

# COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES



Updated 21 July 2021

The following protocols and procedures, which has enabled the thoroughbred racing industry to successfully continue to operate, dealing with the management of Covid-19 restrictions and regulations apply to industry related activities conducted in the thoroughbred racing industry in South Australia for which Racing SA has responsibility from a regulatory perspective.

1. Attendance at “Racing Activities” are restricted.
2. Only Essential Racing Personnel are allowed to be present at “Racing Activities” in the designated racing activity areas on a race course at race meetings, official trials, jump-outs and track work – Racing SA issued an official direction in this regard on 21/7/2021.
3. Essential Racing Personnel are required to wear face masks at all times while present on a racecourse or handling horses, with the only exception being while riding a horse. Jockeys and trackriders are required to ensure their mask is carried with them and is to be fitted in place prior to and immediately after riding, i.e. on mounting up and dismounting.
4. All Essential Racing Personnel are required to check-in upon arrival at a racecourse via the particular venue’s QR Code or sign in sheet, and on race day they will also be issued with a wrist band to ensure visual identification indicating compliance with check-in requirements.
5. For the purpose of contact tracing all trainers are required to nominate, in advance, the names of their staff (stable employees) who would be attending race meetings, and those details are recorded and monitored by Racing SA.
6. General public, owners, licensed personnel not engaged in working with an animal and anyone else not considered Essential Racing Personnel are prohibited from attending a racing venue for any activities including racing, trials and trackwork.
7. Social distancing of 1.5 metres is required and applies to all Essential Racing Personnel – Racing SA issued an official direction in this regard.
8. To assist with social distancing observance, Racing SA deploys resources to monitor and ensure compliance at events such as race meetings and official trials.
9. All full time Racing SA Stewards have completed a Covid-19 Aware Professional Education Program and hold a certificate as a Covid Marshal.
10. To further assist with social distancing observance, all race clubs are required to place appropriate markings on identified floor spaces 1.5 metres apart to ensure compliance with trainer and jockey instructions.
11. Rooms utilised by jockeys at race meetings are monitored and managed to ensure social distancing and special requirements are met.

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12. Jockeys are “mounted up” in the mounting yard by designated Essential Racing Personnel, who wear gloves and face masks, and trainers are not allowed to fulfil this functionality.
  13. The use of the Spa by jockeys at Morphettville is not permitted and the Spa is not currently commissioned.
  14. Horse loading into the barrier stalls for any race follow a procedure which includes all horse with an even barrier being loaded first, and only thereafter are horses with an uneven barrier number loaded into the barrier stalls. Barrier attendants working at the barrier stalls wear gloves and face masks.
  15. Racing SA has in place a “Horse Movement Protocol” which provides regulations in respect of horses being transported into South Australia from an interstate jurisdiction. The introduction of this protocol followed consultation with the OC Covid-19 Coordination Group.
  16. Horse float parking at racing venues are appropriately identified and managed to ensure only Essential Racing Personnel are present.
  17. Appropriate periodical cleaning, of identified areas utilised by Essential Racing Personnel, is conducted during the course of an event by dedicated staff.
  18. Hand sanitising provisions are available at venues in areas utilised by Essential Racing Personnel.
  19. Food supplies to Essential Racing Personnel are provided in a manner which avoids communal handling.

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