

## STAKEHOLDER NOTICE – RULES OF RACING

Racing Queensland (**RQ**) confirms changes to the *Rules of Racing (Thoroughbred)*, in accordance with the following table:

<b>Code of Racing</b>	Thoroughbred
<b>Rule/Description</b>	<p><b>1. Local Rule 30 (Time for Horse Arrival)</b></p> <p>Amending the prescribed arrival time for horses engaged in the first race at a Metropolitan Race Meeting from 1.5 hours to 2 hours before the time appointed for the start of the race.</p> <p><b>2. Local Rule 36 (Nomination – Declaration of Acceptance – Scratching)</b></p> <p>Amending the requirement for the trainer of a horse accepted in more than one race at a race meeting (i.e. a ‘dual-acceptor’) to scratch from all but one of those races, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the trainer of a horse accepted in more than one race at a race meeting must elect which engagement the horse will fulfil by withdrawing the horse from all other engagements by 5pm on the day of acceptances, unless it is an emergency in an alternate race; and</li> <li>if an emergency runner gains a start in an alternate race, the trainer must elect which engagement the horse will fulfil by withdrawing the horse from all other engagements by 5pm on the day it gains a start in the alternate race, or by the advertised scratching deadline (whichever is earlier).</li> </ul> <p><i>Full details of the amended wording of the Local Rules can be found at Annexure A.</i></p>
<b>Effective Date</b>	November 1, 2025
<b>Queries to</b>	<a href="mailto:policies@racingqueensland.com.au">policies@racingqueensland.com.au</a>

A copy of the updated *Rules of Racing – Thoroughbred*, which takes effect from **November 1, 2025**, is available on the RQ website (click [here](#) to access).

Stakeholders may direct any feedback or queries to [policies@racingqueensland.com.au](mailto:policies@racingqueensland.com.au).

*Issued on: November 16, 2025*

## Annexure A

### LR.30. Time for Horse Arrival

- (1) For the purposes of AR165 and subject to LR30(2), all horses intended to be run in any race must be on the racecourse in the raceday stall area in accordance with the following timeframes:
  - (a) at a Metropolitan Race Meeting, at least 2 hours prior to the time appointed for the start of the race unless:
    - ~~(i) the horse is engaged in the first race, in which case the required arrival time is at least 1.5 hours prior to the time appointed for the start of the race; or~~
    - (ii) the horse is engaged in a Group Race, in which case the required arrival time is at least 3 hours prior to the time appointed for the start of the race;
  - (b) at a TAB Meeting (other than a Metropolitan TAB Meeting), at least 1.5 hours prior to the time appointed for the start of the race; and
  - (c) at a Non-TAB Meeting, at least 1 hour prior to the time appointed for the start of the race.
- (2) The Stewards may, by notice from time to time, amend the prescribed horse arrival times for race meetings.

### LR.36. Nomination – Declaration of Acceptance – Scratching

- (1) A nomination, declaration of acceptance or scratching shall be made to the Racing Australia Service Centre.
- (2) If unable to lodge scratchings with the Racing Australia Service Centre the details of the matter shall be notified to the Stewards forthwith.
- (3) The time and date by which the declaration of acceptance shall be made shall be as advertised in the approved program for the Race Meeting as prescribed in the Racing Calendar.
- (4) A declaration of acceptance shall be made before the time and date on the day as advertised.
- (5) The nomination of any horse not declared an acceptor at the prescribed time and date shall lapse.
- ~~(6) Where a horse is accepted for more than one race at the same Race Meeting, and provided that horse makes the field in more than one race, it must be scratched out of all but one of those races, irrespective of rating, weight, performance or qualification status as follows:
  - ~~(a) if the Race Meeting is a TAB Meeting, prior to 5pm on the day of acceptances;~~
  - ~~(b) otherwise, prior to the advertised scratching time.~~~~
- (6) The trainer of any horse accepted in more than one race at the same Race Meeting must, by no later than 5:00 PM on the day of acceptances, elect which engagement the horse will fulfil by withdrawing the horse from all other engagements at that meeting, except where the horse is an emergency runner in an alternate race.
- ~~(7) Subject to subrules (9) and (10), where a horse makes the field for a race at a TAB Meeting after 5pm on the day of acceptances, and it is already in the field for another race at the same Race Meeting, then it must be scratched out of all but one of those races, irrespective of rating, weight, performance or qualification status by:
  - ~~(a) 6pm on the day it is confirmed to have made the field for both races; or~~
  - ~~(b) the advertised scratching time, whichever is earlier.~~~~
- (7) Should an emergency runner gain a start in an alternate race, the trainer must elect which engagement the horse will fulfil by withdrawing the horse from all other engagements at that Race Meeting by:
  - (a) 5:00 PM on the day the horse gains a start in the alternate race; or
  - (b) the advertised scratching deadline for the meeting, whichever is earlier.

- ~~(8) — Where subrule (6) or subrule (7) is not complied with, the Stewards must scratch the horse from all but one race in which the horse has been accepted as determined in their sole discretion.~~
- ~~(9) — Where a horse is declared an emergency runner in a Feature Race and is declared an acceptor in another race on the program, the horse:
  - ~~(a) — may be scratched from the Feature Race prior to 5pm on the day of acceptances; and~~
  - ~~(b) — if not scratched from the Feature Race by 5pm on the day of acceptances, it must start in the Feature Race if a position is made available.~~~~
- ~~(10) — Where a horse is declared an emergency runner in a Feature Race and is declared an acceptor in another Feature Race on the program, the horse:
  - ~~(a) — may be scratched from the Feature Race for which it is declared an emergency runner by 5pm on the day of acceptances; and~~
  - ~~(b) — if not scratched from the Feature Race for which it is declared an emergency runner by 5pm on the day of acceptances, it must start in that Feature Race if a position is made available.~~~~