



AMENDMENTS TO AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING

Amendment - AR 299

Background:

At their meeting in May 2024 COSC considered a submission received from RV in respect of AR 299(1) which states that;

“within 24 hours of the death of a named horse which has not been retired from racing in accordance with AR 297, the manager or his or her authorised agent must notify Racing Australia of that fact by lodging the relevant form.”

It was submitted, in applying AR299, there is an ambiguity as to who exactly the authorised agent might be, and as “named” horses are generally “active” horses, the trainer of a horse in this classification should be captured more specifically by the provisions of the rule to better regulate for traceability.

RV Recommendation – in May 2024:

Option 1 - Amend AR 299(1) as follows;

(1) Within 24 hours of the death of a named horse which has not been retired from racing in accordance with AR 297, the trainer or manager of the horse (or his or her authorised agent) must notify Racing Australia of that fact by lodging the relevant form (including a Stable Return where applicable) prescribed by Racing Australia.

Option 2 – Amend the definition of authorised agent as follows;

AR 2 authorised agent means a person who has been validly authorised by his or her principal to act on behalf of the principal. [amended 1/5/21].

For the purposes of Part 14 -Traceability Rules, Division 2 – Named Horses, the manager’s authorised agent should be taken to include the trainer of the horse, unless another person has been validly authorised by that manager.

COSC Consideration and Recommendation:

At their May 2024 meeting COSC agreed that the requirement to notify Racing Australia of the death of a named horse could be extended to include the trainer because he or she is ordinarily the person who has care and control of the horse.

At the COSC meeting in August 2024, the following recommended amendment was proposed to amend AR 299(1);

“Within 24 hours of the death of a named horse which has not been retired from racing in accordance with AR 297, *the trainer, manager or his or her authorised agent* must notify Racing Australia of that fact by lodging the relevant form (including a Stable Return where applicable) prescribed by Racing Australia.”

At the August 2024 meeting COSC was unanimous in its support for this proposed amendment to AR 299(1).

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

The proposed amendment to rule AR 299 is set out below in red.

AR 299 Death of named horse

- (1) Within 24 hours of the death of a named horse which has not been retired from racing in accordance with AR 297, **the trainer, manager or his or her authorised agent** must notify Racing Australia of that fact by lodging the relevant form (including a Stable Return where applicable) prescribed by Racing Australia.
- (2) A person must not dispose of the deceased horse without the written approval of the relevant PRA unless a veterinary certificate as to cause of death is provided to the relevant PRA.
- (3) Any person who fails to comply with subrule (1) is not guilty of a breach of that subrule if he or she proves to the satisfaction of the Stewards that he or she was not aware, and could not reasonably have been aware, of the death of the horse.

Date of effect: 1 May 2025