



**DARWIN RACING**

## **TRACK REGULATIONS**

Approved and published by TRNT

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

March 2014

Amended – May 2017

Amended – April 2018

Amended – May 2018

Amended – October 2018

Amended – March 2019

Amended – October 2019

Amended – February 2020

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### **1. TRACK REGULATIONS**

#### **1.1 Track Fees and Charges (effective 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013)**

A track facility fee is determined by the Darwin Turf Club and applies to all trainers and is charged on a per runner basis. The fee structure is disseminated by the Darwin Turf club and is subject to review and change.

#### **1.2 All horse trainers, jockeys, apprentice/trainee jockeys and track riders wishing to utilise the Darwin Turf Club training facilities must complete a race club induction including signing the track regulations acknowledgement form (found at the back of this document).**

Note- this induction is a mandatory TRNT and DTC requirement.

The signed Track Regulations acknowledgement form must be returned to the track work supervisor or race club office prior to using the facilities of the Darwin Turf Club for the first time.

- 1.3 The track work supervisor will record the number of horses working on the track each morning.
- 1.4 The Track and Facilities Manager, Stable and Operations Manager, Track Work Supervisor 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 should then be directed to the stable and operations manager during office hours Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.
- 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 lunging 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 authorised delegate 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 chain 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/trainee jockey, approved track work rider or horse trainer (with permission to ride in licence conditions) are permitted to ride on the 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 the 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 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 the Darwin Turf Club property. 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 and approved riding boots.

4.7 Prior to sunrise (or such time designated by the track supervisor) all track riders must, when mounted on a horse wear apparel with high visibility reflective strips and have affixed to their skull cap a warning light or lights that are clearly visible from both the right and left hand sides and from across the track. As an alternative, riders' are permitted to wear a TRNT approved HI VIS vest with built in LED lights. To enhance safety the lights must be activated prior to mounting any horse and remain activated until the rider dismounts. In inclement weather conditions the track work supervisor may extend the period for use of this safety apparel.

4.8 Track riders who are not wearing suitable safety lighting apparel will not be permitted to ride track work – there are no exceptions.

4.9 In the event that a track rider has been granted a license to ride slow work only or is undergoing TRNT riding assessment, the Stewards or track supervisor may place

conditions on such license dependant on the person's demonstrated level of experience. These track riders must wear a high visibility reflective apparel at all times when mounted on a horse.

## 5. TRACKS

5.1 The course proper may be used on the following days and times:

Monday - 4.30am until 9.00am  
Tuesday to Saturday – 4.30am until 9.00am  
Race days – until 8.30am  
During Carnival  
Monday – 4.00am until 9.00am  
Tuesday to Saturday – 4.00am until 9.30am  
Race days – until 9.00am

If barrier trials are scheduled the track will close at 8.45am.

These times are subject to change by Darwin Turf Club officials and track users will be notified in advance of any variations.

- 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 marker hats are placed on the track, all horses must work outside the marker hats and in this situation slow work only is permitted before sunrise.**
- 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 should 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.
- 5.8 No person who is mounted on a horse is permitted to lead a riderless horse on the Darwin Turf Club property.

## 6. TRACK CLOSURE

### EMERGENCY WARNING LIGHT PROTOCOL

- 6.1 In the event of a riderless horse, fallen rider or track closure the Emergency Warning Light System (EWLS) will be activated by the track supervisor. When the system is activated there are flashing lights located on the machinery shed, camera towers at the 400m, 1400m and 1600m positions as well as the 1300m access entrance, the pool shed and the track supervisor hut. The flashing lights will remain activated whilst the track is closed.

- 6.2 Riders using the track must respond to the EWLS by being prepared to restrain and ease up their mounts to avoid a further accident and must safely proceed to the nearest entry/exit point and leave the course proper.
- 6.3 The flashing lights will remain on until such time as the track is cleared.
- 6.4 When the EWLS has been activated, riders/horses are prohibited from entering the track unless authorised by the track supervisor or his/her delegate.
- 6.5 During the period of a track closure all licensed persons must abide by the instructions of the track supervisor and not hinder the movement of the ambulance, horse ambulance or track work supervisors vehicle.
- 6.6 Once the track has been cleared and deemed safe to resume track work, the EWLS 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 or other day as approved by the Darwin Turf Club. Trials will commence approximately 15 minutes after the track is closed and entries must be received by 12 noon on Friday.
- 7.2 Trials will be conducted over 900m and a minimum of four runners is required for a trial 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:
  - a) Be loaded in a reasonable time
  - b) Not be fractious or unruly in the barriers
  - c) Jump away in a reasonable manner
  - d) 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 personnel for loading horses at trials. These personnel must be licensed and wear approved safety apparel.

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

8.1 The practice barriers will be available upon prior request to the track and facilities 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 defibrillator are located in the track work supervisors hut.

9.3 All accidents or injuries must be reported to the track work supervisor who will hand out the relevant incident report form that must be completed and returned.

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 lunge rings please close the gate behind you.

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

10.4 Trainers utilising the facilities are required to ensure that all horse manure is placed in the designated bins provided and that the lids are closed after use. The placing of any other type of rubbish in the manure bins is prohibited and offenders are liable to be fined.

## **THOROUGHBRED POOL**

- 10.5 The pool is generally open for use Monday to Saturday between 5am – 9.00am 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. These hours may vary from time to time and any variance will be notified by the Darwin Racing.
- 10.6 Prior to entering the pool all horses must be washed down in the hosing bays and have their feet picked and washed.
- 10.7 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 sunrise (or such time designated by the track work supervisor) must wear a high visibility vest with reflective strips.
- 11.4 All persons leading horses must wear enclosed footwear.
- 11.5 The training premises are monitored by 24 hour CCTV installed along Bevan Halter Drive. All personal and sensitive information is collected, held and used in accordance with the “Surveillance Devices Privacy Policy” and the “Optical Surveillance Devices Policy”. 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 drivers at all times must observe the 10 kmph 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 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.
- 11.8 Floats and trucks must be parked in the designated area set aside for that purpose. During track work, floats and trucks parked in the designated area behind the swimming pool can only be moved after the driver reports to the track work supervisor. This will ensure safe vehicle movement from this area.



- 11.9 Resident Darwin trainers are permitted to bring a dog to their stables but they must be kept within the confines of the stable or on a leash. Under no circumstances are dogs permitted to remain on course without the owner being present. Dogs kept by visiting persons who have been granted permission to reside in the designated caravan facility must be kept within the confines of the caravan facility and on a leash. Any person responsible for breaching this regulation is liable for a fine and the dog may be banned from Darwin Turf Club property.
- 11.10 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 DARWIN TURF CLUB STAFF**

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Brad Morgan - 0412809049

### **RACING OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES MANAGER**

Cameron Riches – 0427 999 121

### **TRACK WORK SUPERVISOR**

Mark Gillen – 0447904638

Ashley Phillips - 0407479758

### **POOL SUPERVISOR**

Craig Sant - 0407979628

### **TRNT STEWARDS**

David Hensler (Chairman of Stewards) – 0408 497 612

Rob Hamilton (Senior Steward) – 0439 848 390

### **EMERGENCY CONTACT**

AMBULANCE / FIRE / POLICE: 000

### **VETERINARIAN**

Howard Springs Vet Clinic – 08 8983 1458

After hours – 0428 810 596

## **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 the Darwin Turf Club office for review and filing.

The Darwin Turf Club review these regulations and procedures on an ongoing basis and from time to time will make amendments. Amended copies of this document will be distributed to track users as required and acceptance will serve as acknowledgement of any changes.

## **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**.

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

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

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

**Date:** \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

### **Darwin Turf Club Representative (Witness)**

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

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

**Date:** \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**Note** – Please ensure this form is returned to the Darwin Turf Club office or the track work supervisor for review and filing.