

# AERA Rules effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2012

## RIDING TIMES

Existing rules A5.1 and A5.2 are deleted and replaced with the following wording.  
Rule A5.3 is a new addition to the rules.

- A5.1 Maximum riding times for all marathon, endurance, training and introductory rides will be set by the Chief Steward in consultation with the Head Vet and the Ride Committee.
- A5.2 The maximum time will apply to the whole ride and must not be less than a time calculated for an average speed not greater than 10 kph."
- A5.3 A 'cut-off' time may be applied where a ride consists of 3 legs or more, after which, riders will not be allowed to commence the last leg of the event. This 'cut-off' time will be calculated so as to allow the rider to ride the last leg at a pace of not more than 10 kph.

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## RIDE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Rule A11.4.c.ii is amended to read:

- A11.4.c.ii. suspend the ride by extending the hold time for a period sufficient to allow the relevant issues to be resolved. The ride suspension should not exceed 2 hours but may be extended when there is a reasonable expectation that the ride can be re-commenced without compromising the health and welfare of the horses, competitors, ride officials and volunteers.

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## POST RIDE RE-PRESENT

Rules H14.2 and V1.8 are amended to read;

At the discretion of the Head Veterinarian, any horse may be required to re-present for a veterinary examination in the period 1-2 hours after each horse finishes its ride. The status of the horse's completion at the end of the ride cannot be altered unless the horse subsequently receives IT, in which case, Rule H24.6 shall govern whether the completion status may be altered.

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## ELEVATOR RIDE RULES

The entire section A19 has been replaced with the following Wording:

A19 All AERA Inc. Rules and procedures apply, except as provided within these Elevator Ride Rules.

- 19.1 ENDURANCE RIDES
  - 19.1.1 Rides that are designated as elevator rides must be a minimum distance of 100 kms.
  - 19.1.2 Competitors must successfully complete 80 kms before they elect to elevate up to 100 kms or more.
  - 19.1.3 All entrants in an elevator ride enter for the maximum available distance.
  - 19.1.4 Novice horses may compete in elevator rides, providing that the total distance of the ride is not more than 120 kms.
  - 19.1.5 Ride committees must charge the same entry fee for all competitors.

- 19.1.6 Ride committees must issue completion awards to competitors who have successfully completed each riding leg of 80 kms or more.
- 19.1.7 The recognised winner of the event must complete the maximum available distance.
- 19.1.8 The winner of each riding section of the elevator ride is the first horse from each riding section to successfully complete the maximum available distance.
- 19.1.9 Competitors and horses who successfully complete legs totaling 80 kms or more, but who chose not to elevate to the next or maximum available distance will be given recognition only for the distance successfully covered.
- 19.1.10 All national point score competition points are available to the competitors and horses who complete the maximum available distance.
- 19.1.11 Competitors who elect to 'retire' from the elevated ride after successful completion of vetting at a designated elevation distance - and before completion of the maximum available distance - will have their Logbooks marked as 'Retired'. These competitors are entitled to awards for the distance successfully covered.

19.2 TRAINING RIDES

- 19.2.1 Training Rides that are designated as elevator rides must be a minimum distance of 40 kms and a maximum of 65 kms and comprise 2 legs.
- 19.2.2 Competitors must successfully complete the first leg before they elect to elevate up to nominated maximum available distance of 65 kms or less.
- 19.2.3 All competitors in an elevator ride enter for the maximum available distance.
- 19.2.4 Ride committees must charge the same entry fee for all competitors.
- 19.2.5 Ride committees must issue completion awards to competitors who have successfully completed leg 1 as well as competitors who successfully complete the maximum distance.
- 19.2.6 Competitors who elect to "retire" from the elevated ride after successful completion of vetting after Leg 1 shall have their logbooks marked as "Retired".

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**EARLY VETTING**

An additional rule has been included in relation to Early Vetting:

- V5.3 Horses that do not meet the heart rate criteria on presentation will be eliminated.

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**NOVICE HORSE RULES**

H5.3 is amended to read:

- H5.3 A novice horse may only enter a maximum of four affiliated endurance rides of between 80 and 120 kilometres inclusive in any 90 day period, retrospective from the date of the ride to be entered, and only 2 rides in any 22 day period.

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**EUTHANASIA AND HORSE DEATHS OCCURRING AT ENDURANCE RIDES**

Rule V16.3 (d) is deleted.

Rules V16.4 to V16.7 are amended to read:

V16.4 If any horse living or deceased at an endurance ride is suspected to have Hendra Virus infection, the appropriate investigative and management measures must be taken according to the relevant state government guidelines.

V16.5 In the event of an equine death, in principle, a necropsy should be conducted. Prior to any necropsy being performed, the veterinarian must complete a risk assessment to establish whether the procedure can be conducted without presenting an unacceptable risk to human or animal health and wellbeing. In particular, the risk of zoonotic disease must be assessed.

Should the risk assessment indicate that an unacceptable risk is present, the necropsy is not to be conducted. In this case, the veterinarian must provide a report which is as comprehensive as possible, detailing the clinical condition of the horse and any diagnosis made.

Where the risk assessment indicates that a necropsy is able to be conducted, the following procedures shall be followed:

- a) pre-euthanasia blood samples must be collected;
- b) all observations at the necropsy must be accurately recorded;
- c) samples should be taken from target organs as appropriate to the circumstances;
- d) blood samples should be collected if possible and submitted to a recognised laboratory for histopathology, haematology and metabolic profile;
- e) catastrophe report must be completed.

V16.6 A necropsy should divide cases into two main categories:

- a) Accidental-type death due to trauma or some pre-existing problem that has reappeared under exercise conditions;
- b) Metabolic-type death. These are the cases about which we know little and gross pathology may be quite normal. In these cases thorough collection of samples for histopathology is most important.

V16.7 A copy of each veterinarian report relating to the euthanasia and/or death, together with all information concerning the sequence of events, Logbook or vet card results and laboratory results, etc., must be sent to AERA Inc. via the relevant State Management Committee.

V16.8 The veterinarian shall pass all fees for the treatment, euthanasia and necropsy to the owner.

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## **MEMBER CONDUCT RULES**

Rule M1.3.1 is added;

Members, ride officials, ride committees, their family and friends must not use social networking or the internet to bring the sport into disrepute. For example, all persons must refrain from posting disparaging, harassing, bullying or other inappropriate comments and/or material via electronic media, including, but not limited to chat lists, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. It is also a breach of the Members Code of Conduct if you assist someone else to breach this Code of Conduct.

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## **HOUSEKEEPING CHANGES**

### **Training ride controls**

Rule 17.2 (d) is deleted as it is a replication of rule 17.4 (a).

### **EUTHANASIA AND HORSE DEATHS OCCURRING AT ENDURANCE RIDES**

Rule V16.3 (b) is deleted as it is a replication of rule 16.3 (a).

# A.E.R.A. RULES APPLICABLE FROM 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2011

## H6 ENDURANCE HORSE AND ENDURANCE HORSE LOGBOOK

6.2 Every horse issued with an Endurance Horse Logbook must be identified by a microchip implant plus a certified veterinary identification of same which must include any legible brands, the details of which will be recorded in the Endurance Horse Logbook for that horse. If a prohibited substance is administered during this procedure, the appropriate withholding period must be observed.

**(Please note: the compulsory microchip only applies to horses progressing to Endurance Status after the 31/12/2010.)**

## A6 RIDING LEG LENGTH

- 6.1 At all affiliated endurance and marathon rides:
- ~~a) an average of the distances between standard veterinary checkpoints must not be greater than 40 kilometres; and~~
  - ~~b) the maximum distance of any one leg must not exceed 50 kilometres.~~
- for rides of 85km or less, an average of the distance between standard veterinary checkpoints must not be greater than 42.5km;
  - for rides of over 85km an average of the distances between standard veterinary checkpoints must not be greater than 40km: and
  - the maximum distance of any one leg must not exceed 50km.

## V4 END OF RIDING-LEG VETERINARY EXAMINATIONS

- A horse with the clinical signs of synchronous diaphragmatic flutter ("thumps") is eliminated for metabolic reasons.
- Examine all horses as in rules V.3.2 through V.3.4.

## H7 ISSUING OF NEW OR REPLACEMENT LOGBOOKS

- If a Division Registrar State Management Committee becomes aware that a horse registered with a breed association has been issued with a Logbook in a name different from its registered name, the Registrar State Management Committee must require the member responsible for that horse to return the Logbook so that the name of the horse is changed and the database is adjusted accordingly;