



# DARWIN RACING

## TRACK REGULATIONS

THE FOLLOWING TRACK REGULATIONS ARE APPLICABLE TO THE RACECOURSE AND THE TRAINING FACILITY UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE "DARWIN TURF CLUB" AND ARE CURRENT AS OF APRIL 2014.

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## **1. TRACK REGULATIONS**

- 1.1 Track Fees and Charges (effective 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013)  
A track facility fee of \$235 applies to all trainers and is charged on a per runner basis.  
*Prices are inclusive of GST*
- 1.2 All horse trainers, jockeys and track riders wishing to utilise Darwin Turf Club facilities must complete a race club induction including signing the track regulations acknowledgement form (found at the back of this document) and returning it to a DTC official.  
Note- this induction is a mandatory TRNT and DTC requirement.
- Trainers are then responsible for ensuring their staff (stable employees) are aware of and comply with these track regulations.
- 1.3 The track work supervisor will record the number of horses working on the track each morning.
- 1.4 The Track Manager or any other race club appointed representative may at any time at their discretion restrict the use of the training facility on any particular day or time. This includes restricting access to the track due to weather conditions, visibility, physical obstructions or danger or due to the general condition of the track.
- 1.5 The Darwin Turf Club takes its responsibility in providing a safe training complex very seriously and appreciates your co-operation in identifying and rectifying possible hazards. Any injury or safety issues that cannot be resolved by the track work supervisor or a TRNT Steward should then be directed in writing to the Track Manager during office hours Monday to Friday 8am to 4pm.
- 1.6 No access is to be permitted to the track until the track work supervisor deems it safe to do so. The track work supervisor has the delegated authority to close and open the track as they so determine. The decision of the track work supervisor is final and must be followed by all track users. The track work supervisor or authorised delegate must be in attendance for track work to proceed – there are no exceptions to this rule.

## **2. HORSE TRAINERS**

- 2.1 No horse shall be brought onto the property of the Darwin Turf Club unless it is under the care and supervision of :
- A trainer or his/her approved stable foreperson who holds a current licence or permit issued by TRNT.
  - A visiting trainer who is licensed and holds a clearance from another principal club or racing association.
  - Have agreed to abide by these track regulations at all times including the payment of all associated fees and charges.
- 2.2 No trainer or other authorised person shall permit a horse under their charge to be on the property of the Darwin Turf Club unless that horse is handled by a licensed person at all times.

- 2.3 No trainer or other authorised person in charge of a horse shall occupy any wash down bay or rolling ring for a longer time than may be deemed necessary.
- 2.4 Trainers agree that no horses are to be taken onto the tracks until the track work supervisor or race club appointed person has inspected the tracks and declared them to be safe to commence track work.

### **3. HORSES**

- 3.1 Any horse found loose on the property of the Darwin Turf Club will be impounded until further investigations can be undertaken by the race club.
- 3.2 Every horse being led on any part of the Darwin Turf Club property every must have a bit in its mouth which must be attached to a lead or reins. A stallion restraint is an acceptable alternative to a bit.
- 3.3 Horses suffering from any infectious diseases or any complaint causing discharge from the nostrils are not permitted to work on the track.
- 3.4 Horses exercising in breaking-in/stock saddles are restricted to working on the track only after 8.00am.

### **4. TRACK RIDERS**

- 4.1 Only persons licensed as a jockey, apprentice jockey, approved track work rider or horse trainer (with permission to ride in licence conditions) are permitted to ride on Darwin Turf Club tracks and grounds.
- 4.2 Prior to using the facility on the first occasion it is the responsibility of all approved track work riders to provide proof that they hold a current licence to the track work supervisor. All track users (riders) must read a copy of Darwin Turf Club regulations and sign the attached form to acknowledge their understanding and acceptance of the conditions to use the facility. This signed acceptance form must be returned to the track work supervisor or race club office and will be kept on file. Access to the tracks will only be permitted on compliance to this provision. This does not diminish the responsibility of the trainer in any way to ensure the person riding his/her horses holds an appropriate licence and has complied with the above requirement.
- 4.3 All riders must be mindful of their surroundings and the track and weather conditions at all times. These regulations are in place to provide a safe and efficient workplace for all industry participants; however regulations cannot cover every situation. Please apply common sense and exercise courtesy when using the racecourse facilities at all times. All riders have a personal duty of care for other track users and if in doubt please contact the track work supervisor or club manager for further information.
- 4.4 No track rider shall wear any apparel or use any equipment which has not been approved by the TRNT Stewards.
- 4.5 Track riders are permitted to use only blunt spurs on Darwin Turf Club. Roller or Rowel spurs are not permitted. Shanks must be of a smooth metal and shall not be sharpened.

- 4.6 Track riders must at all times when mounted on a horse wear an approved skull cup with the chin strap fastened, approved body protector vest, approved riding boots and a high visibility reflective style vest.
- 4.7 All track riders must, when mounted on a horse prior to 6.30am, have affixed to their skull cap a safety warning light or lights that are clearly visible from both the right and left hand sides. The lights must be activated prior to entering onto the track. In inclement weather conditions the track work supervisor may extend the period for use of these lights.
- 4.8 Track riders who are not wearing suitable safety lighting and the approved safety and high visibility apparel will not be permitted to ride track work – there are no exceptions.

## **5. TRACKS**

- 5.1 The course proper may be used on the following days and times:  
Monday – Saturday from 4.50am until 8.50am  
Race days – until 8.30am  
During Carnival  
Monday – Saturday from 4.50am until 9.30am  
Race days – until 9.00am
- 5.2 All horses must work in an anti-clockwise direction.
- 5.3 Fast work is not to be conducted in the dark. Only slow work is permitted unless the infield lights are turned on or unless the track supervisor is satisfied there is sufficient natural light.
- 5.4 If markers are placed on the track, all horses must work outside the markers.
- 5.5 Horses must be taken to the point where their gallop is to commence in an anti-clockwise direction.
- 5.6 Horses being worked slowly must be ridden on the outside of the track and fast work is to be conducted on the inside of the track.
- 5.7 Horses may only enter the track via the 1300m or 700m access points and must exit via the 1000m point, unless otherwise notified.

## **6. TRACK CLOSURE**

### **WARNING LIGHT PROTOCOL**

- 6.1 In the event of a riderless horse or fallen rider the Emergency Warning Lights located on the Stewards Towers at the 650m, 400m, 1400m and 1600m will be activated by the track supervisor via a remote control.
- 6.2 Riders using the track must respond to the flashing lights by being prepared to restrain and pull up their mounts to avoid a further accident.
- 6.3 The flashing lights will remain on until such time as the track is cleared.

- 6.4 When the Emergency system is activated under no circumstance can riders/horses enter the track.
- 6.5 During the period of a track closure all licensed personnel must abide by the instructions of the track supervisor and not hinder the movement of the ambulance or horse ambulance.
- 6.6 Once the track has been cleared and deemed safe to resume track work, the flashing lights will be turned off. This will signify that it is all clear to continue track operations.

### **TRACK CLOSURE DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER**

- 6.7 In the event of an electrical storm the track supervisor will refer to the provisions of TRNT Policy 010. The track will be closed immediately until any threat of lightning strikes has passed. The decision to close the track or delay its opening on the basis of faulty artificial lighting or poor visibility due to weather conditions is at the absolute discretion of the track work supervisor. In the event of heavy fog the track work supervisor may close the track or limit the number of horses working on the track at any one time to be satisfied that the track work can proceed safely. During any track closure the warning lights will be activated.
- 6.8 Following any significant rain the track work supervisor must be satisfied that the training track is in a suitable condition to commence or recommence training activities. The track work supervisor may order the closure of the track if deemed necessary.
- 6.9 No person or horse shall enter the tracks through a closed gate.

## **7. BARRIER TRIALS**

- 7.1 Barrier Trails will be conducted as requested by trainers on Tuesday mornings. Trials will commence approximately 30 minutes after the track is closed and entries must be received by 11.00am on Monday.
- 7.2 Trials will be conducted over 900m and a minimum of four runners is required for a trail except in special circumstances approved by the Stewards.
- 7.3 In all cases where horses are competing in a barrier trial for the purpose of being approved to race (unraced horses) the following guidelines will be applied, unless Stewards deem special circumstances warrant an alteration:
  - Horses must be ridden into the barrier stall unaided, other than being led forward
  - There must be a minimum of four (4) runners in the trial
  - Approval will not be given to horses which are:
    - Lifted by attendants
    - Riderless
    - Assisted by ropes or straps
    - Reversed in
    - Placed in with the front gates opened
    - Blindfolded
  - For approval to be granted the horse must:
    - Be loaded in a reasonable time
    - Not be fractious or unruly in the barriers

Jump away in a reasonable manner  
Perform tractably after jumping away

7.4 In the case of horses being reinstated to race following any embargo, the Trainer or their representative must report to the Stewards before the trial if any gear is going to be used on the horse or if there is any particular method which is going to be used in the loading process.

7.5 Trainers are responsible for providing their own staff for loading horses at trials.

## **8. PRACTICE BARRIERS/JUMP OUTS**

8.1 The practice barriers will be available upon prior request to the Tracks and Facility Manager and can only be used after 8.00am.

## **9. FIRST AID**

9.1 An accredited first aid officer (minimum Senior First Aid Qualification) must be in attendance at all times, before any training/ track work can proceed.

9.2 A first aid kit and telephone are located in the Track Work Supervisors Hut.

9.3 All accidents must be reported to the track work supervisor in attendance.

9.4 The track work supervisor in attendance has control of all training facilities and their directions / instructions must be followed at all times.

9.5 In the event of the Ambulance being required to attend the track your cooperation is required to ensure that the patient is attended to as quickly as possible.

## **10. RACECOURSE FACILITIES**

10.1 Lunge rings are for the purposes of slow work only. Horses are not permitted to be galloped in the rings or left unattended for any period of time.

10.2 On leaving the rings please close the gate behind you.

10.3 Please ensure that manure is removed from the lunge and rolling rings and put into the receptacles / bins provided.

10.4 Trainers utilising the facilities are required to ensure that all horse manure is put into the bins provided and that the lids are closed after use.

### **THOROUGHBRED POOL**

10.4.1 The pool is open for use Monday to Saturday between 5am – 8.30am and 2.00pm – 4pm (not in the afternoon on race days). These hours will extend to Sundays during the Carnival and the additional times will be displayed at the pool noticeboard.

10.4.2 Prior to entering the pool all horses must be washed down in the hosing bays and have their feet picked and washed.

10.4.3 All horses entering the pool must have a bit in their mouth which is to be attached to the aluminium guide poles provided.

## **11 GENERAL INFORMATION**

11.1 The Darwin Turf Club holds a zero tolerance policy towards violence and verbal abuse towards any club employees or other persons associated with the race club. Any instance of violence or verbal abuse will be immediately reported to the TRNT Stewards for further action.

11.2 Any person displaying improper or insulting behaviour or failing to adhere to these regulations will be reported to the TRNT Stewards for further action.

11.3 All persons riding or leading a horse on the property, prior to 7.30am, must wear high visibility apparel.

11.4 All persons leading horses must wear enclosed footwear.

11.5 The training precinct is monitored by 24 hour CCTV. Vehicle entry to the complex must be through the electric gates on the Douglas Street entrance. All vehicles entering in darkness must revert to park lights and observe to 10kmph speed limit.

11.6 Track riders are only permitted to carry and use padded whips which conform to the Australian Rules of Racing. Excessive or unnecessary use of the whip during track work or elsewhere on Darwin Turf Club property is an offence and will be reported to the TRNT Stewards for further investigation.

11.7 Notwithstanding that it or any person may have acted negligently or in breach of any contract, or in breach of statutory duties neither the race club nor the Chairman or any member of the Committee nor any officer, agent, independent contractor or employee of the Darwin Turf Club shall be under any liability to any person for any loss, damage, injury (including death) of or to any horse or person while on any part of the Darwin Turf Club premises or while on any approach thereto or while using any facility provided by the Darwin Turf Club or while in the custody or control or under the direction of any officer, agent, independent contractor or employee.

11.8 No person is permitted to reside on Darwin Turf Club property. Upon application, the Darwin Turf Club can give permission for Visiting Trainers to set up accommodation in the designated Caravan facility during the Carnival.

11.9 Floats and trucks must be parked in the designated area set aside for that purpose.

11.10 Only dogs which are used for security purposes are permitted in the stabling area and must be kept within the confines of the stable or on a leash. Any person responsible for breaching this regulation is liable for a fine and the dog/s may be banned from Darwin Turf Club property.

11.11 All children must be supervised in the stabling area and must not leave the stable area they are attending unless accompanied by an adult. The use by children of bikes, skates, skateboards and equipment of the like is prohibited.

## **12 AUTHORISED OFFICERS OF THE RACE CLUB**

### **TURF CLUB CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Keith Stacy – 0417 892 468

### **TRACK, FACILITIES AND STABLE MANAGER**

Chris McDonald – 0407 933 658

### **TRACK WORK SUPERVISOR**

Bob Merrall – 0411 428 345

### **POOL SUPERVISOR**

Ross MacMillan – 0429 698 963

### **TRNT STEWARDS**

David Hensler – 0408 497 612

Lee Twomey – 0417 086788

### **EMERGENCY CONTACT**

AMBULANCE / FIRE / POLICE: 000

## **13 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

Please refer to the following page for the acknowledgement form which must be signed and returned to the track work supervisor or race club office for review and filing.



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

In signing this form I acknowledge that I have received, read and understood the Track Regulations issued to me by the Darwin Turf Club.

If a licensed Trainer, I also accept that it is my responsibility to ensure my staff are aware of and comply with these Track Regulations.

I also agree to abide by the requirements outlined within the Track Regulations booklet, the TRNT Rules of Racing in addition to any instructions issued to me by race club representatives whilst present on the Darwin Turf Club property.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Note** – Please ensure this form is returned to the club manager / secretary or the track work supervisor for review and filing.