



June 27, 2016

THOROUGHBRED DIRECTIVE NO. 1 – 2016 – Uncoupling of Entries in Overnight Races

Preamble

WHEREAS in the spring of 2016, a request was received from the industry for the Registrar to consider revising the Rules of Thoroughbred Racing to permit uncoupling of entries in overnight races;

AND WHEREAS on May 6, 2016, a Notice to Industry was posted inviting public and industry comments with respect to the uncoupling of entries in overnight races;

AND WHEREAS after seeking consultation from the public and industry with respect to the proposed rule changes, there was found to be favorable support from horseracing customers, the Horseman's Benevolent Protective Association ("HBPA"), Woodbine Entertainment Group, Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium and Picov Downs Inc.;

TAKE NOTICE that the Registrar hereby orders the Rules of Thoroughbred Racing 2016 be amended effective immediately:

Chapter 2

DEFINITIONS

Entry is

(a) an application by an owner, trainer or authorized agent for a specific horse to run in a specific race. ~~or~~

~~(b) two or more horses in the same race, which have common ties in ownership or lease.~~

Chapter 6

ENTRIES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

6.13 (NEW) A trainer, owner, or authorized agent may not enter and start more than two horses of the same or separate ownership in a purse race or overnight event as separate betting interests, except under the following conditions:

(1) Stake races;

(2) Races in which there are fees required to nominate or enter; or

(3) All overnight races. In these races a trainer may not enter more than two horses. The second entry may not exclude a single entry, or be allowed if there are less than five entries received prior to the entry of the trainer's second horse. The Association reserves the right to require six or more betting interests in any overnight race from a minimum of five trainers and owners.

6.13.01.1 ~~deleted.~~ Except in stakes races and races which are conditioned for horses eligible for a specified stakes, not more than two horses of the same ownership or interest shall be entered in a race and both may start.

6.13.01.3 ~~deleted.~~ Notwithstanding rule 6.13.01.1 and 6.13.01.2, any portion of any race which splits shall be considered for the purposes of these rules to be an individual race.

6.14.01 ~~deleted.~~ Horses trained by a public-stable trainer shall not be coupled with horses trained by another public-stable trainer unless the horses in question are owned in whole or in part by the same owners, or the Stewards order them coupled in accordance with the provisions of rule 6.36.

(a) In all stake and handicap races starters shall be considered a separate betting interest irrespective of common ownership or trainer. Notwithstanding the above, with the exception of wagering, common owned or trained horses in all stake and handicap races must comply with rules that apply to the coupling of common owned and trained horses in overnight events.

6.14.02 ~~deleted.~~ All horses owned wholly or in part by the same person, or his or her spouse, or trained by the same trainer, may be coupled and run as an entry.

6.14.03 ~~deleted.~~ Notwithstanding Rule 6.14.02 where two or more horses are coupled as an entry only for the reason that the horses are trained by the same trainer, the racing association may with the consent of the Stewards run those horses as separate interests if

(a) the race in which the horses are entered is a sweep stake; and

(b) the nomination closing date for the race was at least six days prior to the race.

(c) Horses of different ownership, and trained by the same trainer, when entered in any overnight race, will run as separate betting interests once the race has been declared filled. Declared filled is defined as 5 separate betting interests. The Association reserves the right to require six or more betting interests in any overnight race from a minimum of five trainers.

6.14.04 ~~deleted.~~ If Rule 6.14.02 applies to an owner, the horse may race as a separate betting interest, with the approval of the Stewards, if the owner is not required to be licensed under the rules.

6.36 ~~deleted.~~ Any horses running in the same race for owners or trainers who have a direct or indirect association in the racing of thoroughbreds, which in the opinion of the Stewards could be construed as a conflict of interest, shall be coupled as an entry.

Chapter 7

DECLARATIONS AND SCRATCHES

7.01 No horse shall be considered scratched or declared out of an engagement until the owner or their trainer or their authorized agent has given due notice in writing, by facsimile

or by telephone (which is recorded electronically by the race office) to the racing secretary before the time stipulated by the regulations of the Association. The scratching of part of an entry will be permitted until one hour before post time for the first race of the racing program in which the race is contained, except in races with an "Also Eligible List" it shall be permitted only until the published scratch time, where applicable, of the race concerned (except Rule 7-02.01).

Chapter 11

FROM PADDOCK TO FINISH

11.15 deleted. Where a horse of one ownership or interest is coupled with a horse or horses of the same or another ownership or interest, the disqualification of one will not necessarily affect the placing of the other.

BY ORDER OF THE REGISTRAR



Jean Major
Registrar