

## Starter and Starting

- Rule 32.** (1) The Starter shall, prior to the race meeting commencing, obtain a list of runners for each race.
- (2) Every horse shall be at the starting post ready to start at the appointed time. Provided the permission of the Stewards has first been obtained, horses may be led to the starting post by Officials appointed by the Club.
- (3) On arrival at the starting post all jockeys must immediately place themselves under the control of the Starter. Any jockey who fails to comply with a proper direction of the Starter or his authorised representative or who otherwise misconducts himself while under the control of the Starter commits an offence.
- (4) The horses must be started by the Starter or his authorised substitute and all races shall be started from starting stalls.
- (5) The Starter or his authorised substitute shall call over the names of the runners, order the horses to the places drawn by lot and shall ensure that all horses are placed into the allocated stall in accordance with the official draw. The jockey who has drawn No. 1 shall be placed on the right and other jockeys shall take their places in the order previously determined by lot, in consecutive numbers from the right. Provided that the Starter or his authorised substitute has power to vary this procedure in the interests of timely, safe and efficient loading.
- (6) The Starter shall give all orders necessary for securing a fair start.
- (7) Permission may be given by the Starter for a horse to be assisted in the starting stalls or the Starter may himself order a horse to be assisted in any stall.
- (8) Should the Starter form the opinion that for any reason a horse is unable to start he shall at once refer the matter to the Stewards and act in accordance with their instructions.
- (9) The Starter shall report to the Stewards any jockey who misconducts himself while under his control.
- (10) (i) Should the Starter consider that through any faulty action of the starting stalls, or for any other reason, a fair start has not been effected he shall declare it a false start and order the jockeys, by any available means, to return to the starting post. The Starter's decision on these points shall be final. When the Starter has declared a false start, the Stewards may order the race to be abandoned and thereby declared void.

- (ii) Should the Starter declare a false start and is unable to so notify the jockeys, the Stewards shall order the race to be abandoned and thereby declared void.
- (11) A start in front of the starting post or on a wrong course is void and the horses may be started again as soon as practicable but in the event of any horse running the course from a false start or from a void start, the trainer or owner may with the consent of the Stewards withdraw his horse from the race. A start before the appointed time may be declared void by the Stewards.

### **Horses**

- Rule 33.** (1) All licensed, registered and approved persons shall comply with the requirements of animal welfare by taking such measures as should result in all horses under the control of the Club being cared for and treated in a humane and proper manner.
- (2) Any licensed, registered or approved person may be penalised if in the opinion of the Stewards such person has committed an act which compromises or impacts or has the potential to compromise or impact on the welfare of a horse.

**Rule 34.** The age of a horse shall be reckoned as follows: —

- (1) For a horse foaled in the Northern Hemisphere from 1st January in the year which it is foaled;
- (2) For a horse foaled in South America from 1st July in the year which it is foaled;
- (3) For a horse foaled in the Southern Hemisphere (other than South America) between the first day of July and the thirty-first day of December: —
  - (i) from the first day of August in the year in which it was foaled if its dam was first covered on or after the first day of September in the previous year, as that covering is recorded by the Stud Book.
  - (ii) from the first day of August in the year previous to the year in which it was foaled if its dam was first covered before the first day of September in the year previous to the year in which it was foaled, as that covering is recorded in the Stud Book.
- (4) For a horse foaled in the Southern Hemisphere (other than South America) between the first day of January and the thirtieth day of June, from the first day of August in the year previous to the year in which it was foaled.