

COVID-19 RACING CODE PROTOCOLS ALL CODES



EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 22, 2021

1. This version of the Racing Queensland (RQ) COVID-19 Racing Code Protocols replaces the version published effective December 17, 2021.
2. All licensed Queensland race clubs are required to conduct their operations in accordance with relevant requirements of the Queensland Government.
3. Particular reference is drawn to the following:
[Public Health and Social Measures linked to vaccination status Direction | Queensland Health](#)
[COVID Safe Checklist: Public Health and Social Measures - Vaccinated staff and patrons only \(covid19.qld.gov.au\)](#)
4. Clubs are required to meet any additional requirements of these Racing Code Protocols (as well as any Addendum to the Protocols), and any additional instruction or direction provided by RQ, and any requirements of the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) that may be imposed at a race meeting.
5. At all times, clubs and the conduct of race meetings and any racing activity or operations at a racing venue, are subject to any changes, advice or further relevant Directions issued by the Queensland Government.

Restriction of entry to Queensland licensed racing and training venue

6. In line with the Queensland Government's Public Health and Social Measures linked to vaccination status Direction, entry to all Queensland licensed racing venues for the purpose of race meetings is restricted to persons who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19.
 - (a) This restriction applies to all patrons, club employees, racing industry participants, officials and volunteers.
 - (b) For the purpose of this restriction, the race meeting will be deemed to commence three hours before the scheduled time for the first race and conclude two hours after the last race is conducted.
7. COVID-19 vaccination requirements for entry to Queensland licensed racing and training venues for non-raceday activities (i.e., at times other than race meetings as defined above) will be determined by each individual club and subject to any applicable Government requirements that apply to their venue.

Checking the vaccination status and collection of contact information

8. The process to be followed in checking the vaccination status and the collection of contact information for all persons entering the venue is as prescribed by the Public Health and Social Measures linked to vaccination status Direction.
9. Clubs must make all reasonable efforts when anyone enters the venue to confirm they meet the COVID-19 vaccination entry requirements by requesting and sighting proof of COVID-19 vaccination or evidence of medical contraindication (printed or electronic). Clubs will be compliant if they act as follows:



- (a) Comply with the vaccination entry requirements; and
 - (b) Take reasonable steps to ensure staff and visitors comply with the vaccination entry requirements; and
 - (c) Clearly display the requirement for staff and visitors to be fully vaccinated and provide evidence of COVID-19 vaccination or of a medical contraindication; and
 - (d) Request and sight proof of COVID-19 vaccination or evidence of a medical contraindication; and
 - (e) Clearly display the Check In Qld app QR code at each entry to the venue that is used by staff or visitors; and
 - (f) Collect contact information for each person entering the venue; and
 - (g) Comply with any COVID-19 density limits that may apply; and
 - (h) Operate in accordance with the [COVID Safe Checklist—Vaccinated staff and patrons only](#).
10. The following forms of evidence showing someone is fully vaccinated are sufficient:
- (a) Vaccination information displayed on the Check In Qld app; or
 - (b) Written confirmation of COVID-19 vaccination, such as a record of vaccine card; or
 - (c) A COVID-19 digital certificate or printed vaccination certificate from the Australian Immunisation Register; or
 - (d) An online or printed immunisation history statement for COVID-19 vaccination, including confirmation of a medical contraindication; or
 - (e) An international COVID-19 vaccination certificate.
11. Clubs are to ensure that all entry points to the venue are sufficiently resourced to facilitate this process.
- (a) To ensure the evidence of vaccination and check-in process operates efficiently, trainers are to ensure that they and their staff undertake the process prior to unloading their racing animals from their transport vehicles.
12. If a person cannot, or refuses to, provide evidence of vaccination, ask the person to leave the premises. If the person refuses to leave the premises, call the police.

General requirements for entry to Queensland

13. Entry into Queensland for all persons including race meeting patrons, racing industry participants and officials is in line with Queensland Government requirements. Relevant information can be found via the following links:
- [Border Restrictions Direction \(No. 57\) | Queensland Health](#)
- [Travelling to Queensland | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)
- [Queensland Entry Pass](#)
- [COVID-19 hotspot](#)
14. In line with the Government's border entry requirements, fully vaccinated persons are able to enter Queensland from a declared COVID-19 hotspot if they have undertaken a COVID-19 PCR test within three days of the persons' arrival in Queensland and receive a negative test result, and agree to undertake an additional PCR test on Day 5 after arriving in Queensland.
15. Notwithstanding that a person may have a right to enter Queensland, RQ may impose restrictions on that person's access to an RQ licensed racing or training venue for a period of time at its discretion.



Restricted NSW border zone

16. Where parts of the NSW border zone are designated as the restricted border zone, entry to Queensland will still be restricted.
17. Racing industry participants from the restricted NSW border zone are not permitted to attend a Queensland racing or training venue. Queensland participants are not permitted to travel to race meetings in the restricted NSW border zone.
18. Horses/greyhounds from the restricted NSW border zone are still permitted to be entered to race in Queensland, subject to the following:
 - (a) Horses/greyhounds must be transported by an approved commercial transport operator in accordance with the guidelines for transporting animals from declared COVID-19 hotspots, as prescribed in the respective Racing Code Protocols;
 - (b) Horses/greyhounds must be in Queensland by final scratching time on the day of the race meeting;
 - (c) Drop-off or pick-up by the interstate transport operator is not permitted at a Queensland race meeting; and
 - (d) Private transportation of animal/s is not permitted.
19. Participants/horses/greyhounds from the restricted NSW border zone are not permitted to take part in Queensland trackwork, official barrier trials or jump-outs.
20. Queensland trainers may still enter horses/greyhounds to race at race meetings in the restricted NSW border zone, but the animal/s must be transported by an approved commercial transport operator. Horses/greyhounds returning to Queensland are not permitted to travel via a Queensland race meeting as part of their return journey. Private transportation of animal/s is not permitted. Permission to race and transportation arrangements will also be subject to any additional requirements that the NSW authorities may impose.

COVID-19 Test

21. As stated above, in line with Queensland Government border entry requirements, in addition to pre-arrival requirements, persons arriving into Queensland from a declared COVID-19 hotspot are required to undergo a COVID-19 test on Day 5 after their arrival in Queensland.

[Changes to Queensland's border restrictions at 80% fully vaccinated | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)
22. RQ may also require any Queensland licensed participant to undergo a COVID-19 test and may impose restrictions on that person's access to an RQ licensed racing or training venue for a period of time at its discretion.

Face masks

23. Any person travelling to race meetings by air travel will be subject to face mask wearing requirements in airports and whilst on flights, as prescribed by the Queensland Government.
24. A face mask is required to be worn by all persons whilst indoors in core racing areas at race meetings in Queensland (e.g., jockeys'/drivers' rooms, Stewards' rooms, Judges' towers etc.).
25. Where required by these Protocols to wear a face mask and a person is not able to comply with the requirement due to a medical exemption, the following process should be followed:
 - (a) The person must provide a copy of the medical exemption confirming that they are not able to wear a face mask. They will then be required to wear a face shield instead (to be provided by Racing Queensland); or



- (b) If the person does not have a medical exemption with them, they should be asked to leave the venue and to provide a copy of a medical exemption before they return. Then, only if they produce a medical exemption confirming they are not able to wear a face mask, and on agreement to wear a face shield instead, will they be able to return (Racing Queensland to provide the face shield).

Exposure Venues/Contract Tracing Alerts

26. Any person who enters Queensland must monitor details of the [interstate exposure venues on the Queensland Health website](#) daily for 14 days after arriving into Queensland.
27. If you have been to any of the exposure venues at the relevant exposure times you must follow the Queensland Government's prescribed process as detailed in the link above.

Interstate horse/greyhound transportation from declared COVID-19 hotspots

28. Horses/greyhounds are permitted to travel to Queensland from a declared COVID-19 hotspot, provided that all Queensland Government requirements are met.
29. The person transporting, and anyone accompanying, the horse/greyhound must have satisfied all requirements of the Queensland Government for entry into Queensland.
30. Freight and logistics operators entering Queensland from another state or territory in Australia must fulfill all the requirements outlined in the QLD Freight Protocol: [Operational protocol for freight movements entering Queensland | Queensland Health](#).

Jockeys'/Drivers' Rooms

31. Clubs are required to either pre-prepare or record a jockeys'/drivers' room seating plan to have a record of where jockeys/drivers are seated whilst within the jockeys'/drivers' room at a race meeting.
32. The QRIC will be required to keep records of jockeys/drivers who have been in the Stewards' room for inquiries during the race meeting.
33. Given the enclosed environment of jockeys'/drivers' and Stewards' rooms, these measures may assist the Queensland Government/Queensland Health determining levels of contacts (i.e., close, casual, low risk, and the resultant requirements) in the event of a positive case of COVID-19 within the jockeys'/drivers' ranks, or a member of the jockeys'/drivers' ranks being advised that they are a contact of a positive case.

