

THE MAURITIUS TURF CLUB

PORT - LOUIS



MAURITIUS

CHAMP DE MARS

DIRECTIONS FOR RACING – 2020

Unless otherwise defined, terms used in these Directions have the same meaning as in the Rules of Racing of the Mauritius Turf Club.

A. HORSE POPULATION

- A.1 Each trainer must have under his care not less than 10 and not more than 50 horses at any time during the racing season. Each trainer must have imported at least 5 new horses before the commencement of the racing season.
- A.2 In the case of a transfer of a horse from the care of a trainer to another trainer, the effective date (the “Effective Date”) of transfer shall be determined in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 6 of the Racehorse Owner’s Agreement for the current season. An owner will be permitted a maximum of 3 stable transfers in a season.
- A.3 If at any time during the racing season, a trainer has under his care fewer horses, he must diligently increase his horse population to the minimum set out in A.1. The Administrators will set the deadline by which the trainer must comply with this obligation and may be placed under review.
- A.4 Boxes will be allocated in Port Louis and Floréal in accordance with the schedule appearing in the current *contrat de gérance* of trainers.

B. TRAINER’S HORSE POPULATION

- B.1 A horse which does not race for 3 consecutive months or more or has been retired or has been temporarily withdrawn by its trainer shall no longer form part of a trainer’s horse population.
- B.2 A trainer must apply to the Racing Stewards to reinstate in training a horse that no longer forms part of his horse population. The Racing Stewards may impose such conditions as they deem appropriate in relation to the reinstatement of any horse in training.

C. NOMINATIONS

- C.1 A trainer must not nominate a horse unless (i) its identity has been verified by the trainer and confirmed by the Racing Stewards; (ii) it has performed at least 1 barrier trial to the reasonable satisfaction of the Racing Stewards; and (iii) it has been under the care of the trainer at least 8 clear days prior to the race meeting for which the trainer proposes to nominate it.

- C.2 A trainer must nominate a horse no later than 8:30 am on the Tuesday immediately preceding the race meeting at which he proposes to run that horse by submitting a duly completed nomination form in the designated box.
- C.3 No horse shall be nominated in more than 2 races.
- C.4 Subject to D.3, a trainer who has nominated a horse must declare that horse if places are available unless (i) he submits to the Racing Stewards a veterinary certificate that the horse is unfit to race; or (ii) the Racing Stewards, on the trainer showing good cause, determine that the horse should be scratched.
- C.5 Where a horse is scratched pursuant to C.4 (i), the trainer must not nominate that horse to run at (i) the next race meeting immediately following the race meeting in which it was scratched unless the trainer (a) obtains the special authorization of the Racing Stewards, and (b) submits a veterinary clearance to the reasonable satisfaction of the Racing Stewards; or (ii) at any subsequent race meeting unless the trainer submits a veterinary clearance to the reasonable satisfaction of the Racing Stewards.
- C.6 A horse which has been nominated by a trainer must exercise at the track in Port Louis (i) for a race meeting scheduled on a Saturday, on the preceding Thursday; and (ii) for a race meeting scheduled on a Sunday or a week-end, on the preceding Friday. A decision of the Racing Stewards that a horse exercised at the track in Port Louis at the material time shall be final and binding and shall not be subject to appeal.
- C.7 (i) Group 1 races shall be reserved for horses with a merit rating of at least 65+, provided that, if places are available, horses rated 64 to 60 may be declared to race; (ii) Group 2 races shall be reserved for horses with a merit rating of 60+; and (iii) Group 3 races shall be reserved for horses with a merit rating of at least 60; if places are available, horses rated 59 to 55 may be declared to race (provided that priority in the starting stalls for horses rated 59 to 55 shall be strictly in accordance with merit rating; in case two or more horses have the same merit rating, priority shall be given to the horse which has the lower draw).
- C.8 Nominations may be cancelled or re-opened if there are 8 or fewer horses in the aggregate nominated by fewer than 4 trainers.
- C.9 A trainer must submit to the racing department on the appropriate form (i) the code of colours of the owners of the nominated horses; (ii) a complete notification of gear changes; and (iii) any application for permission pursuant to I.6 (unruly horses), no later than noon on the Wednesday preceding a race meeting.
- C.10 The Racing Stewards may refuse a trainer's nomination that does not comply with this Section C unless the trainer can show good cause.
- C.11 The barrier draw is conducted after declarations, except if otherwise notified by the Racing Stewards.

D. DECLARATIONS

- D.1 A trainer must declare a horse no later than 8:00 am on (i) the Thursday immediately preceding a race meeting scheduled on a Saturday or on a weekend; or (ii) the Friday immediately preceding a race meeting scheduled on a Sunday, by submitting a duly completed declaration form (together with any trump card) in the designated box.

- D.2 Where a horse has been nominated in more than 1 race, the trainer must state in the declaration form his order of priority for the races where he wishes his horse to start. If a rider is declared on more than 1 horse in the same race, his earlier engagement must prevail unless the trainers involved agree otherwise.
- D.3 A trainer who has nominated 2 or more horses in a race must (a) if there are less than 8 nominations in the aggregate in that race, declare 2 horses; or (b) if there are 8 or more nominations in the aggregate in that race, declare at least 1 horse but not more than 2 horses.
- D.4 The Racing Stewards may refuse a trainer's declaration that does not comply with D.1 and D.2 unless the trainer can show good cause.
- D.5 Declarations shall be processed in a room designated by the Racing Stewards. Trainers or their representatives may not be present in this designated room while the declarations are processed.
- D.6 All declared horses shall be listed in order of merit rating, with a horse with a higher merit rating having, and, subject to D.9 to D.15, priority over a horse with a lower merit rating.
- D.7 Subject to D.12, the field in any race shall be determined in accordance with the following criteria, namely (i) the merit rating of declared horses; and (ii) the 1 runner per trainer principle.
- D.8 Whenever the number of trainers, who have declared at least 1 horse, is equal to or less than the number of places available in the field, each trainer shall be entitled to have at least 1 runner.
- D.9 Any remaining places in the field shall be filled in accordance with the criterion set out in D.7(i) above provided that no trainer who has declared more than 2 runners shall be entitled to a third runner unless all horses declared by trainers who have declared a second runner shall have been accepted, including for a place as an emergency acceptor.
- D.10 For the purpose of determining priority in respect of available places in the field, where a trainer has declared more than 1 horse, his declared horse with the highest merit rating shall be deemed to be his first choice and his declared horses with a lower merit rating shall be deemed, in descending order of merit rating, to be his second and consecutive choices.
- D.11 A trainer may declare a horse that is not his declared horse with the highest merit rating to fill an available place in the field. If he does so, his declared horses with a higher merit rating forfeit their priority.
- D.12 The following horses shall have priority in the following order: (i) a horse in respect of which a trainer has, subject to D.13, used a trump card; (ii) a last start winner; and (iii) subject to D.14, a horse that was balloted out when last declared provided that it was the only declared horse of its trainer in any race in the previous meeting in which it was declared (a 'Qualifying Race'). Such priorities shall apply only to horses nominated within their rating band and during the current season.
- D.13 No trainer shall use a trump card in respect of a declared horse (i) in a Group race or in a 3-year old or 4-year old championship race; (ii) that has not been nominated within its rating band during the current season; or (iii) where that horse is not the only horse declared by its trainer in the race in which the trainer proposes to use the trump card.

- D.14 A horse forfeits any priority it acquires pursuant to D.12(iii) if it is not declared in a race in which it is nominated immediately following a Qualifying Race.
- D.15 Whenever 2 or more declared horses have the same merit rating and only one place is available in the field, including a place as emergency acceptor, the horse which has the better barrier position shall have priority.
- D.16 Trainers are allowed two trump cards. One trump card can be used until Meeting 18 inclusively and the other from Meeting 19 to the last Meeting of the season, excluding the International Week-End.
- D.17 A race shall be cancelled if not more than 3 trainers have declared not less than 6 horses in the aggregate. (ii) Where a race is cancelled, another race may be split into 2 divisions. (iii) The Club may reduce the prize money payable in respect of the winner and placed horses in a race that is run with fewer than 6 horses in the aggregate. (iv) Trainers will be informed of any decision taken pursuant to this direction.
- D.18 All runners shall be presented to be weighed at such day and time to be fixed by the Security Manager. The weight of all runners shall be made public on the same day.
- D.19 All Group 1 races shall be run at weight-for-age.

E. OWNERS

- E.1 Only registered owners shall be entitled to have their names in the Race Card and be eligible to have access to the paddock and/or the race track.
- E.2 An honorary owner may be designated provided that trainers comply with the applicable rules. No person shall be an honorary member unless he is (i) a next-of-kin of an owner; or (ii) a celebrity visiting the Club and approved by the Administrators.
- E.3 Any owner or honorary owner must be over 18 years old.

F. RACING EQUIPMENT

- F.1 Earplugs that have been declared and printed on the Race Card may not be removed during the race.
- F.2 Depending on the weather and the condition of the race track, the Racing Stewards may authorize or request a trainer to remove or apply pacifiers to his horse.
- F.3 A horse that has not raced with blinkers abroad shall not race with that equipment for the first time in Mauritius unless it has undergone a test at the starting stalls to the reasonable satisfaction of the Racing Stewards.

G. JOCKEYS

- G.1 A jockey who is a non-citizen of Mauritius shall not be authorized to ride at track work and/or in races unless he is in possession of (i) a valid work permit to take up employment with a trainer; and (ii) a valid residence permit.
- G.2 No jockey shall be authorized to ride for a trainer who is not his employer (the 'Second Trainer') in any race except (i) in a group race; or (ii) if called upon, subject to the approval of his employer and the authorization of the Racing Stewards, for an emergency replacement ride. The Second trainer must submit to the Racing Stewards a duly signed form when applying for the authorization of the Racing Stewards under (ii).

- G.3 Every rider must ride at track work for a minimum of 4 days a week. A trainer may apply to the Racing Stewards for authorization for a jockey or apprentice or track rider, to ride his horse at track work in Port-Louis or Floréal.
- G.4 Riders licensed by the Club must seek the authorization of the Racing Stewards if they wish to leave Mauritius to take up employment abroad.
- G.5 Suspensions incurred under MTC Rules 160A (b), (d), (f), (h), (i) and (k) may, on application, be deferred until after the next race meeting and up to 2 race meetings if the second race meeting programs a Group race. All applications must be directed to the Administrators through the Chief Executive Officer of the Club.
- G.6 A sanction under paragraph (G.5) imposed in any given racing season shall be served to its full extent during that racing season and shall if necessary, be carried forward to the following racing season.

H. TRANSFER OF HORSES

- H.1 No owner shall, during the current season, enter into a racehorse owners' agreement with more than 2 trainers in relation to 1 horse.
- H.2 For the purposes of the Owner Billing and Registration Department, a transfer will be deemed to become effective on the first day of the month immediately following the Effective Date (as defined in A.2).
- H.3 Pending a transfer, a trainer must keep the horse on light training and feed it accordingly.
- H.4 A horse which has been nominated in a race before the Club has approved its transfer to another trainer may participate in that race under the name and colours of the transferring owner.

I. RACE DAYS

- I.1 Access to the centre of the parade ring, from the time that the horses are saddled to that time that they leave the parade ring, is restricted to officials of the Club (including former Administrators), trainers, assistant trainers, riders and the owners of the horses participating in the race.
- I.2 Access to the weighing room is restricted to trainers, riders and officials of the Club. However, an assistant trainer may have access to the weighing room if he is replacing his trainer or the stable has 2 or more horses entered in a race.
- I.3 If a trainer wishes to leave the premises after he has raced his last runner but before the last race, he must notify the Racing Stewards where he may be contacted in case of emergency.
- I.4 Subject to I.6, (i) all runners must be present in the parade ring once horses from the previous race have left; and (ii) all runners participating in the first race of a meeting must be present at least 30 minutes before the official start time of that race.
- I.5 Subject to I.6, horses must be saddled in the paddock area.
- I.6 The Paddock Supervisor may permit unruly horses to come to the presentation ring later or to proceed immediately to the race track and/or to be saddled elsewhere than in the

paddock area. Trainers must apply for permission by submitting an appropriate form in accordance with C.9.

J. RACE TACTICS

- J.1 A trainer who has entered 2 or more horses in a race, must set out each rider's riding instructions in writing on the appropriate form which must be duly signed and submitted to the Clerk of the Course before he saddles his horses.

K. GROOMS

- K.1 No groom shall be transferred from one stable to another before the start of the current season (on 01 March) without the approval of the Chief Executive Officer. No transfer request shall be entertained after that date.
- K.2 Trainers must give to grooms at least 2 days' notice of the transfer of horses under their custody from the Floréal Training Centre to the race track in Port Louis for morning track work. The officer in charge at the Floréal Training Centre must be advised, by the preceding Friday afternoon, of any proposed movement of horses on a Sunday morning.
- K.3 As from the time that a horse has been nominated, it must remain in the custody of the same groom until after it has raced and, if required, been sampled. If a change of groom is necessary after a horse has been nominated, the locks of the door of the box of that horse must be replaced simultaneously with the handing over to the relieving groom. The register kept by the Security Officer must be signed in the latter's presence by both grooms.
- K.4 The form witnessing a change of grooms at the Floréal Training Centre must be signed by both grooms, in the presence of the officer in charge and delivered to the Security Officer in Port Louis at latest by the end of each week.
- K.5 Each trainer must issue to his grooms a proper stable uniform on race-days unless sponsored T-shirts are provided.
- K.6 Grooms must ensure that their horses are duly examined after a race by the Club's Veterinary Surgeon and that their urine specimens are collected whenever required.
- K.7 Grooms must immediately report to their Trainer any abnormality, dysfunction or problem of whatever nature at or about the stable that may affect the security of any horse under his custody.

L. VETERINARY EXAMINATION

- L.1 After each race the Club's Veterinary Surgeon will trot a horse to ensure that it is not lame. If the need arises, the horse will be scoped. Blood and urine samples may also be taken at the request of the Racing Stewards.
- L.2 If requested by the Racing Stewards, the Club's Veterinary Surgeon may perform a more extensive examination, particularly of a horse that has performed poorly.
- L.3 For the purposes of hair sampling and doping control, the shaving and trimming of manes is restricted. A minimum 12cm of hair on the mane is required to be left in place when trimming.



Stephane de Chalain
Chief Stipendiary Steward

25 June 2020