



AMENDMENTS TO AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING

Amendment - AR 184

Background:

At their meeting in May 2024 COSC considered a submission received from RNSW that a modification to AR184 should be considered to allow a rider to weigh out without a breastplate, as occurs in Hong Kong.

COSC was advised that the incidence of riders struggling to make the weight owing to the addition of a breastplate, generally at the last minute, or after having weighed out being added by the trainer is creating unnecessary disruptions to raceday logistics. It was further submitted that given a breastplate is used as a safety measure, COSC should consider whether the requirement for a breastplate to be included in a rider's weight is still practical and necessary.

At the May 2024 meeting the following amendment to AR 184 was proposed:

“When calculating a rider's weight in weighing-out and weighing-in:

(b) the following items must be included by the rider in the weight:

(iii) any other gear attached or to be attached to the saddle except gear specifically exempted under subrule (iv) of this rule.”

(iv) a breastplate.”

It was unanimously agreed for COSC members to consult at PRA level with a view as to whether there would be support for an amendment to AR184 to progress to RA for consideration.

COSC Consideration and Recommendation:

At its meeting in August 2024 COSC was unanimous in its support for an amendment to AR184 in the terms suggested at the May 2024 meeting.

Consultation with and by the PRA's was undertaken between August 2024 and January 2025. The PRA's have confirmed their support for this amendment.

The proposed amendments to the rules are set out below in red.

AR 184 Method of weighing-out and weighing-in

When calculating a rider's weight in weighing-out and weighing-in:

- (a) no account is to be taken of fractions of 0.5kg; and
- (b) the following items must be included by the rider in the weight:
 - (i) all items of clothing worn by the rider except for the rider's helmet, goggles, other face protection and gloves;
 - (ii) the saddle, lead bag, associated packing (excluding the saddle cloth) and neck strap; and
 - (iii) any other gear attached or to be attached to the saddle **except gear specifically exempted under subrule (iv) of this rule.**
 - (iv) a breastplate.**

Date of effect: 1 May 2025