



**Racing
Victoria**

**RACING VICTORIA
Apprentice Jockey Race Riding
Guidelines
Stewards**

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1. BACKGROUND

1.1. Overview

The Stewards have prepared these Racing Victoria (RV) Apprentice Jockey Race Riding Guidelines (these Guidelines) to provide Victorian Apprentice Jockeys with a clear understanding of the necessary experience they need to gain approval from the Stewards to progress in their careers from riding in Provincial and Other Meetings to Metropolitan Race Meetings. These Guidelines should be read in conjunction with the relevant sections of The Rules of Racing of Racing Victoria, incorporating the Australian and Local Rules of Racing, and RV's Jockey Licensing Policy.

These Guidelines define the **four tiers** of Race Meetings at which apprentices may apply to ride.

Each tier contains Race Meetings of a progressively higher caliber, culminating in Tier 4.

1.2. Application

Once an Apprentice Licence is granted, the Apprentice Licence holder is classified as an Apprentice Jockey 'B' until such time as they are classified by the Stewards as an Apprentice Jockey 'A'.

The Guidelines apply to all Apprentice Licence holders from 1 August 2017.

1.3. Definitions

For the purpose of these Guidelines:

Apprentice Jockey means a person who is bound to a trainer in accordance with the Local Rules of RV.

Apprentice Team means the team employed by Racing Victoria to manage and administer the Apprentice Jockey Training Program (AJTP).

AR means an Australian Rule of Racing.

Chairman of Stewards means the Chairman of Stewards for a particular Race Meeting.

Feature Race Meeting means a Race Meeting with a Group Race program.

Group Races, Listed Races and Restricted Listed Races means, in relation to races run in Australia, races which are published as such by Racing Australia.

Guidelines means these Apprentice Jockey Race Riding Guidelines.

Metropolitan Race Meeting means any Race Meeting held at Flemington, Caulfield, Ladbrokes Park (Sandown) or The Valley.

Other Meeting means any Race Meetings held at Ararat, Avoca, bet365 Bairnsdale, bet365 Benalla, Burrumbeet, bet365 Camperdown, Casterton, bet365 Colac, Coleraine, Donald, Dunkeld, bet365 Echuca, bet365 Edenhope, Great Western, Gunbower, bet365 Hamilton, Hanging Rock, Horsham, Kerang, bet365 Park Kilmore, bet365 Park Kyneton, Manangatang, bet365 Mildura, Moe, bet365 Mortlake, Murtoa, Nhill, Penshurst, Seymour, Sportsbet-Ballarat Synthetic, Sportsbet-Pakenham Synthetic, St Arnaud, bet365 Stawell, Stony Creek, TAB Park Werribee, Tatura, bet365 Terang,

Towong, Traralgon, Sportsbet-Wangaratta, Warracknabeal, bet365 Park Wodonga, Wycheproof or bet365 Yarra Valley.

Principal Racing Authority means a body (statutory or otherwise) recognised as a principal racing authority under Racing Australia's Constitution, that has the control and general supervision of racing within a State or Territory, and comprises:

- a) Racing New South Wales in New South Wales;
- b) Racing Victoria Limited in Victoria;
- c) Racing Queensland Board in Queensland;
- d) Racing SA Ltd in South Australia;
- e) Racing and Wagering Western Australia in Western Australia;
- f) Tasracing Pty Ltd in Tasmania;
- g) Thoroughbred Racing NT in the Northern Territory; and
- h) Canberra Racing Club Incorporated in the Australian Capital Territory.

Provincial Meeting means any Race Meeting held at Bendigo, Cranbourne, Geelong, Mornington, Sale, Sportsbet-Ballarat Turf, Sportsbet-Pakenham Turf or Warrnambool.

Race means each division of a divided race.

Race Meeting means any meet held or overseen by a PRA.

Rider's agent means a person licensed by a PRA who by a contract or any other arrangement assists a jockey or the Employer/Trainer of an Apprentice Jockey in relation to the organisation and/or obtaining of riding engagements.

RV means Racing Victoria Limited.

Special circumstance means a circumstance stipulated to be a 'special circumstance' under the Rules and approved by the Stewards.

Steward means a person appointed in that role in accordance with the Local Rules of a PRA or by a State or Territory government (or government body) (as applicable).

the Rules means The Rules of Racing of Racing Victoria, incorporating the Australian Rules of Racing Local Rules of Racing.

2. FOUR TIERS

There are four tiers of races for which an apprentice may apply to ride:

2.1. Tier 1

- Non-metropolitan Race Meetings;
- Excluding Group and Listed races;
- Restrictions on night meetings – see below.

2.2. Tier 2

- Metropolitan midweek Race Meetings;
- Non-metropolitan night meetings;
- Excluding metropolitan night meetings;
- Excluding Group and Listed races.

2.3. Tier 3

- Metropolitan Race Meetings including night meetings;
- Listed races; at discretion of the Stewards;
- Excluding Group races;
- Excluding, 'no claim' races at Feature Race Meetings.

2.4. Tier 4

- All Race Meetings including Group races.

3. ACCEPTING RIDES

3.1. Accepting rides at Tier 1 Race Meetings

An apprentice who holds an Apprentice Jockey Permit to Ride (Apprentice Jockey 'B' Licence) may accept rides for Tier 1 Race Meetings without seeking any additional approval, unless otherwise determined by the Stewards.

****Non-metropolitan night meetings - individual permission to begin race riding at non-metropolitan night meetings, under lights, must be obtained from the Stewards. Permission will only be granted to apprentices who have displayed race riding competency at day meetings to the Stewards' satisfaction. Stewards may permit an apprentice to ride in daylight before unnatural lighting is required at the Race Meeting. Any determination made by the Stewards is final.**

3.2. Obtaining approval to ride at Tier 2 Race Meetings

To ride at a Tier 2 Race Meeting, an apprentice who holds an Apprentice Jockey 'B' Licence must:

- a) Have ridden a minimum of 30 winners at non-metropolitan Race Meetings; and
- b) Apply to the Stewards prior to acceptance time for approval to ride at their first Tier 2 Race Meeting. Stewards may seek advice from the Apprentice Team.

Any determination made by the Stewards is final.

If an apprentice has been approved to ride in Tier 2 Race Meetings, they may accept rides for further Tier 2 Race Meetings without making a further application. The Stewards reserve the right to vary or revoke any approval at their discretion.

3.3. Obtaining approval to ride at Tier 3 Race Meetings

To ride at Tier 3 Race Meetings, an apprentice who holds an Apprentice Jockey 'B' Licence must:

- a) Have gained sufficient experience riding in Tier 2 races as determined by the Stewards; and
- b) Apply to the Stewards prior to acceptance time for approval to ride at any Tier 3 Race Meeting. Stewards may seek advice from the Apprentice Team.

When assessing the experience an Apprentice Jockey has gained in Tier 2 races, the Stewards will have regard to various factors, including but not limited to the apprentice's:

- Demonstrated performance to ride safely, competently, and competitively;

- Number of rides in Tier 2 Race Meetings;
- Disciplinary record; and
- Demonstrated skill level.

** Metropolitan night meetings – an apprentice will be expected to have gained sufficient experience at metropolitan day meetings before applying to the Stewards for permission to ride at metropolitan night meetings. Any determination made by the Stewards is final.

For Apprentice Jockey 'B' Licence holders, the Stewards approval is initially granted on a meeting-by-meeting basis, until notified otherwise.

Feature Race Meetings – an Apprentice Jockey 'B' Licence-holder, is not permitted to ride at a Feature Metropolitan Race Meeting. The Apprentice Jockey may request specific permission from the Stewards to ride at such meetings in an 'apprentice claiming race' only, should such race be programmed. The Stewards reserve the right to vary or revoke any approval at their discretion.

3.4. Obtaining approval to ride at Tier 4 Race Meetings

To ride at a Tier 4 Race Meeting, an Apprentice Jockey must have been granted an Apprentice Jockey 'A' Licence by RV.

An Apprentice Jockey 'B' Licence holder may apply to the Stewards for an Apprentice Jockey 'A' Licence, after having ridden a minimum of 40 winners, of which, 10 or more winners must be in the metropolitan area.

4. RESTRICTIONS

4.1. Restrictions for Victorian Based Apprentices Jockeys who are Race Riding

- Acceptance of a maximum of three (3) rides at their first four (4) Race Meetings.
- Acceptance of rides at a maximum of three (3) Race Meetings per week for the first four (4) weeks.
- Cannot ride on seven (7) consecutive race days.
- Must have a minimum of two (2) days without race riding in each 14-day period.
- No later than two (2) hours prior to his/her first ride at a particular track, the Apprentice Jockey must attend the Stewards room and advise the Stewards of such.
- Cannot accept rides for both a day and a twilight/night Race Meeting on the same day.
- An Apprentice Jockey with an 'A' Licence may apply for approval from the Stewards to ride at two Race Meetings in a day. Stewards may consult with the Apprentice Jockey Coaches in determining whether to grant permission.
- If an Apprentice Jockey rides at a twilight or night Race Meeting, they must have a 10 hour break prior to engaging in any trackwork or race riding activity.
- Apprentice Jockeys must not ride trackwork or in races on RV Apprentice Jockey training days.
- Apprentice Jockeys can start riding from the age of 16 years.
- The ordinary hours of work for Apprentice Jockeys are a maximum of 38 hours in any week of stablehand and track riding duties, to be worked within rostered hours, which can be rostered over five (5) full days or four (4) full days and two (2) and a half days in any week.

4.2. Restrictions for Visiting Apprentice Jockeys who are Race Riding in Victoria

- Restricted to race riding in Victoria for a maximum of three (3) Race Meetings in any seven (7) day period.
- Visiting Apprentice Jockeys holding an Apprentice 'A' Licence are exempt from the maximum of three (3) Race Meetings in any seven (7) day period.

5. CHANGE OF VENUE

5.1. AR 152 Change of venue not to affect status of race meeting

AR 152 states: Unless otherwise determined by a PRA, a Race Meeting which takes place under the Rules at a venue different to a venue where it would ordinarily take place, retains the same level of status despite the change in venue.

The purpose of sections 5.2 and 5.3 of this document is to establish a formalised and consistent approach relating to apprentice claims as determined by Racing Victoria (a PRA) in certain circumstances.

5.2. Transfer Prior to Close of Nominations

Should a race meeting be transferred prior to the advertised close of nominations for such meeting, the status of this meeting will be determined by the location of the race club it is transferred to.

For example, should a meeting programmed at Cranbourne (a Provincial venue) be transferred to Moe (a Country/Other venue) one week prior to the advertised closing of nominations, then this meeting would be (for the purpose of apprentice claims) be at a Country/Other status. This would be the same should the situations be reversed, in that a race meeting being originally programmed at Moe (Country/Other) that is transferred to Cranbourne (Provincial) one week prior to the advertised close of nominations would be at a Provincial status.

5.3. Transfer After Close of Nominations

Should a race meeting be transferred after the advertised close of nominations, the status of this meeting would be determined by the location of the race club originally programmed to hold the meeting.

For example, should a meeting programmed at Cranbourne (a Provincial venue) that is transferred to Moe (a Country/Other venue) after the advertised time of nomination close, then this meeting would (for the purpose of apprentice claims) be at a Provincial status. This would again be the same should the situations be reversed, in that a race meeting being originally programmed at Moe (Country/Other) that is transferred to Cranbourne (Provincial) after the advertised close of nominations, would be at a Country/Other status.

5.4. Single Race or Races Transferred

Should the situation arise that a single race or specific races be transferred from one meeting to another (e.g. reducing races due to hot weather, sections of the track being unsafe etc., and these races being moved to another venue) then the Stewards, together with RV's Racing Operations would determine the status of these races on a case-by-case basis. The determination of which would be publicised via media release.

6. DECISIONS

6.1. Stewards Decision is Final

The Stewards will consider the circumstances of each application by an Apprentice Jockey on its merits and on a 'case by case' basis. The Stewards decision is final when determining an application made regarding these Guidelines.

7. MONITORING OF APPRENTICE JOCKEYS

7.1. Apprentice Jockey Training Team

The Apprentice Team are required to monitor Apprentice Jockeys to ensure they do not exceed any restrictions. If an Apprentice Jockey is found to be in breach of these Guidelines, the Apprentice Jockey will be referred by the Apprentice Team to the Stewards.

7.2. Riders Agent

An Apprentice Jockey is permitted to engage a Jockey Agent at any stage.

7.3. Medical

Doctors and paramedics attend all Race Meetings to monitor the wellbeing of all riders including monitoring for signs of fatigue that may be associated with excessive working hours or riding activity.

8. REVIEW AND APPROVAL

These Guidelines are reviewed annually and as required. This may occur due to a change of operation, new legislative obligation, government recommendations or recommendations as a result of audits.

Where revisions are required, changes will be tracked in red for review by the relevant Senior Management Team member, and for recommendation to the Executive General Manager or relevant RV Committee for approval.

If approved, a tracked, clean (both in Word) and PDF copy of the Guidelines be will saved, and then sent to Legal, Risk and Compliance. A copy may also be provided to People and Culture for uploading onto RV's intranet (the Stable).

Any changes to these Guidelines are noted in the "version" table at section 9 below.

9. VERSION

Version	Nature of Change	Reviewing Party	Approval date
1.0	Original Document	EGM - ISD	25/04/2023

1.1	Change of Riders Agent engagement from minimum of 10 winning rides to none.	EGM-ISD	22/06/2023
1.2	Racetracks recategorised from 'Metropolitan', 'TAB' and 'Non-TAB' to 'Metropolitan', 'Provincial' and 'Other'.	EGM-ISD	31/07/2023
1.3	Update to section 4.1 Stewards may permit an Apprentice Jockey to ride at two Race Meetings in a day.	EGM-ISD	14/09/2023
2.1	Inclusion of information pertaining to Apprentice Claims when race meetings are transferred.	EGM-ISD	03/05/2024