal Racing Authority.

**NT 28.** The decision of the Principal Racing Authority shall be final.

## **REGISTRATION OF CLUBS AND MEETINGS**

**NT 32.** Every application to register a Club shall be accompanied by such fees as the Principal Racing Authority may from time to time determine.

**NT 33.** The Principal Racing Authority may in its absolute discretion and at any time suspend or cancel the registration of any Club and during the period of such suspension or upon such cancellation (as the case may be) such Club be deemed to be unregistered.

## **DUTIES OF REGISTERED CLUBS**

- NT 35.** Each registered Club shall upon the appointment of any Official notify the Secretary of the Principal Racing Authority in writing thereof.
- NT 36.** No registered Club shall conduct a race meeting unless a program of such meeting together with such other particulars relating to the meeting as the Principal Racing Authority may require is advertised in the Racing Calendar.
- NT 37.** Each registered Club intending to hold a race meeting shall, not less than 60 days prior to the date on which such race meeting is proposed to be held, submit to the Principal Racing Authority particulars of the program of such meeting.
- NT 38.** No registered Club shall conduct a race meeting unless the race meeting and the program for such meeting have been approved by the Principal Racing Authority which may attach conditions to such approval including a condition that the registered Club shall pay to the Principal Racing Authority such sum as the Principal Racing Authority shall specify for each day.
- NT 39.** No meeting shall be conducted unless the Club has complied with the conditions attached to the approval of the meeting, and if a meeting is held without such compliance it shall be an unregistered meeting.
- NT 40.** No registered Club shall fail to hold a race meeting on the day fixed by the Principal Racing Authority unless such meeting has been postponed or abandoned in accordance with the Rules.
- NT 42.** Each registered Club shall, no later than seven (7) days after any race meeting conducted by it give to the Secretary of the Principal Racing Authority particulars in writing of any punishment imposed by the Stewards acting at such meeting.
- NT 43.** No person who is the holder of any license or permit issued by the Principal Racing Authority in accordance with the Rules shall be eligible to be elected or appointed or shall act as;

- a) A member of the Committee of any Club
- b) Steward, Judge, Handicapper, Clerk of Scales or Starter in respect of any meeting or race held or run under the Rules. Except in cases of necessity to properly conduct the race meeting as required and approved by the Stewards on the day. *(Amended 15 March, 2011)*

## **ACCEPTANCES**

- NT 44 .** All declaration of acceptances shall be made by the nominator, trainer or by the authorised agent of either of them in such form or by such means and shall be done by such time as prescribed by the TRNT.
- NT 45.** If there are less than 5 acceptors for a race, the prescribed closing time for the declaration of acceptances may be extended by thirty (30) minutes.
- NT 45A** In the event that any race is deleted at acceptance time, any horse/s which were accepted for such race which were also nominated for another race on the programme will be deemed to be accepted for the remaining race.  
*(Effective 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2006)*
- NT 46.** No horse shall be permitted to start in two races on any one day. Should any horse remain in more than one race on any one day it shall be scratched from all but one race on that day at the discretion of the Club or Stewards at the time set down for scratchings.
- NT 47.** (a) No horse shall remain in the field at the time set down for acceptances for more than one race on any day except in the case of an emergency acceptor, which may remain in the field for another race provided that no other horse is balloted out due to it remaining in more than one race.

(b) The provisions of part (a) of this rule shall not apply to acceptors that are declared an emergency in the following races:

**Darwin (Carnival):** Darwin Guineas, Chief Minister's Cup, Toyota Cup, NT Derby, Metric Mile, Darwin Corporate Park Cup, Palmerston Sprint, Darwin Cup.

**Darwin (non-Carnival):** St Patrick's Day Cup.

**Alice Springs (Carnival):** Alice Springs Guineas, Chief Minister's Cup, Pioneer Sprint, Alice Springs Cup. (*Amended 8<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2017*)

## **NOMINATION AND ACCEPTANCE FEES**

**NT 50.** For all race meetings run in the Northern Territory Nomination and Acceptance fees as approved by the Principal Racing Authority shall apply and will be advertised along with the program for each racemeeting in the Racing Calendar.

## **BALLOTING**

**NT 51.** Where the number of horses remaining in any race at acceptance time exceeds the number set down by the Principal Racing Authority or Stewards and a decision has been made not to divide the race, the Committee of the Club or the Stewards may, except where special balloting conditions have been specified, implement any or all of the following conditions in the order set down to eliminate horses until the limit is met provided that;

(a) Any horse accepted for more than one race at any racemeeting may be eliminated from any of such races

(b) Any horse accepted for more than one meeting to be held on the same day may be eliminated for any such meetings

**NT 52A** In handicap races except Class B elimination shall be effected in order from the horse or horses with the lowest handicap weight upwards;

(i) Horses on the lowest handicap weight will be eliminated first in the order set down by the handicapper with the last named horse being eliminated first, then the next to last and so on

(ii) In races where the prizemoney is less than \$30,000, if the handicapper regards two or more horses on the minimum weight as being equal in elimination order they will be bracketed together

(iii) Should it become necessary to ballot any of two or more horses bracketed together, elimination shall be by lot

(iv) When two or more horses are handicapped above the minimum at the same weight, horses shall be eliminated according to age, oldest first

(v) Horses on the same handicap weight above the minimum and of the same age shall be eliminated by lot.

(vi) When the conditions of a race provide for penalties for wins after the declaration of weights, the handicapper may promote a horse in the elimination order instead of imposing additional weight by way of penalty (*Amended 15 March, 2011*)

**NT 52B** In set weight races restricted by age, elimination shall be effected in the following order:

- (a) Horses which at the time set down for acceptances, have received the least amount of aggregate prize money for having placed first, second, third, fourth or fifth in any race will be the first eliminated, and so on until the safety limit is reached.
- (b) In the case of horses which have received the same amount of prize money, ballot shall be by lot.
- (c) Provided that in applying these conditions, no accounts shall be taken of the TROBIS bonuses or any other bonuses. (*1<sup>st</sup> December 2007*) (*Deleted 15th March, 2011*)

**NT 52C** The balloting conditions for set weight maidens will be as follows;

To be balloted in the following order;

First Out – Raced horses which have not won prizemoney in their last four starts on the flat. The horse with the greatest number of consecutive runs since winning prizemoney must be eliminated first according to age,

oldest first and in the case of horses of the same age elimination must be by lot  
Second Out – Raced horses which have received the lowest aggregate prizemoney within their last four starts on the flat. Horses which have equal aggregate prizemoney must be eliminated by lot  
Third Out – Unraced horses which will be eliminated by lot

**NT 52D.** In Class B races elimination shall be effected in the following order;

First Out- Maiden horses which have not earned prizemoney in any race at their last four starts.

Second Out- Maiden horses which have earned prizemoney in any race at their last four starts.

Third Out- Horses which have not earned prizemoney in their last four starts.

Fourth Out- Horses which have earned prizemoney in their last four starts.

Elimination will commence with horses on the lowest weight and if necessary will continue up the weight scale until the limit is reached.

In each category, older horses to be eliminated before younger horses, horses of the same age to be balloted in order of prizemoney earned on the flat. Horses of the same age and with the same prizemoney to be eliminated by lot.

**NT 52E** In Set Weight Open and Set Weight Special Condition races elimination shall be effected in the order from the horse or horses with the lowest rating first and so on until the safety limit is reached. In the case of horses on the same rating, elimination will be the oldest first, in the case of horses on the same rating and of the same age, elimination will be by lot.

*(1<sup>st</sup> December 2007)*

**NT 53.** Notwithstanding any of the foregoing conditions, the Committee of the Club may formulate special balloting conditions for any specified race or races or may, in its absolute discretion, eliminate any horse or horses from a race and/or exclude any horse or horses from the operation of any or all of the preceding elimination conditions.

## **EMERGENCIES**

**NT 54.** The Principal Racing Authority reserves the power to make provision for the naming of horses as “Emergency Runners” subject to any ballot provided that such Emergency Runners shall not exceed three in number in any race and further provided that any Emergency Runner which has not gained a place in the field by 8.00 am on the day of the race, or such other time as the Principal Racing Authority may from time to time determine, shall automatically be withdrawn at such time

## **DIVIDED RACES**

**NT 55** (a) Any race may be divided where the TRNT Board or such person/s who are authorised to do so determine that such race shall be divided into two or more divisions and, in addition, in what order the divisions shall be run.

(b) Horses will be allocated to divisions by the TRNT Board or such person/s authorised to do so in the following manner.

- (i) By placing them in the respective divisions alternately in order of weights, including penalties incurred after the declaration of weights
- (ii) Where two or more horses are to carry the same weight, the allotment of such horses shall be alternated in alphabetical order
- (iii) Where two or more horses are nominated by the same owner, or are trained by one Trainer for different owners, they may, where practicable, be placed in different divisions, by exchanging the lowest weighted horse in each case with another horse on or as near as possible to the same weight in another division.
- (iv) No liability shall be incurred by any Club, TRNT or any authorised person as a consequence of or by reason of any departure, whether intentional or otherwise, from this practice

(c) When it is determined that a race is to be run in divisions, the TRNT shall make such direction in regard to additional prizemoney as it sees fit, provided that the

prizemoney allocated to each division, and the proportion allotted for each placegetter, shall be the same in each instance. (*Effective 1.12.10*)

## **NOMINATIONS AND ENTRIES**

**NT 57.** It shall be the responsibility of the person entering a horse for any race or trial or running such horse in any race or trial to satisfy himself and the Stewards as to the identity of such horse and to describe it when nominating in accordance with the particulars shown in the Document of Description.

**NT 59.** If any horse shall run in a race contrary to any order of the Principal Racing Authority made under the Rules, such horse shall *ipso facto* be disqualified for and be incapable of winning any race or any part of the prizemoney provided for such race and the Stewards may:

- (a) Disqualify such horse and
- (b) Punish the Owner or Trainer or both of them.

**NT 60.** The Principal Racing Authority reserves the right to;

- (a) Transfer the nomination of any horse entered for a race which is or may be deleted from a program. Such transfer must occur prior to the declaration of weights.
- (b) Transfer the nomination of any horse that is declared ineligible by the handicapper at the time for nominations. Such transfer must occur prior to the declaration of weights.
- (c) Transfer the nomination of any horse that becomes ineligible after entry closing and prior to declaration of acceptances for that race.

**NT 61.** Where there are eight (8) or less nominations at the time set down for close of entries, the Club may extend the time for entries until 9.30 am the following day or such other time as determined by the Club.  
Provided that any horse which is an extended nomination will be placed in the order of ballot so as to be balloted prior to any horse which is not. (*Amended 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008*)

**NT 62.**(a) No unraced horse shall be permitted to start in a race unless:

(i) It has completed a barrier trial in a manner satisfactory to the Stewards or

(ii) Any clearance received from another Principal Racing Authority includes a certificate to the effect that the horse has completed a satisfactory trial.

(b) The Stewards may, in their absolute discretion, exempt any horse entered for a meeting in the Country area from the requirements of this Rule.

**NT 64.**Any person entering or having entered a horse for any race may be required by the Principal Racing Authority or the Stewards to declare by statutory declaration the truth of all particulars contained in the entry;

(a) If such person shall fail to make such declaration or it shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Stewards that the declaration or any part thereof is untrue then

(i) The Principal Racing Authority or the Stewards may declare that the entry of such horse is invalid

(ii) Such person may be punished by the Stewards

(iii) All stakes, entrance monies or fees paid for or in respect of such entry shall be forfeited to the Club.

*(Amended 15 March, 2011)*

**NT 65.** For races run in the Northern Territory after the 30th September and prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> January a Two Year Old may start in a race for which horses over the age of two years are eligible to run, provided such race is not over a distance in excess of 1000 metres.

## **STAKES AND FORFEITS**

**NT 66.**All moneys payable under Australian Rules 48, 51 and 73 in respect of any horse nominated in any race shall, except with the permission of the Stewards or the Principal Racing Authority, be paid into the Club's office at least one hour before the advertised starting time of such race.

## **BARRIER TRIALS**

**NT 67.**The conditions set out for the conduct of barrier trials in the Northern Territory will be approved by the Principal Racing Authority and published in the Racing Calendar. *(Added 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2015)*

## **TRAINER**

**NT 68.**No person shall within the Northern Territory train any horse on a racecourse, or, as a Trainer, enter or cause any horse to be entered for a trial or a race at any race meeting unless he is the holder of a Trainer License, Dual License, Permit to Train or Owner-Trainer Permit issued by the Principal Racing Authority or as a Visiting Trainer is the holder of a License or Permit issued by another Principal Racing Authority and has produced a clearance from that Club, or has signed a "Declaration Book" declaring that he holds a current License or Permit and is under no disability under the Rules of Racing.

**NT 69.**Applications on the prescribed form for Trainer License, Dual License, Permit to Train or Owner-Trainer Permit must be made annually to the Principal Racing Authority and must be accompanied by such fee as the Principal Racing Authority shall determine from time to time.

**NT 70.**All Licenses or Permits to Train shall expire on the thirtieth day of April each year.

**NT 71.**(a) The holder of a Dual License who is suspended for actions, matters or things pertaining to his Training License shall, in addition to any other penalty authorised by the Rules, be automatically suspended from riding in races for the duration of such suspension.

(b) The holder of a Dual License who is suspended for actions, matters or things pertaining to his Jockey's License may at the discretion of the Stewards or Principal Racing Authority and in addition to any other penalty authorised by the Rules be suspended as a Trainer for the same or such other period as the Stewards or Principal Racing Authority determine.

**NT 72.**The holder of an Owner-Trainer Permit:

(a) May train any horse in which he owns or holds as a lessee at least one quarter share;

(b) May train any horse owned solely by his spouse.

(c) May not train any horse owned or held as a lessee in whole or part by a Syndicate.

**NT 74.**The Principal Racing Authority or Stewards may punish any person holding a Trainer License, Dual License, Permit to Train or an Owner-Trainer Permit who:

(a) Neglects or refuses to comply with any condition imposed by the Principal Racing Authority upon the granting of such License or Permit, or

(b) Knowingly employs or accepts the assistance of any disqualified person.

**NT 75.** The Trainer of any horse which is placed first, second, third, fourth or fifth in any race run in the Northern Territory shall be paid ten percent of the value of the prize (if any) won by such horse. Such amount shall be deducted from the prizemoney payable to the Owner by the Principal Racing Authority, and shall be paid by the Principal Racing Authority to the Trainer. For the purpose of this Rule the value of the prize shall be its advertised value, but shall not include the value of any trophy awarded under the conditions of the race.

Provided that no percentage shall be paid to the Trainer of any TROBIS Bonus payable to the nominator or vendor in respect of any horse. *(Amended 15th March, 2011)*

**NT 76.** If a Trainer is unable to attend a race meeting at which a horse trained by him is racing and unless he has a properly registered Foreperson to act on his behalf, he shall;

(a) Seek permission from the Stewards for such absence before *8.00am* on the day the horse is to run;

(b) Lodge with the Stewards at least one hour before the advertised starting time of any race in which his horse is to run a written authority for an appropriately licensed person to be in charge of the horse on that day.

The person to whom such responsibility is delegated shall not have the authority to further delegate such responsibility and shall acknowledge their acceptance of such responsibility in writing.

*(Amended 1st November, 2001, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008, 15th March 2011)*

**NT 77.** A Trainer shall at all times be responsible for the administration and conduct of his stable, and the care, control and supervision of the horses in his stable. Should a Trainer be absent from his stable for a period longer than forty-eight hours, he shall advise the Stewards of such intended absence, and, with their permission and approval, deputise an appropriately licensed person to be in charge of such stable during his absence.

The person to whom such responsibility is delegated shall not have the authority to further delegate such responsibility, and shall acknowledge his acceptance of such responsibility in writing. Such delegation shall not relieve the Trainer of his overall responsibilities for the administration and conduct of his stable and the care, control and supervision of horses in his stable. *(Amended 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008)*

**NT 78.** For the purpose of NT 76 and/or NT 77 and/or this rule an “appropriately licensed person” means any person who holds a license or permit in accordance with the rules. In addition to that requirement, in the case of a trainer holding a permit in the NT applying to authorize/deputise an appropriately licensed person, such person must have successfully completed the requirements of the Certificate III (Advanced Stablehand Racing) course or another course that, in the opinion of the stewards has at least equivalent requirements. *(1<sup>st</sup> June 2008)*

**NT 78 A.** (a) The practice of leading two or more riderless horses at the same time is prohibited.  
(b) The Stewards may penalise any person breaching this rule or found responsible for a breach of this rule.  
*(Effective 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014)*

## **JOCKEY AND RIDER**

**NT 79.** Every application for a License shall be made on the form prescribed for that purpose and shall be accompanied by such fee as shall from time to time be determined by the Principal Racing Authority;

(a) Each applicant shall furnish the Principal Racing Authority such information as the Principal Racing Authority may require, and will be required to furnish a medical history and examination record from an "Approved Medical Officer" *(amended 5.02.2010)*

(b) All Licenses shall expire on the thirtieth day of April in each year

(c) The Principal Racing Authority may refuse to grant any License or may at any time cancel any License before the termination of the year for which it was granted without giving any reason therefor.

(d) The Principal Racing Authority may impose such terms and conditions on any applicant as they think fit, may require him to ride work regularly for a period, and/or ride in barrier trials before considering any application for a License, or may impose any restrictions as to locality in which he may ride, or persons for whom he may ride, as they think fit.

**NT 84.**No Jockey holding a Dual License (Trainer/Jockey) who has a horse engaged in a race may ride any other horse in the race without the specific approval of the Stewards, and may be required to ride his own horse if a shortage of riders exists.

**NT 85.**Except with the permission of the Stewards, no person shall be allowed to ride in official barrier trials or races unless that person is at least fourteen (14) years of age.

**NT 86.**Any person licensed as an Approved Rider (claiming) will be subject to the same rules, regulations and policies as an “apprentice”. *(Added 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2004)*

**NT 87.**No rider shall smoke a cigarette, cigar or any smoking device at any time whilst mounted on a horse *(Added 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014)*

## RIDING FEES

**NT 88.** In the absence of a special agreement lodged with the Principal Racing Authority, the following riding fees shall be payable in respect of races run in the Northern Territory:

(a) A riding fee of \$220.00

*(Amended 1st July, 2011)*

(b) In addition to (a):

(i) The rider of any horse which is placed first, second, third, fourth, fifth or sixth in any race run in the Northern Territory shall be paid five (5) per cent of the value of the prizemoney (if any) won by such horse. Such amount shall be deducted from the prizemoney payable to the owner by the Principal Racing Authority, and shall be paid by the Principal Racing Authority to the rider. *(Amended 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2015)*

(ii) Provided that no percentage shall be paid to the rider of any TROBIS Bonus payable to the nominator or vendor in respect of any horse

(c) For the purpose of this rule, the value of the prizemoney shall not include any trophy awarded under the conditions of a race, or any money awarded to a person other than the nominator.

**NT 89.** In the absence of a special arrangement lodged with the Principal Racing Authority, a riding fee of \$25.00 shall be payable in respect of barrier trials run in the Northern Territory. The fee shall continue to be paid to the rider by the Principal Racing Authority acting on behalf of the owner of the horse using money which the Principal Racing Authority shall collect from the owner or the owner's agent.

*(Added 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2015)*

## **APPRENTICE CLAIMS**

**NT 91.** For all races run at meetings covered by the TAB, the following shall apply to apprentices in respect of Minimum Riding Weight (MRW);

(a) Each apprentice is required to declare to the Stewards in writing their MRW

(b) Any apprentice who wishes to alter his/her MRW must lodge a written request signed by their master with the Stewards prior to acceptance time for the race meeting at which they intend to ride

(c) If any apprentice is unable to ride at their MRW they may be replaced as the rider and/or punished

**NT 93.** Further to the provisions of AR92, in any handicap race, unless otherwise provided by the conditions of the race, where the advertised prizemoney is less than \$25,000, any Apprentice permitted to ride under the Rules shall, while so permitted, be entitled to claim an allowance on the scale set out in AR92. *(Amended 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009)*

**NT 94.** (a) For races run at Fannie Bay Racecourse and Pioneer Park Racecourse, only winning rides at metropolitan and provincial racecourses will be taken into account.

(b) For races run at all other racecourses, all winning rides will be taken into account.

**NT 95.** Every Apprentice and/or his Master shall present his Record of Winning Rides Book for inspection and/or endorsement by the Stewards at every meeting the Apprentice presents himself to ride. Should any Apprentice not present this Record of Winning Rides card for inspection he may be refused permission to ride on that day. *(Amended 15th March, 2011)*

## **APPRENTICE**

**NT 96.**(a) Any person holding a Trainer License, Dual License, Permit to Train or Owner-Trainer Permit issued by the Principal Racing Authority may apply to the Principal Racing Authority for approval to indenture an Apprentice

(b) The Secretary of the Principal Racing Authority may apply through the Principal Racing Authority to the Northern Territory Training Authority for approval to indenture an Apprentice to the Club

(c) Any such application shall be accompanied by a completed copy of the Articles of Apprenticeship in a form acceptable to the Principal Racing Authority or the Northern Territory Training Authority, a written certificate of a qualified medical practitioner that he has medically examined the Apprentice on a date not more than seven days prior to the date of the Articles and that the Apprentice is in all respects medically fit to perform his duties as an Apprentice and such references as to character or otherwise as the Principal Racing Authority may require.  
*(Amended 15th March, 2011)*

(d) The wages payable to an Apprentice by his Master shall, subject to any statutory law for the time being in force in the Northern Territory, be fixed by resolution of the Principal Racing Authority from time to time.

**NT 97.**(a) The Principal Racing Authority may refuse to register any Articles and may at any time by written notice to the parties notify their intention to cancel any Articles if in their opinion either the Master or the Apprentice shall have failed to carry out his obligations there under or shall have committed any act or been guilty of any conduct as a result of which the Principal Racing Authority considers it undesirable for the apprenticeship to continue. In lieu of cancellation, the Principal Racing Authority may punish the offenders

(b) In the case of any Apprentice indentured to the Club, the functions of the Principal Racing Authority referred to in NT 97(a) will be undertaken by the Northern Territory Training Authority. *(Amended 1st May, 1991)*

**NT 98.** In all matters pertaining to the employment of an Apprentice indentured to the Club, the Secretary shall be deemed to be the Manager in terms of the Articles of Apprenticeship and shall make all such arrangements as he considers necessary for the daily work and riding engagements for the Apprentice. Once the Apprentice secures a riding engagement, the Trainer of the horse ridden by the Apprentice shall be deemed to be the Master in respect of any matter arising out of the race and will represent the Apprentice at all inquiries.

**NT 99.** A Permit granted to any Apprentice to ride in races may be issued subject to such terms and conditions as the Principal Racing Authority deems fit to impose and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing words, may be restricted as to its duration or locality. Any such Permit granted expires on the thirtieth day of April each year, and application for its renewal must be made on the prescribed form by the Master of the Apprentice.

**NT 100.** No Apprentice may be granted a Permit to ride in races until:

(a) He has been indentured for at least three (3) months;

(b) He has ridden in at least ten (10) barrier trials to the satisfaction of the Stewards.

**NT 101.** A Permit granted to an Apprentice to ride in races may be withdrawn or suspended at any time by the Stewards or the Committee of the Principal Racing Authority.

**NT 102.** If on the termination of Articles of Apprenticeship the person apprenticed thereunder applies for and obtains a License as a Jockey, such person shall not be bound by any engagement made for him during the period of his apprenticeship.

**NT 103.** All engagements for an Apprentice to ride in races must be made by his Master and no Apprentice shall ride in any race for any person other than his Master without his Master's consent or the consent of a Licensed Trainer temporarily put in charge of the Apprentice by his Master.

## **STABLEHAND**

**NT 104.** (a) Every person holding a Trainer License, Permit to Train, Dual License or Owner-Trainer Permit shall register with the Principal Racing Authority. Every person other than a Licensed Jockey or Apprentice, engaged by them in connection with the training or care of racehorses (to be called "employee")

(b) Every such application shall be on the prescribed form and be accompanied by a fee as prescribed by the Principal Racing Authority.

**NT 105.** The Principal Racing Authority may at its absolute discretion:

(a) Refuse to register such employee

(b) Register such employee either unconditionally or upon such conditions, as the Principal Racing Authority deems fit to impose

(c) Revoke or cancel any registration at any time.

**NT 106.** On termination of any employee's engagement, the employer shall either;

(a) Register a transfer of the employment to another Trainer or person holding a Permit to Train or

(b) Notify the Principal Racing Authority that such employment has been terminated where upon the name of the employee in question shall be removed from the Register and his registration shall be deemed to have ceased from the date of such termination

(c) All registrations shall expire on the thirtieth day of April each year.

**NT 107.** A registered stablehand attendant on a horse at a race meeting must wear a current registration card issued by the Principal Racing Authority and shall be worn so as to be clearly visible to officials. *(Amended 15th March, 2011)*

## **BOOKMAKERS**

**NT 108.** (a) No person shall be permitted to carry on or assist in carrying on the business of a Bookmaker at a race meeting held by any Racing Club unless he has been duly registered as a Bookmaker by the NT Licensing Commission and is the holder of a current permit to act as such issued by the Principal Racing Authority

(b) Each Bookmaker may operate on any racecourse only on a stand provided for that purpose and allocated for such purpose and subject to such conditions as the Committee of the Club may determine. Boards of a specified type shall be used as directed by the Committee of the Club. Stands may be allocated in such manner and in such numbers as the Committee of the Club may from time to time determine

(c) No person shall be permitted to act as a Clerk to any person carrying on the business of a Bookmaker at a race meeting held by any Racing Club unless he is the holder of a current permit to act as such issued by the Principal Racing Authority. *(Amended 15th March, 2011)*

(d) Application for registration as a Bookmaker or a Bookmaker's Clerk must be made to the Principal Racing Authority annually by lodgement of the prescribed form accompanied by such fee as shall be determined by the Principal Racing Authority from time to time

(e) Any Permit to act as a Bookmaker or Bookmaker's Clerk shall expire on the thirtieth day of April each year

(f) The Principal Racing Authority may at any time remove from the Register of Bookmakers or Bookmakers' Clerks the name of any person convicted of an offence under the

provisions of the *NT Racing and Betting Act* or otherwise found by the Principal Racing Authority to have engaged in illegal Bookmaking activities or to have been a defaulter in betting.

## **GEAR**

**NT 111.** Trainers shall be responsible for ensuring that all racing gear provided by them is approved for use and is in proper condition.

**NT 112.** All gear to be used on a horse shall be fitted before it is presented in the mounting yard. *(Amended 15th March, 2011)*

**NT 113.** No gear may be used on any horse unless notification is given to the Stewards by the time as set out in the official racing calendar or such other time as set down by the stewards. Once notification of the use of any gear has been given, such gear must be carried until similar notification of any change is given. *(Amended 15th March, 2011)*

**NT 114.** The Stewards may order the removal of any gear at any time.

## **COLOURS**

**NT115A.** Except with the permission of the stewards, no horse shall start in any race unless subject to NT148, the jockey or rider of such horse is wearing racing colours registered by either;

a) The Principal Racing Authority

b) Another Principal Racing Authority of another Australian State or Territory in which the horse commonly or ordinarily races. *(Amended 15th March, 2011)*

c) The controlling body of racing in an overseas territory in which the horse commonly or ordinarily races

**NT116.** Subject to NT148 the Principal Racing Authority may register

a) Racing colours not registered in the name of any other person

b) The exclusive right of a person to use such racing colours on payment of such registered fee as prescribed by the Principal Racing Authority

c) All registration of colours shall expire at the thirtieth day of April each year and must be renewed by application on the prescribed form accompanied by such fee as shall be determined by the Principal Racing Authority.

**NT117.** The Principal Racing Authority in its absolute discretion may refuse to register any racing colours or may grant such registration subject to such terms and conditions, as it thinks fit.

**NT 119.** No rider shall present himself to ride in any race in a set of colours that are not registered to the nominator/s or trainer of his mount.

**NT 120.** If two or more persons declare the same or similar colours in the same race the stewards concerned may order that one carry different colours or some distinguishing mark.

**NT 121.** The trainer or any other person responsible for such horse at a race meeting may be punished if the rider presents himself for a race in colours;

a) That are not registered

b) Other than those declared at the time of nomination for the race

## WEIGHTS, PENALTIES AND ALLOWANCES

### NT 122.

*(Deleted 1<sup>st</sup> August 2012)*

**NT123.** All races for two year olds run in the Northern Territory will be run at set weights or set weights and penalties at the scale set out below.

### SET WEIGHTS

Colts and Geldings ..... 58.0  
Fillies ..... 56.0

### SET WEIGHTS AND PENALTIES

*Set Weights:* Colts and Geldings 57.0  
..... Fillies 55.0

*Penalties:* . Horses which have won a race – 1.0 kg  
Horses which have won more than one race to carry additional penalties as follows for each of such wins;

Each win in a class A-B race – 0.5 kg  
Each win in a race (other than an A-B race) which had advertised prizemoney of less than \$10,000 to the winner – 1.0 kg

Each win in a race which had advertised prizemoney of more than \$10,000 to the winner – 2.0 kg

Provided that no horse shall carry penalties in the aggregate of more than – 3.0 kg

*(Amended 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2008, amended 1st December 2011)*

**NT124.** All maiden races run in the Northern Territory will be run at set weights.

Races to be programmed are two year old, three year old, two and three year old, Open.

**3 Year Old Races**

3yo Colts, Geldings 58.0kg  
Fillies 56.0kg

**2 and 3 Year olds**

2yo Colts and Geldings 57.0kg  
2yo Fillies 55.0kg  
3yo Colts and Geldings 59.0kg  
3yo Fillies 57.0kg

**Open Maidens**

	Aug/Dec	Jan/Jul	
2yo Colts and Geldings		57.0kg	58.0 kg
2yo Fillies	55.0 kg	57.0 kg	
3yo Colts and Geldings		58.0 kg	59.0 kg
3yo Fillies	56.0 kg	57.0 kg	
4yo/up Colts and Geldings	59.0 kg		59.0 kg
4yo /up Mares	57.0 kg	56.0 kg	

*(Amended 1st August, 2008, amended 1st January 2011)*

**NT124A** *(Deleted 15th March, 2011)*

**NT 125.** Unless otherwise provided for in the conditions of the race, at the time set down for the declaration of weights the minimum handicap weights shall be:

(a) Where the total prizemoney is less than \$30,000 - 55 kg.

(b) Where the total prizemoney is \$30,000 or more - 54kg

(c) *Deleted 1st December 2011.*

*(Amended 1st January, 2009, amended 1st December 2011)*

**NT125A.** For all handicap races where the prize money exceeds \$70,000, unless otherwise provided for in the conditions of the race, at the time set down for the declaration of weights, the lowest allotted weight shall not be greater than 54kg. *(Amended 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009, amended 15th March 2011, amended 1st December 2011)*

**NT 127.** In all handicap races, unless otherwise provided, after the declaration of weights the winner of any flat race/s is liable to be rehandicapped. Such horse shall carry any additional weight (if any) as the Handicapper shall determine not exceeding in the aggregate 3kg.

## SCRATCHING

**NT 128.** Notwithstanding the provision of AR114 no horse shall be withdrawn from any race after the time prescribed for acceptances without the permission of the Stewards. No withdrawal shall be permitted after 8.00 am on the day of a race for any meeting except at the direction of the Stewards.

(1) Withdrawals after the time for acceptances will incur liability for the riding fee as set out in NT88. Also they may be liable for the following fees, unless a veterinary certificate satisfactory to the stewards is produced;

(a) TAB meeting \$100

(b) NON-TAB meeting \$50

Or the acceptance fee, whichever is the greater

*(Amended 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2015)*

(2) Provided that at all meetings covered by TAB the following shall apply;

(a) No withdrawal will be permitted from a race with 6 or less acceptances except with a veterinary certificate acceptable to the stewards.

(b) Trainers must notify the stewards as soon as practicable after an injury/lameness/disability which may require an acceptor to be scratched, comes or should have come to their notice (if not a scratching fee of \$500 will be imposed).

(c) If a trainer accepts for a horse which is subsequently scratched and in the opinion of the stewards the trainer knew or should have known at acceptance time that the horse was unlikely to start, a scratching fee of \$500 will be imposed.

**NT 128A.** In accordance with AR 117 (1) unless the trainer has been otherwise instructed by the Stewards, any horse engaged to race is required to be brought to the on course raceday stalls area no later than one hour prior to the advertised start time of such race. *(Replaced 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014)*

## **RIDERS**

**NT 129.** The nominator or Trainer (or authorised agent of either) of any horse which is a final acceptor shall declare to the Secretary of the Club conducting the meeting or any other official appointed for the purpose the name of the rider engaged for such horse at such time as the Committee of the Club shall from time to time direct.

Failing such declaration;

- (a) A rider for such horse may be named by the Club
- (b) The Stewards may order the withdrawal of the horse
- (c) The Stewards may punish the nominator and/or trainer.

**NT 130.** (a) No riding changes will be permitted subsequent to the time set down for the final declaration of riders without the permission of the Stewards.

**NT 131.** (a) The Stewards may punish any rider who accepts an engagement for more than one horse in any race.

(b) In the event of such duplicate engagement, the Stewards may inquire into and determine which engagement that rider must fulfill and permit a replacement rider for any other such engagement.

**NT 132.** Following the final declaration of riders and subject to the availability of suitable riders, the Stewards may permit the following replacements:

(a) A jockey may be replaced by another jockey or non-claiming apprentice or vice-versa;

(b) Another claiming apprentice may replace a claiming apprentice.

## **WEIGHING OUT**

**NT 135.** No person other than the officials of a Club and the Trainer, Jockey or other person having the care of a horse engaged in a race shall be admitted to the Weighing Room and Enclosure without the specific approval of the Stewards.

**NT 136.** Every jockey or rider who is to ride in a race shall declare to the Clerk of Scales the actual weight his horse will carry in the race.

## **STARTING**

**NT 139.** As soon as is practicable after the time set down for acceptances, a draw to determine the order in which the horses shall be lined up by the Starter will be effected in a manner approved by the Principal Racing Authority.

**NT 140.** If any horse that should not have been included is so included, or is scratched after the draw, the starters shall take positions relative to those determined by the draw. If any horse that should have been included in the draw is not so included then, after including such horse in the field, a position at the barrier shall be drawn for such horse. The horse in the original draw with the same barrier position and all horses drawn outside that horse shall be moved out one position to accommodate the horse now included.

**NT 141.** A horse shall be deemed to be a starter, and under the Starter's orders, immediately upon the rider of such horse being ordered to line up at or behind the starting point subject to AR134A.

**NT 142.** Except with the express permission of the Stewards

(a) No person other than the rider shall lead or accompany a horse to the starting post

(b) No person other than the riders or Jockeys engaged in the race and the Officials of the Club shall be allowed at the starting post or on any part of the racing track.

## OFFENCES

**NT143** For the purpose of this Rule and the imposition of a penalty under AR 196(5), a special circumstance may be found if:

(a) the person has assisted the Stewards and/or Thoroughbred Racing NT or has given an undertaking to assist, after the imposition of a penalty on that person, the Stewards and/or Thoroughbred Racing NT in the investigation or prosecution of a breach of the Rules;

(b) the person has pleaded guilty at an early stage;

(c) the person proves on the balance of probabilities that at the time of the commission of the offence, he or she:

i. had impaired mental functioning;

or

ii. was under duress.

that is causally linked to the breach of the Rule and substantially reduces his or her culpability; or

(d) in the interests of justice, the circumstances may be deemed or considered to be special. (*Effective 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2013*)

**NT 143A** For the purpose of Local Rule 143 “impaired mental functioning” means;

(a) a mental illness within the meaning of, and determined as provided by, section 6 of the *Mental Health and Related Services Act (NT) 1998*; or

(b) a cognitive impairment within the meaning of section 6A(2) of the *Mental Health and Related Services Act (NT) 1998* (*Effective 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2013*)

**NT 144.** Without in any way restricting the application of Australian Rule 137, the Stewards may punish a rider who after his or her mount has passed the winning post up until they have dismounted in the saddling enclosure, makes a celebratory gesture or engages in any similar act, which in the opinion of the Stewards has compromised either their own safety or that of their mount or any other rider or horse in the race.  
*(Amended 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2015)*

**NT 145.** Upon a Licensed registered or official person having grounds to suspect the commission of a contravention of a Rule of Racing, he or she shall report the same to the Stewards as soon as practicable.

## **FINES**

**NT 146.** All fines imposed pursuant to the Rules shall be paid to the office of the Principal Racing Authority within 28 days of the imposition of such fine unless the Principal Racing Authority directs payment within some other specific time.

## **ADVERTISING**

**NT 148.** Unless otherwise approved by the Principal Racing Authority, no licensed or registered person shall wear in the Mounting Yard and in the case of a Rider, in a race, any item of clothing displaying any advertising, or cause to be displayed on any horse in the Mounting Yard or race any advertising.

## **DESTRUCTION OF HORSE**

**NT 159.** Neither the Principal Racing Authority nor any Registered Club nor any official of the Principal Racing Authority or any Registered Club shall be liable for any loss or damage

(a) Arising on the racecourse of the Club concerned or of which it was the Licensee or Lessee or was in occupation at the time;

(b) In connection with the custody or possession of any horse or chattel or the destruction of it whether such loss or damage be due to any act or omission or to negligence and whether it arose through the state or conditions of the land or to any moveable property on the land or to any other cause whatsoever.

## **NEW RULES**

**NT 163.** The Principal Racing Authority may from time to time:

(a) Consent to the repeal or amendment of or any addition to the Australian Rules of Racing;

(b) Appoint a delegate to represent the Principal Racing Authority at any meeting of the Australian Racing Board Limited

(c) Repeal or amend any of the Local Rules or Rules of Betting or make new Local Rules or Rules of Betting.

**NT 164.** Any repeal or amendment to any Local Rule or any new Local Rule shall be published in the Racing Calendar.