

### 3.11 Racing Plates and Shoeing

- (a) Only aluminum racing plates as provided by the Club and which, including nails, must not exceed 1½ lb in weight collectively are to be used in races.
- (b) No horse shall be permitted to race unshod.
- (c) The use of steel training shoes will not be permitted in races.
- (d) Trainers are advised that the approval of the Head Farrier / allocated Clinical Veterinary Surgeon must first be obtained for the plating of horses for races in any way other than with a standard shoe. The use of wedges, glue-on shoes, bar shoes or any other horseshoe of non-standard design, leathers or any substance between the plate and the hoof in any form of plating also requires inspection and the approval of the Head Farrier / allocated Clinical Veterinary Surgeon. The application of non-standard plates will be reserved for horses that have a diagnosed condition necessitating their use.
- (e) Calks, toe grabs, cutting plates or other devices may represent a danger not only to the horse wearing them but also to other horses and as such are not permitted to be worn in training or racing.

#### Glue-On Plates

Glue-on aluminium racing plates will not be permitted to be applied, or re-applied, less than two hours prior to the scheduled start time of the race in which the horse is due to race.

In the event that a horse shifts or casts a glue-on plate within two hours of the time a horse is due to start in a race but prior to the horse entering the track to proceed to the start, the horse's trainer or his assistant trainer in the absent of the trainer, a DVRWBP Veterinary Officer and the attending farrier will consider the suitability or otherwise of a standard nailed plate being fitted to the horse. If it is agreed that a standard nailed plate can be satisfactorily fitted to the horse, such plate will be applied after which the horse will be examined by the Veterinary Officer to ascertain the horse's suitability to race. However, should any one of the aforementioned persons be of the opinion that it is not appropriate to apply a standard nailed plate to the relevant horse it shall be withdrawn from the race.

In the event that a standard nailed plate is fitted to a horse in these circumstances and the horse subsequently shifts or casts the plate at any time prior to the start of the race, no further attempt will be made to apply a further plate and the horse will be withdrawn from its race.

**Non-Standard/Specially Fabricated Plates**

The trainer of a horse which has been approved to wear a non- standard/specially fabricated plate must consult with the Head Farrier or his delegated authority by no later than the day prior to the relevant race meeting as to whether it would be appropriate for a standard plate to be applied to the horse in the event that a non-standard/specially fabricated plate is lost at any time prior to the horse arriving at the barrier stalls for its intended race.

The decision reached at the time of this consultation must be documented in writing using the prescribed “Race Day Non-Standard/Specially Fabricated” form and shall be binding for the following race meeting. No further attempt to contact the horse’s trainer will be made in the event that a non-standard/specially fabricated plate is lost once the horse proceeds to the barrier stalls. If in the opinion of the Duty Farrier or the DVRWBP Veterinary Officer on race day a standard plate cannot be satisfactorily fitted to the horse, such horse will be withdrawn from its intended race.

In the event that a trainer does not complete the prescribed form as instanced above it is accepted that no attempt will be made to apply a non-standard plate to the relevant horse in circumstances whereby a non-standard/specially fabricated plate is lost at any time prior to the horse arriving at the start and that the horse will be withdrawn from its intended race.

The following are some of the more commonly used plates in Hong Kong: -



Hoof life for glue on plates



Straight bar shoe



Rim pad

