

ROYAL SABAH TURF CLUB'S REGULATIONS FOR TRACK WORK AND TRIAL



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latest information**

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1. Interpretations

Licensed person means any person licensed, registered and holding a permit or approval under the Royal Sabah Turf Club(RSTC)'s rules.

Racecourse means a racing course which is owned or under the control of RSTC and includes all the lands and improvements - such as stands, seats, stables, enclosures, rooms, offices, betting and recreational areas, car parks - used in connection with the conduct or observation of Races, Race Meetings or other matters connected with racing

Racetrack means a ground or course used for horse racing

Restricted Areas means the stable, training or racing tracks and any other areas designated by RSTC as restricted areas. Access to restricted areas is limited to people licensed or authorized by RSTC

Track work officials means the person appointed by the club to manage the track work and ensure that the horses and people follow the safety rules that apply at that track.

Race day means the day of a meeting on which races are held.

Race Meeting means any meeting conducted by a Club at which horse racing takes place at which the Totalizator is in operation.

Rider means a person authorized by these rules, whether as the holder of a Rider's License or otherwise howsoever to ride a horse in a race

Rules means these rules of racing being the rules made by RSTC.

Training Track or Facility means any place at which horses are actively trained or worked and: (a) which is owned, leased or occupied by RSTC; (b) in respect of which RSTC has any right or ability to access;

Trainer means the holder of a valid trainer's license or approved by RSTC

2. Track hours and General Information

2.1. Training Tracks – Operation Hours

Track hours and General Information

The training tracks at the RSTC will be open for use by permit holders are:

Day	Track	Times
Monday to Friday	Sand Track only	6am to 10.00am

No usage of the tracks on Saturday, Public Holidays and Race day.

For special request such as usage of tracks for training during holiday or non-working days, requestors must send their request with valid reasons (e.g long holidays) in writing to the management committee 1 week prior to the requested date of usage.

They are only allowed to use after receiving the approval letter. An administrative fee of RM150/horse may be charged for usage of Club's manpower and ambulance standby service.

All training tracks must be inspected by the Track Work Official or a designated staff before any horse is allowed onto the track.

Track Work Official and ambulance service must be on duty before any horse is allowed onto the training track(s).

Entry to training tracks will be closed 15 minutes prior to the designated finish time. All horses must be off the track by the designated finish time.

A Non-Permit holder must seek permission of the RSTC Management Committee to use the RSTC's facility.

2.2. Control of Racing Club Properties

Every person on RSTC's property must comply with all instructions from the Race Course Manager or other designated person authorized by RSTC.

No person may interfere with any RSTC's property including moving markers and barriers without the express permission of the Race Course Manager or RSTC Management.

The stable, training or race tracks and any other area designated by RSTC are restricted areas. Access to restricted areas is limited to people licensed and authorized by RSTC.

2.3. Closure or Applying Restrictions to RSTC's Property

The Race Course Manager or Track Work Official or a nominated person acting on the authority of the Management Committee may close or apply restrictions to any or all of the RSTC facilities under their care whenever they deem it necessary or expedient to do so for whatever purpose, including repair, maintenance or because of poor visibility or hazardous conditions (caused by bad weather or any other circumstances that may arise).

The Track Manager or Track Work Officials will prevent any horse from working:

- with gear which may be dangerous to the rider or horse;
- whose rider is without an approved skull cap, vest and footwear;
- in a manner which may be considered dangerous to other horses and riders; and/or
- whose rider may be considered to be unfit to ride because of injury, illness, or other disability.

Where a ride is stood down for any of the reasons above, he/she may not resume riding without permission from Track Work Officials.

3. Track User Requirements

3.1. Use of Training Facilities by Trainers

All trainers must apply annually to use the training facilities at RSTC by completing an 'Application for Trainer Agreement' form. Approval to train at the race course's track will be at RSTC's discretion and conditional upon the trainer:

- Registered and approved by RSTC as a trainer for stable/owner.

While training at the premises of RSTC, all trainers must:

- conduct their training operations within the rules of racing of RSTC and the local rules and laws including conditions as determined by the Management Committee;
- **not ride the horses on the track for training if the trainer's weight is above 70kg;**
- ensure all the trainer's staff (including Track Work riders) are aware of and abide by the Rules of Racing of RSTC and the Local Rules and Law as well as conditions as determined by the Management Committee; and

Approval to train at the premises of RSTC may be revoked at RSTC's discretion if any of the above requirements is breached.

3.2. Use of Training Facilities by Riders

All riders wishing to ride track work must be licensed by RSTC or apply for approval from RSTC's management committee.

While riding track work at RSTC's premises all riders must:

- comply with all RSTC's rules and instructions;
- comply with all health and safety requirements; and

Approval to ride track work at the premises of RSTC may be revoked at RSTC's discretion if any of the above requirements is breached.

4. Safety Requirements

4.1. Personal Protective Equipment

When riding a horse on any part of RSTC's training or race track, mandatory safety equipment (personal protective equipment) must be worn at all times. The minimum safety equipment to be worn is:

- approved helmet;
- approved safety vest;
- approved riding boots;

4.2. Riders' Gear

All riders are responsible for checking that their horse's bridle, saddle and all other tack are fitted correctly and tightened to their own satisfaction before mounting their horses.

The Racecourse Manager/Track Work Officials must prohibit a rider from riding if, in their opinion, the rider's gear is unsafe. The rider can resume riding when his/her gear is determined to be safe by Racecourse Manager/Track Work Officials.

A person shall not ride a horse at RSTC's facilities with any jewelry, adornment or piercing affixed to an eyebrow, lip, nose, tongue or ear.

4.3. Safety Irons

The rider of any horse in and around training tracks or RSTC facility has a duty of care to ride and control their horse in the safest manner possible.

The rider's feet must be in the stirrups at all times once the horse commences Track Work.

There may however be some circumstances, when the horses' behaviour or actions jeopardizes safety of the rider, where the rider may choose to ride their horse with their feet out of the stirrups. This should be the exception rather than the rule.

In all circumstances the rider must take direction from the Racecourse Manager or the Track Work Officials on this matter.

4.4. Rider Down

All Track Work must stop if a rider is dislodged and immobile on the track; whether the rider is being attended to or not.

No rider may allow his/her horse to continue past an injured rider who is on the ground unless that rider has moved or been moved safely outside the railings and his/her safety is not compromised.

Any horse approaching an injured rider must be pulled up.

In this event, all Track Work must stop immediately and not resume until the Track Work Official permits it to resume.

4.5. Drugs and Alcohol

No one may be in any restricted area or ride, handle, or approach a horse under the influence of drugs or alcohol. No illegal drugs or alcohol are permitted in restricted areas. No illegal drugs are permitted anywhere on RSTC's property.

A rider commits an offence and may be punished if a sample taken from him/her is found upon analysis to contain the presence of a substance banned by RSTC or the Local Laws, or, he/she refuses or fails to deliver a sample as directed by the Stewards to do so.

NOTE: All riders are always subject to random testing while handling or riding horses.

4.6. Individual Responsibilities

A rider is responsible for his/her own actions in determining whether or not he/she feels safe when working with or riding a horse at RSTC's facilities.

Any rider who is injured, has been injured in the last 12 months, or has received medical treatment for an injury in the last 12 months, whether the injury occurred at RSTC's facility or not, must produce a medical clearance certificate before being allowed to recommence riding track work.

Trainers, riders or other persons acting in their absence are responsible for inspecting the tracks prior to working their horse/s and if not satisfied with any aspect they should not work the horse/s on or in the facility in question and should advise Racecourse Manager of their concerns or report in writing to the Management Committee.

5. Health and Safety

5.1. Compliance

Any person on RSTC's property must comply at all times with Rules of Racing or Directives and/or rules involving safety issues.

Every person on RSTC's property or at RSTC's controlled events must:

- take reasonable care of his/her own safety;
- take reasonable care that his/her actions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons; and
- comply with any reasonable instructions given by RSTC's related to health and safety.

5.2. Hazards and Risks

Any hazards, risks, near misses, injuries, illnesses, incidents and deaths that occur on RSTC's property or at controlled events must be reported to Racecourse Manager, any of the RSTC's officials or the management committee.

5.3. Reporting

After a fall, injury or accident during track work or in a race, a Jockey/ Rider must be medically examined immediately, failing which he may not be permitted to ride again or claim any benefits that he may otherwise be entitled to. Such an incident must also be reported immediately to the Club's management.

RSTC must record all hazards, risks, near misses, injuries, illnesses, incidents and deaths that occur on RSTC's property or at controlled events. These records must be kept for at least five years.

RSTC must report all notifiable injuries, illnesses, incidents or deaths to local authorities immediately, or as soon as possible.

In the event of any notifiable injuries, illnesses, incidents or death, RSTC must take reasonable steps to ensure the site of the event is not disturbed until authorized by the local authorities.

5.4 First Time Official Trial

All first official trials of horses must have the presence of the veterinary officer and medics in the ambulance

6. Track Usage

6.1. Special conditions or restrictions

In conditions where the Race Course Manager or Track Work Official or nominated person is unable to safely sight horses on the track, galloping restrictions may apply.

When fog prevails, in bad light, or low visibility conditions, Access to tracks will be denied to any ride. The Racecourse and/or Track Work Manager will determine if it is safe to continue with track work.

In determining whether it is safe to operate the Racecourse and/or Track Work Manager, he/she shall use his/her judgment based on the amount of visibility he/she has of the training

tracks. If they consider that reduced visibility compromises safety, he/she must either suspend track work or regulate traffic in such a way that allows a group of horses onto the tracks and holds the next arriving group outside the track until the preceding group exits.

6.2. Rider Register

The Race course manager is responsible for maintaining a register of all riders on the track at any particular time.

6.3. Track Instructions

All riders must advise the Track Work Officials which track they are working on and whether they are galloping before going onto the track. The Track Work Officials will organise these gallops and advise the rider of any other horses galloping.

6.4. Crossing Tracks

All personnel are to pay special attention to approaching horses when crossing tracks and be aware of which tracks are open and which direction horses will be approaching from. Tracks may only be crossed at the designated crossing. No person or horse and rider is to cross the path of approaching horses.

6.5. Right Of Way

Tracks must not be entered if other horses are approaching on the track. Horses that are working and approaching have right of way.

A maximum of 3 horses can be worked abreast of each other on any track.

All horses must overtake on the inside. Riders should call out “passing on the inside” to alert slower riders. Slower working horses must give way to faster working horses. Slower working horses must move out to allow faster horses to pass on the inside.

6.6. Direction Horses are to Work

All horses are to go in anti-clockwise/left hand direction.

7. Horse Management

7.1. Containment/Catching of Loose Horses

All personnel using the track are to remain vigilant about the possibility of loose and riderless horses. If it is safely possible, and the person has the necessary skill and expertise, a person may assist in recapturing the horse.

7.2. Inexperienced or Unruly Horses

All trainers must respect the safety of other riders and horses by working inexperienced or unruly horses only during daylight hours and when the facilities are not busy. These horses must be ridden or led by a suitably experienced rider or handler. The Race Course Manager or Track Work Official may refuse or restrict entry to any of RSTC's facilities to any horse that may be judged unruly or difficult to ride or handle.

8. Barrier Practice

Horses that are difficult to load and often fractious at the starting stalls are encouraged to go for barrier practices.

Horses that required barrier practice may register at Tambalang Office.

The schedule for barrier practice will be fixed on every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (Except Public Holiday) from 10am - 12pm.

Horses that fail to turn up consecutively twice for barrier practices without valid reason will not be allowed to register for this practice for at least 3 weeks.