

LICENSED VENUE STANDARDS – THOROUGHBRED



1. About these Standards

These Standards outline the minimum requirements applicable to thoroughbred licensed venues in Queensland. They are intended to ensure licensed venues provide safe, functional and suitable infrastructure for racing and, if applicable, training activities.

The Standards should be read together with *The Standard Required of Licensed Venues Policy* (the **Policy**).

Compliance with these Standards does not limit or replace any obligation of a club to comply with applicable laws, regulatory approvals, workplace health and safety requirements, building requirements, local government requirements or any other statutory obligations. Clubs are responsible for obtaining their own advice about those obligations.

RQ may impose additional requirements, approve alternative means of compliance or grant exemptions from these Standards, in whole or in part, having regard to the venue category, the nature and frequency of racing or training activities conducted at the venue, the condition and configuration of the relevant asset, and any safety, welfare, integrity or operational risk. Any additional requirement, approved alternative means of compliance or exemption must be notified by RQ in writing and may be subject to conditions.

2. Venue Categories

The Standards apply according to the following venue categories, which take into account the type, number and frequency of race meetings conducted at the venue (as determined by reference to the RQ race dates calendar), together with relevant broadcast, wagering, integrity and operational considerations.

Category	Classification	Venues/Locations
Metropolitan / Provincial	Venue ordinarily holds at least one Metropolitan or Provincial meeting in a calendar season.	Eagle Farm, Doomben, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Ipswich, Toowoomba, Townsville, Rockhampton, Mackay, Cairns.
Country A	Venue ordinarily holds at least 9 Country meetings, at least one of which is a TAB meeting, in a calendar season.	Mt Isa, Kilcoy, Gatton, Beaudesert, Dalby, Warwick, Emerald, Longreach, Roma.
Country B	Venue ordinarily holds 1-8 Country meetings, at least one of which is a TAB meeting, in a calendar season.	Gympie, Innisfail, Thangool, Barcaldine, Bundaberg, Burdekin, Nanango, Barcoo, Bowen, Cloncurry, Chinchilla, Yeppoon, Birdsville, Ewan.
Country C	Venue ordinarily holds Country Non-TAB meetings only in a calendar season.	All remaining Country Non-TAB venues.

In the tables in section 4, a tick indicates that the requirement applies to the relevant venue category. A dash indicates that the requirement does not apply, unless RQ notifies the club otherwise in writing.

3. Definitions & Interpretation

In these Standards, unless the context otherwise requires, the terms in the table below have the meanings given to them in this section.

Term	Meaning
Club	means a club licensed by RQ as the licence holder for a licensed venue and, where the context requires, includes a club while it has management or control of a licensed venue for the purposes of conducting a race meeting.
Horse precinct	means any area of a licensed venue designated or ordinarily used for the training, racing, handling, movement, care or welfare of horses, and to which public access is restricted. This includes tracks, saddling enclosures, mounting yards, parade rings, tie-up stalls, stable areas, swab and veterinary areas, float carparks, loading areas and horse walkways.
Licensed participant	means a person licensed by the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission to train, ride, handle, care for or perform duties in relation to horses registered for racing.
Licensed venue	means the venue or areas specified in a licence granted by RQ to stage, host or conduct racing or training activities, including any public facilities, racing facilities and training facilities to which the licence applies.
Officials	means Stewards, swabbing attendants, veterinarians, starters, barrier attendants, judges, photo finish operators, Clerks of the Course, shoeing inspectors, farriers, gate attendants, ambulance officers and any other person appointed, engaged or authorised to perform an official function in connection with a race meeting or training activity.
Training and exercise equipment	means any equipment used to train, exercise, condition or manage horses other than during ridden trackwork, including walkers, pools, treadmills, aqua treadmills, round yards and sand rolls.

4. Standards

4.1. Track Surface

Purpose: Track surfaces are safe, even and consistent to support safe and professional racing and training activities.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Surface evenness and consistency	All track surfaces must be even, and their physical properties, including moisture, compaction and grass height, must be consistent for the entire track.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Objects, debris and obstructions	All tracks must be free from objects, debris, obstructions, encroachments and overhanging foliage.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Track crossings	Track crossings must have a minimum width of 6m, be free from depressions and ridges, and be consistent with the level, firmness and colour of the surrounding track surface.	✓	✓	✓	✓

4.2. Running Rail

Purpose: Running rails safely guide and contain horses and minimise the risk of injury to horses, participants and the public.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Running Rail -	The venue must have an inside and outside running rail on all tracks.	✓	✓	✓	✓

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
inside and outside rail	Training tracks may be exempt from the need to have an inside and outside running rail subject to a risk assessment by RQ. The risk assessment will take the following operational factors into consideration when determining whether an exemption from, or amendment to, the rail requirement is appropriate: (a) the specific characteristics and conditions of each venue, including any unique hazards or risk factors; and the mitigation of these hazards; and (b) the volume and frequency of horses in simultaneous training. If an exemption is applied the training track will be restricted to conducting only pace-work activities or slower (i.e. no pace faster than 16 seconds per furlong).	Inside rail of Bullrings Only	✓	✓	✓
Material / colour	Running rail must be constructed of plastic, Colorbond, steel or aluminium and be of a light colour to ensure clear visibility. Star pickets must not be used.	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The inside running rail of the course proper must be a plastic breakaway rail.	✓	✓	-	-
Alignment / protrusions	Running rail must be straight, of a consistent height and formed with smooth, sweeping curves. They must not have exposed pins, sharp edges, joint protrusions or overhanging obstacles / hazards that may spook or startle a horse.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Height	Inside running rail height requirement, measured from the track surface to the top of the rail.	1.08m-1.4m	1.08m-1.4m	1.08m-1.4m	1.08m-1.4m
	Outside running rail height requirement, measured from the track surface to the top of the rail.	1.08m-1.4m	1.08m-1.4m	1.08m-1.4m	0.95m-1.4m
Face height	Inside running rail minimum face height.	100mm	100mm	100mm	100mm
	Outside running rail minimum face height.	100mm	100mm	50mm	50mm
Final 100m	The final 100m of course proper running rail must be coloured (usually red).	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The coloured rail may be substituted with a defined marker at the 100m mark.	-	-	-	✓
Perimeter fencing as outside rail	Where perimeter fencing also serves as the outside running rail, a white sight-rail (of minimum face height) must be attached to the fence.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Patron areas	Where a running rail separates a public / patron area from the course proper, the area below the rail must be fully meshed to restrict the entry of people, animals, rubbish and other objects onto the course proper.	✓	✓	✓	✓

4.3. Starting Positions & Distance Markers

Purpose: Starting positions and distance markers are clearly identified and accurately positioned to support the integrity of racing outcomes and race times.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Starting positions	Starting positions must be surveyed and designated by a permanent marker.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Distance markers	Distance markers are required at 200m intervals and must be clearly visible from the public area and the main stewards / judges towers. Markers must be 1m-3m from the running rail and positioned to avoid contact with horses or riders.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Track distance measurement	Track distances must be measured 1m from the face of the inside running rail.	✓	✓	✓	✓

4.4. Barrier Stalls & Attendant Equipment

Purpose: Barrier stalls safely contain horses and riders and enable a safe, fair and simultaneous start to each race for all participants.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Barrier stalls					
Availability	The club / venue must have access to a set of barrier stalls for racing.	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The venue must have a second set of barrier stalls for racing.	✓	-	-	-
Front gates	The top half of the front gates must have mesh or vertical bars / rails. The bottom half must be solid and have clearance of 0.6m or less to ground level to deter a horse from burrowing under the gates.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rear gates / access	Barrier stalls must have two-gate V-style gates (no single gates), fitted with a quick-release mechanism and appropriate foothold / mounting points for barrier attendant / rider access.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Operation / gate alignment	The barrier stalls must be fully operational, with the gates opening in unison and without bouncing back onto a horse or rider. When closed, the gates on all barrier stalls must be aligned with no gaps between them.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Padding	Padding is required at: (a) the bottom half of the front and rear gates; (b) the vertical pillars at the front and rear of each stall; (c) the centre divider between stalls; (d) all overhead horizontal bars and crossbars directly above, in front of and behind the horse and rider; and (e) the overhead horizontal bars running alongside the horse and rider above the stall dividers. The bars referred to in paragraph (e) must include unpadded sections to provide grip points for barrier attendants and jockeys.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Training barriers	The padding, operational and gate requirements (subject to gates being fitted) detailed in this section apply to all barrier stalls used for training.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stall numbers	Barrier stalls must have stall numbers fitted to the front and rear of each stall.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Start light	Barrier stalls must have a red or orange flashing light to signal the start of a race.	✓	✓	✓	✓
False start / recall	Barrier stalls must have a remotely activated false-start beacon system to recall the field in the event of a false start.	✓	✓	✓	-
	Requires a system, equipment or signaling device to recall the field in the event of a false start.	-	-	-	✓
Barrier attendant PPE					
Availability	Personal protective equipment (vests and helmets) must be available for every barrier attendant (half the field plus one). The equipment must comply with AR 122 and AR 123 and the manufacturer's guidelines. Unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer, helmets and vests must be replaced after five years of use.	✓	✓	✓	✓

4.5. Fencing

Purpose: Fencing contains horses, restricts unauthorised access and access to hazards, and separates the public from horse precincts and other restricted areas.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Perimeter fencing	The venue must have a perimeter fence.	✓	✓	-	-
	Perimeter fencing is required where the venue borders major roads, high public areas or other identified hazards.	-	-	✓	✓
Horse precinct fencing	All horse precincts must be railed / fenced to contain horses and prevent access by the public.	✓	✓	✓	✓
	All horse precinct fencing must be a minimum height of 1.2m, except for running rail (minimum height 1.08m).	✓	-	-	-
Horse precinct signage	Clear and direct signage must be visible, indicating the horse precincts are restricted to licensed participants and officials only.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Drains	Drains must be railed / fenced to prevent access by horses, persons and machinery.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Prohibited fencing	Star pickets, barbed wire, ringlock, knotted apron hinge joint, other wire fencing with large spacing and electric fencing must not be used in horse precincts. Barbed wire is permissible only as a top wire above chain-link security fences 1.8m or greater in height.	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Capped star pickets are permissible in tie up stall and float carpark areas only where that section of fencing is also an external perimeter fence.	-	-	✓	✓

4.6. Animal Ambulance & Privacy Screens

Purpose: Animal ambulances enable the safe transport of injured horses and the dignified and discreet removal of deceased horses.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Animal ambulance					
Availability / roadworthiness	An animal ambulance in roadworthy condition and registered for use on roads must be available for all race meetings.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Loading	The animal ambulance must have a loading ramp or self-lowering floor.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Winch / skid	The animal ambulance must have an appropriately fitted winch and skid, or removable mat (with winch anchor points), to enable the loading of a deceased horse.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chest bar / divider	A chest bar and removable centre divider must be provided for an injured horse to brace against.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Recovery straps	Two recovery straps (e.g. 4WD recovery straps or slings) and shackles must be stored in the animal ambulance.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Privacy screens					
Availability	The venue must have access to two privacy screens to block public viewing of an injured horse.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Composition	Privacy screens must be constructed of suitable opaque material (canvas, vinyl or similar) and measurement (minimum 6m length x 1.8 m height). NB: Blue / grey, plastic type (polyethylene) tarpaulins and shade cloth are not suitable.	✓	✓	✓	-

4.7. Float Carpark

Purpose: Float carpark provide a safe and secure area for the loading, unloading and movement of horses.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Float carpark	The venue must have a fully fenced float carpark / area that is free from hazards and has clear and direct signage indicating that the area is restricted to licensed participants and officials only.	✓	✓	✓	✓

4.8. Tie Up Stalls

Purpose: Tie up stalls safely contain horses, provide appropriate shelter and minimise the risk of physical conflict between horses.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
<i>Tie up stalls</i>					
Capacity / type	The venue must have sufficient tie up stalls to cater for the maximum number of horses at the race meeting.	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The venue may substitute pens or yards for tie up stalls to cater for the maximum number of horses at the race meeting.	-	-	✓	✓
Roof / overhead cover	All tie up stalls, pens or yards must have a roof or overhead cover.	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The roof or overhead cover of any tie up stalls, must have a minimum overhead height of 2.6m at the point above the horse's poll.	✓	✓	-	-
Base	All tie up stalls, pens or yards must have a level, non-slip base.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tie-up points	Each tie up stall must have a tie up point on each side (two in total).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Back-to-back stalls	Back-to-back stalls must have a solid divider between them to prevent horses from kicking each other.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fencing	The tie up stall area and all horse walkways must be free from hazards and fenced to contain horses and prevent unauthorised access.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Signage	Clear and direct signage is required indicating that the area is restricted to licensed participants and officials only.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lighting	Venues conducting twilight / night race meetings or pre-dawn trackwork must have lighting within the tie up stall area.	✓	✓	-	-

4.9. Washdown Bays & Chiller Bins

Purpose: Washdown bays provide a safe and suitable area for washing and cooling horses.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
<i>Washdown bays</i>					
Availability / location	Minimum number of washdown bays required within the tie up / veterinary area.	3	3	2	2
Taps / Hoses /	Washdown bays must be fitted with hoses and have level, non-slip flooring.	✓	✓	✓	✓

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
flooring	Taps and hose fixtures must be external to the bay or recessed into a panel wall or guarded to prevent catching horse leads and halters.	✓	✓	✓	-
Chiller bins					
Availability / location	There must be at least two (2) chiller bins in the tie up / veterinary area, with input and output fittings and hoses.	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The chiller bin requirement may be reduced to one (1) when fewer than 50 horses attend the race meetings.	-	-	-	✓

4.10. Veterinary & Swabbing Facilities

Purpose: Veterinary and swabbing facilities provide a safe, secure and appropriately controlled environment for the examination of horses and the collection, handling and storage of samples.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Availability / location	The venue must have the following number of lockable swab facilities located in or within close proximity to the tie up area	2	1	1	1
Layout	The swab facility must comprise of a horse containment area and a separate swab preparation / observation area, separated by a wall or rail. If fully walled, there must be a window or observation port to allow the licensed participant to observe the sampling process.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ventilation / cooling	The swab facility must be well ventilated or cooled. Ceiling fans must not be used. Wall fans or internal components of any air conditioning system must be positioned out of contact with animals.	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Air conditioning with a minimum 5kW capacity is compulsory.	✓	✓	-	-
Lighting	There must be sufficient lighting to fully illuminate the area. Any lighting fixtures must be flush with the ceiling or appropriately guarded to prevent injury if an animal rears.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Trotting observation area	A trotting observation area is required near / adjacent to the swab facility for veterinary examinations, with a hard, clean and even surface and a minimum length of 20m.	✓	-	-	-
Horse containment area					
Minimum area	The horse containment area must have sufficient space to turn a horse and collect samples.	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The horse containment area must have a minimum area of 12m ² .	✓	-	-	-
Visibility	The horse containment area must have limited visibility to the external environment.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Flooring	The horse containment area must have non-slip flooring.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Edges / glass	The horse containment area must be free from sharp edges and protrusions. Glass must not be used in viewing windows (Perspex acceptable).	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ceiling height	The horse containment area must have a minimum ceiling height of 2.6m.	✓	-	-	-
Doorway	The horse containment area must have a sliding or outwards-opening door.	✓	✓	✓	✓
	The horse entry / exit doorway must be at least 1.2m wide.	✓	-	-	-

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Swab preparation area					
Facilities / equipment	The swab preparation area must have access to a bench and sink with clean potable water, hand soap dispenser, paper towel, rubbish bin and sharps container.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Swab sample refrigerator	There must be a lockable swab sample refrigerator contained within the swab facility.	✓	✓	-	-
	There must be a refrigerator for the secure storage of swab samples. The refrigerator must be lockable or contained within a lockable room (either the Swab facility or the Stewards room).	-		✓	✓
Urinal					
Availability / location	There must be a urinal separate from the swab stall, with a non-slip floor space of 9m ² or greater, located within close proximity to the tie up / veterinary area.	✓	-	-	-

4.11. Jockey Room & Scales Precinct

Purpose: Jockey rooms and scales precincts provide jockeys with safe, private and suitable facilities to prepare for racing.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Jockey rooms					
Separate amenities	The venue must have separate male and female jockey amenities accessible only to jockeys and officials.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Capacity	Jockey rooms must accommodate and seat the total number of jockeys attending. Common room areas must be considered.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Showers / toilets	Each jockey room must have at least two showers and two toilets.	✓	✓	-	-
	Each jockey room must have at least one shower and one toilet.	-	-	✓	✓
Cooling	Air conditioning is required.	✓	✓	-	-
	Fans or air conditioning are required.	-	-	✓	✓
Spa / ice baths	Heated spa and ice baths are required.	✓	-	-	-
Clothes dryer	Jockeys must have access to a clothes dryer.	✓	-	-	-
TV monitors	Jockeys must have access to TV monitors to view broadcast footage.	✓	✓	-	-
Private medical treatment area	A private medical treatment area, including a bed, must be available at the venue.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scales area					
Area	The venue must have an undercover scales area with a level surface for weighing jockeys pre and post-race.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Equipment	Digital / electronic trade-certified scales, calibrated annually, are required irrespective of any scales provided by QRIC.	✓	✓	-	-
	Scales are provided by QRIC.	-	-	✓	✓

4.12. Judges Facilities & Equipment

Purpose: Judges facilities, towers and equipment provide officials with an unimpeded view of racing and support accurate and reliable race calling and determination of results.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Judges facility					
Availability / view	The venue must have a judges facility at the finish point with a view of the entire circumference of the track.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Minimum elevation	The judges facility must have a minimum elevation of 6m from track level to the cabin area.	✓	✓	-	-
	The judges facility must have a minimum elevation of 3m from track level to the cabin area.	-	-	✓	-
Size / capacity	The judges facility must be of sufficient size to accommodate all essential race day officials, including judges, photo finish operator, race caller and camera operators, along with equipment.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Enclosure / cooling	The judges facility must be enclosed from the elements and air conditioned.	✓	✓	-	-
	The judges facility must have good ventilation. Additional fans / cooling aids may be required in extreme weather.	-	-	✓	-
Tower access	Towers must allow safe access (stairs, handrails etc). If heavy equipment is used and access is via ladder, a winch or system to lift / carry equipment is required.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Photo finish camera mount	An unobstructed, surveyed and secured ledge / mount must be provided for the photo finish camera; minimum two GPO outlets and two digital monitors.	✓	✓	-	-
	An unobstructed, surveyed and secured ledge / mount must be provided for the photo finish camera, with access to 240v power.	-	-	✓	✓
Camera / broadcast area	A separate room or area must be provided for the camera operator and broadcast announcer.	✓	-	-	-

4.13. Winning Post & Semaphore Board

Purpose: The winning post supports accurate determination of race results, and the semaphore board clearly communicates those results to patrons.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Winning post					
Surveyed winning post	A surveyed winning post must be positioned no less than 1m from the inside running rail and securely house an adjustable photo finish mirror.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Photo finish mirror	The photo finish mirror must be free from damage or de-silvering that would obstruct the photo finish image.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Survey marks	Survey marks are required on the inside and outside of the track to enable realignment of the photo finish camera.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellow strip	A 10cm wide yellow strip must extend from the bottom of the mirror down the centreline to ground level.	✓	✓	✓	✓

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Semaphore board					
Type	An electronic semaphore board is required to display race results to the patron area.	✓	-	-	-
	An electronic or manual semaphore board is required to display race results to the patron area.	-	✓	✓	✓

4.14. Stewards Room & Towers

Purpose: Stewards rooms and towers provide stewards with suitable facilities, equipment and vantage points to effectively supervise and control racing.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Stewards room					
Availability / capacity	The venue must have a stewards room. The room must be of sufficient size, and have tables and chairs, to accommodate ten people.	✓	-	-	-
	The venue must have a stewards room. The room must be of sufficient size, and have tables and chairs, to accommodate the stewards present, their equipment and relevant licensed participants.	-	✓	✓	✓
Security / privacy	The room must be lockable and able to ensure privacy during an enquiry and secure evidence and equipment during the race meeting.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cooling	Air conditioning is required.	✓	✓	-	-
	Fans or air conditioning are required.	-	-	✓	✓
Power	Two double GPO outlets are required.	✓	✓	-	-
	A GPO outlet (240V) is required.	-	-	✓	✓
TV monitors	Two digital TV monitors are required.	✓	✓	✓	-
Main stewards tower					
Availability / elevation	The venue must have a main stewards tower. The tower must have a minimum elevation of 6m from track level to cabin / viewing area, an unimpeded view of all starting positions and the entire circumference and be positioned for a head-on view of the home straight.	✓	✓	-	-
	The venue must have a main stewards tower. The tower must have sufficient elevation for an unimpeded view of all starting positions and the entire circumference and be positioned for a head-on view of the home straight.	-	-	✓	✓
Floor area	The main stewards tower must have sufficient floor area to accommodate up to three persons.	✓	-	-	-
	The main stewards tower must have sufficient floor area to accommodate up to two persons.	-	✓	✓	-
TV monitors	The main stewards tower must have two TV monitors to monitor broadcast vision and price / tote fluctuations.	✓	✓	✓	-
Communications	There must be an operating communication system (e.g. intercom / phone / closed channel two-way) between judge / race caller, starter, main stewards tower and stewards room.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Flashing light	The main stewards tower must have an operational flashing light to allow a steward to signal that the start of a race has been affected.	✓	✓	✓	-

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Tower access	Towers must allow safe access (stairs, handrails etc). If heavy equipment is used and access is via ladder, a winch or system to lift / carry equipment is required.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other stewards towers / viewing points					
Availability / elevation	The venue must have at least three other towers, with a minimum elevation of 6m, enabling viewing of starting positions and the back straight.	✓	-	-	-
	The venue must have at least two other towers, with a minimum elevation of 6m, enabling viewing of starting positions and the back straight.	-	✓	-	-
	The venue must have at least one other tower or viewing point, with a minimum elevation of 3m, providing a view of starting positions and the back straight.	-	-	✓	-
	The venue must have at least one other tower or viewing point of sufficient elevation to provide a view of starting positions and the back straight.	-	-	-	✓
Floor area	Stewards towers other than the main stewards tower must have floor area to accommodate two persons.	✓	-	-	-
Tower access	Towers must allow safe access (stairs, handrails etc). If heavy equipment is used and access is via ladder, a winch or system to lift / carry equipment is required.	✓	✓	✓	✓

4.15. Track Lighting Systems

Purpose: Track lighting systems, where provided, support safe racing and training by providing consistent visibility across the track.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Illumination	If present, track lighting systems must provide a consistent level of lighting for the entire length of the track, with no variation or black spots.	✓	✓	✓	✓

4.16. Training & Exercise Equipment

Purpose: Training and exercise equipment supports the safe training, exercise and handling of horses outside of ridden trackwork.

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Sharp edges / protrusions	Training equipment must be free from sharp edges or protrusions. Otherwise, padding or guards / shrouds must be applied.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Doors / gateways	Doors and gateways, if hinged, must open outwards to facilitate safe exit.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Walkway surfaces	Walkway surfaces must be even and non-slip, including under wet conditions.	✓	✓	✓	✓

4.17. General

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
Required condition	Assets, facilities, equipment and surfaces used for racing, training, horse handling or race day operations must be maintained in a condition suitable for their intended use and, where applicable, be fully functional, structurally sound and capable of supporting their anticipated use and loading.	✓	✓	✓	✓

Asset/description	Standard/requirement	Metro/Prov	Ctry A	Ctry B	Ctry C
General Hazards	All Animal Precincts, and Official and Participant Areas must be free of hazards from: • uneven or muddy terrain. • excessive manure and other biohazards. • debris, stockpiled building materials. • machinery and/or implements. • sharp edges on equipment and other infrastructure. • electrical exposure.	✓	✓	✓	✓

5. Asset Rectification Process

5.1. Venue Inspection

RQ may inspect a venue from time to time to assess whether it complies with the Standards and remains suitable to be licensed.

Where RQ identifies non-compliance with the Standards, the following process will ordinarily be applied by RQ to notify the club, manage any immediate risks and facilitate rectification.

5.2. Asset Cases

Where RQ identifies non-compliance with the Standards, RQ will create an Asset Case in Race Cube and notify the club by automated email.

In urgent circumstances, RQ may also contact a club representative in person, by phone or voicemail, text message or separate email to notify the club of the Asset Case.

The Asset Case will specify:

- details of the non-compliance;
- the timeframe within which the non-compliance must be rectified (**Rectification Period**); and
- any action required before future race meetings or training activities may proceed at the venue, including rectification or interim risk controls.

A club must take all reasonable steps to rectify the non-compliance, and complete any action required before future race meetings or training activities may proceed at the venue (if applicable), in accordance with the Asset Case.

5.3. Acceptance of an Asset Case

The club must acknowledge the Asset Case within 21 days of notification (or any shorter timeframe if communicated by RQ, in urgent circumstances) by either accepting or objecting to the Asset Case in Race Cube.

By accepting the Asset Case, the club acknowledges the non-compliance and agrees to take all reasonable steps to rectify it within the Rectification Period.

Failure to rectify an accepted Asset Case within the required timeframe may result in RQ taking further action in response to the non-compliance, including action under the Policy, any relevant licence conditions, the Rules of Racing or the Act.

5.4. Objection to an Asset Case

A club may object to an Asset Case where it disputes the non-compliance, the rectification requirements, the Rectification Period or any other aspect of the Asset Case.

The objection must include:

- the reasons for the objection; and
- any requested extension to the Rectification Period.

After considering the objection and any other relevant information, RQ may:

- direct the club to rectify the non-compliance in accordance with the Asset Case;
- amend the Asset Case, including any extension to the Rectification Period; or
- withdraw the Asset Case on any terms RQ considers appropriate.

RQ may make its decision after discussing the matter with the club and will notify the club of the outcome via Race Cube.

Unless RQ directs otherwise, the club must continue to comply with the Asset Case, including implementing any interim risk controls and taking all reasonable steps to rectify the non-compliance.

5.5. Rectification and Finalisation

Once the club considers the non-compliance has been rectified, it must request finalisation of the Asset Case as soon as reasonably practicable by:

- recording the rectification steps taken by the club in the 'Club Notes' section of the Asset Case in Race Cube;
- providing sufficient evidence of compliance, including photographs or any other evidence requested by RQ; and
- changing the status of the Asset Case to "Maintenance Ready for Approval".

RQ may require further information, evidence or an inspection before finalising the Asset Case. If RQ is satisfied that the asset complies with the Standards, RQ will finalise the Asset Case in Race Cube.