

**Policy:** 633.2  
**Effective:** 29 March 2019  
**Revised:** 30 March 2023  
**Subject:** Colours Worn by Drivers  
**Reference:** *Harness Racing Act 2009*  
*HRNSW Board Meeting – 26 October 2011*  
*HRNSW Board Meeting – 29 March 2019*  
*HRNSW Board Meeting – 30 March 2023*

### COLOURS WORN BY DRIVERS

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

- 1.1 To set the guidelines as to what colours can be registered.
- 1.2 To set the guidelines as to the process when there is colour clashes in individual races.

#### 2. AUSTRALIAN HARNESS RACING RULES - COLOURS

- 2.1 Drivers Silks are registered with the HRNSW Registration Department pursuant to Australian Harness Racing Rule 272.
- 2.2 Rule 272 states:
  - (1) The connections of a horse may make application to the Controlling Body for the registration of colours.
  - (2) The application is to be made in the manner and form and be accompanied by such documentation, information and fees as the Controlling Body may determine.
  - (3) The application may be refused by the Controlling Body without assigning any reason.
  - (4) Subject to sub rule (6) registration shall remain in force for such time as is determined by the Controlling Body.
  - (5) Registration may be granted subject to terms and conditions and these may be varied by the Controlling Body during the currency of the registration.
  - (6) Registration shall lapse forthwith if a term or condition of registration is not complied with.
  - (7) A person shall not start a horse in a race at a meeting unless the driver is dressed in registered colours.
  - (8) If for some reason the colours described in the race book are unavailable, club colours approved by the Controlling Body shall be worn.

- (9) Each club shall keep and maintain in good condition not less than 2 sets of approved club colours.
  - (10) Colours registered in the name of a person who has been disqualified shall not be used in a race during the period of disqualification.
  - (11) Notwithstanding sub rule (7) and sub rule (8) the stewards may give such directions as they think fit about the colours to be worn or the advertising to be displayed in a race.
  - (12) A person who fails to comply with sub rule (7) or with a direction given under sub rule (11) or who is responsible, whether wholly or in part, for a breach of sub rule (8) or (10) is guilty of an offence.
- 272A** An application for registration of colours shall be made to the Controlling Body on form R272-A.

### **3. REGISTRATION OF COLOURS GUIDELINES**

- 3.1 The design and colour of racing silks is limitless, however;
- a) They must be identical when viewed from back and front and side to side.
  - b) Any proposed use of a company logo must be accompanied by a letter on company letterhead and be signed by a person employed in management from the said company.
  - c) Any words or designs which in the sole opinion of the Registrar are foul, offensive, abusive, racist, sadistic, cruel, insulting, rude or vulgar will not be approved.
  - d) There shall be a fee as prescribed by HRNSW for the registration of racing silks.

### **4. USE OF COLOURS GUIDELINES**

- 4.1 All drivers engaged in a race must wear unique colours.
- 4.2 Colours to be worn by Drivers on a horse shall be notified to the Racing Office no later than 10:30am two days prior to the meeting
- 4.3 Trainers and/or owners who have multiple sets of colours registered with HRNSW may use unique colours when they have multiple runners engaged in the same race.
- 4.4 In the instance where a trainer has one set of colours and the owner no registered colours, the trainers and/or owners may allocate the drivers registered colours to one of their horses so that one horse is distinguishable from another.
- 4.5 In the instance of 4.3 and 4.4, trainers must advise the Racing Office in accordance with 4.2 which driver will wear which set of registered colours.
- 4.6 In the instance where a trainer has two or more runners engaged in the same race and has available multiple sets of the same colours, HRNSW Stewards will when the colour of the two drivers helmets are similar supply distinguishable helmet covers which must be worn by each competing driver.

- 4.7 Where silks are not available or Stewards deem that horses are undistinguishable from one another, then the horse drawn the larger number must wear the Club's Colours. (i.e. horses have drawn 2 and 5, the horse drawn 5 is to have a driver with the Clubs Colours). Alternatively, Stewards may issue a direction set out in section 4.5.
- 4.8 With reference to 4.6, if the trainer does not contact the Racing Office prior to the required time clause 4.6 will apply.
- 4.9 With reference to 4.2, if the trainer does not contact the Racing Office prior to the required time they may be guilty of an offence in accordance with NSWLR 272(B)(1) and a fine may apply.
- 4.10 HRNSW supplied Helmet covers will be Pink, Purple and Orange in colour.

### **5. USE OF BRANDING ON DRIVERS PANTS**

- 5.1 Drivers are permitted to brand their drivers pants.
- 5.2 A drivers name can only be printed on the outside of the thigh on their driver's pants.
- 5.3 Sponsors and company logos can only be displayed on the outside of the leg or at the top of the back on their driver's pants.
- 5.4 Any proposed use of a company logo on driver's pants must be accompanied by a letter on company letterhead and be signed by a person employed in management from the said company.
- 5.5 Any words or designs which in the sole opinion of the Registrar are foul, offensive, abusive, racist, sadistic, cruel, insulting, rude or vulgar will not be approved.
- 5.6 There shall be no fee for registering the branding on drivers pants.