

CAMEL RACE RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Race Committee – Powers

- 1.1 The race committee has the right to disqualify camels, riders and / or handlers, and has discretionary powers over owners and trainers.
- 1.2 The race committee's decision on all matters is final.
- 1.3 It is the owners, riders, handlers and all participants' responsibility to secure their own riding and handling insurance. The race committee does not accept any responsibility for any damage claims which may arise as a result of injuries to riders, handlers, participants and property during any race or any events at any time during the course of the race meeting.
- 1.4 Jockeys must be a minimum of fifteen years of age at time of races. The committee reserves the right to request identification and proof of age be provided by any jockey.
- 1.5 All camels must be painted with a number on both sides of the neck. This number will be allocated by the committee and will remain the same throughout the race meeting. The committee reserves the right to request numbers be repainted at any time during the race meeting if not satisfactorily visible.
- 1.6 The committee reserves the right to cancel any or all races if necessary.

2. Racing Camel Rules & Conditions

- 2.1 Minimum age of camels to be three years. Bulls allowed to race up to five years if not in rut.
- 2.2 All camels entered in races must have been officially nominated prior to racing.
- 2.3 The method of control for all racing camels must be by either nose peg or draw chain
- 2.4 All camels must earn correct places in heats to be eligible to race in corresponding finals.
- 2.5 Any camel that 'breaks' in a heat is not eligible to race in any final for the rest of the race meeting – this rule includes the consolation final.
- 2.6 Any camel may enter an open race irrespective of any heat result or outcome. In the case camel entries exceed barrier capacity a camel name draw will be carried out.
- 2.7 All camels must be fit, healthy and free of all impairments prior to commencement of racing as judged by the committee or course veterinarian. Camels must be made available for a health check at any time. Any camel deemed unfit for racing will be disqualified – this includes any camel found to have been administered a prohibited substance. The committee reserves the right to request random testing at any time.

3. General Rules

- 3.1 All participants, jockeys and handlers must sign an indemnity form before the races.
- 3.2 All participants are expected to make themselves familiar with the camel race rules and regulations.
- 3.3 Riders and handlers are barred from participation if under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- 3.4 All jockeys are to supply and wear protective head gear approved to Australian Safety Standards.
- 3.5 If crops are to be used, these must be of a type generally accepted as horse riding crops and must be intact prior to racing.
- 3.6 All jockeys must be properly and neatly attired. Riding boots or elastic sided boots must be worn, and the use of jockey colours is mandatory. Spurs are not permitted.
- 3.7 Stewards have the right to check jockeys and camels for jiggers. If found both jockey and trainer will be disqualified for the rest of the race meeting.
- 3.8 Injured riders and handlers shall have a medical examination before participating in further races during the race meeting.

4. Start Rules & Etiquette

- 4.1 Final adjustments to saddlery are expected to be made in the mounting area.
- 4.2 All racing animals are to be mounted, and then led onto the race track and to the starting position by an experienced handler. Handlers are not permitted to be in control of more than one camel per race.
- 4.3 Once led onto the track the rider and animal are assumed ready to race. The rider is not permitted to dismount unless in an emergency.
- 4.4 Each camel must start each race from an allocated starting barrier. The use of an incorrect barrier will result in disqualification.
- 4.5 Barrier one is the closest barrier to the inside rail of the race track, with subsequent barrier numbers extending outward. Starting a difficult animal from the outside barrier is permitted at the starter's discretion.
- 4.6 The official starting position is in line with the front of the starting barriers. No part of any camel's head or body is permitted to cross the starting line before the starter's pistol is fired. The pistol may be fired at any time as the racing camels enter the rear of the starting barriers at the starter's discretion. The race starter has the right to disqualify any camel starting a race from a position considered to be unacceptable. The race starter's decision is final.
- 4.7 The race starter and race stewards can disqualify any camel or person for unruly behaviour which is disrupting the race start or endangers the safety of any jockey, handler or other person present. Disqualification will be expressed verbally by the starter only. The disqualified animal may run after the race has officially started.
- 4.8 If any person is in an unsafe situation at a race start the jockey must raise their hand/ whip as communication with the starter to wait for the problem to be rectified before starting the race.
- 4.9 In the event a camel breaks away before the start of a race, it must be stopped within 50 metres of the starting line and promptly returned to the race. Failing this the camel will be disqualified and the track must be cleared immediately.

5. Race Rules & Etiquette

- 5.1 Owners / trainers / handlers / jockeys are expected to be civil to race officials at all times.
- 5.2 Riders shall not deliberately direct their mount to cross the path of the following animal during a race.
- 5.3 There shall be no interference between riders during a race.
- 5.4 There shall be no interference from a rider of one mount to another rider's mount during a race.

6. Dispute Settlement

- 6.1 All disputes concerning the running of a race must be lodged with the chief steward within ten minutes of completion of the race.
- 6.2 The outcome of complaints / disputes lodged will be decided by the stewards and relayed to the representative owner, trainer, jockey or handler. All decisions made by the stewards are final.