



AMENDMENTS TO AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING

AR 123 Safety vests

Summary:

Racing Australia has approved the use of Level 2 safety vests by riders. However, riders may continue to use Level 1 safety vests. The rule has been amended accordingly.

The Level 2 safety vest is significantly thicker and bulkier than the Level 1 safety vest and, therefore, may not always be appropriate in Australian conditions. This is why riders may wear either a Level 1 or 2 safety vest, provided it complies with the relevant standard and has been approved for use by Racing Australia.

The only Level 2 safety vest that Racing Australia has approved for use is the 'Vipa II' (manufactured by Vipatech), which satisfies the requirements of EN 13158:2018.

Other Level 2 safety vests which meet the relevant standard may be subsequently approved upon provision of appropriate evidence to Racing Australia.

A number of amendments have also been made to improve the readability of the rule.

Amend AR 123 as follows:

AR 123 Safety vests

- (1) When mounted on a horse, including but not limited to in a race, official trial, jump-out or trackwork, a rider must wear a properly fastened safety vest which:
 - (a) complies with a standard prescribed by Racing Australia;
 - (b) has been approved by Racing Australia;
 - (c) is in a satisfactory condition;
 - (d) has not been modified in any way; and
 - (e) has attached to it a manufacturer's label that states that it complies with a standard prescribed by Racing Australia.
- (2) A rider required by these Australian Rules to wear a safety vest must not have in his or her possession a safety vest that does not comply with the requirements in subrule (1).
- (3) The Stewards may confiscate or order the satisfactory repair of any safety vest that does not comply with the requirements in subrule (1).
- (4) If an apprentice jockey breaches subrule (1), the apprentice jockey's master and/or any other person who was in charge of the apprentice jockey at any relevant time may also be penalised unless that person satisfies the Stewards that he or she took all proper care to ensure that the apprentice jockey complied with that subrule.

Note: Pursuant to this rule, Racing Australia has ordered that:

- (a) the following standards of safety vests are prescribed:
 - (i) ARB Standard 1.1998; and

- (ii) European Standard EN 13158;*
- (b) the following Level 1 safety vests are approved:*
 - (i) Hows Racesafe;*
 - (ii) Ozvest;*
 - (iii) Racelite Pro;*
 - (iv) Vipa;*
 - (v) Vipa I;*
 - (vi) USG Flexi Race; and*
 - (vii) Airowear Swift;*
- (c) the following Level 2 safety vests are approved:*
 - (i) Vipa II.*

Date of effect: 1 April 2020