

## **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

**FOR** 

## **DEALING WITH RACE-DAY EQUINE EMERGENCIES:**

The following are minimum requirements for all race clubs to have in place for every race meeting, to deal with equine emergencies.

- 1. Horse ambulance: A double horse float configured so that it is able to
  - (a) Transport off-course an injured horse that can still stand,
  - (b) Transport a recumbent (down) horse, whether dead or alive. This will require the vehicle to be equipped with a winch or similar apparatus and sliding rubber mat to facilitate loading and unloading of the recumbent horse.
- 2. At least two privacy screens to shield injured horses from public view, one to be positioned behind the winning post and the other to be in the barrier attendant's vehicle.
- 3. A veterinarian experienced in equine practice and suitably equipped to euthanize a horse, be on course no later than one hour before the scheduled time for the first race and remain on course until released by the Stewards after the conclusion of all race-day requirements. Such veterinarian should be approved as an official race day veterinarian and be fully versed in race-day duties as set out in the Racing NSW manual "A Guide for Official Race-Day Veterinarians in New South Wales."
- 4. Access for the veterinarian's vehicle, or other suitable transport, be provided to all areas of the racecourse.
- 5. Suitably experienced staff are identified, whose roles are to assist the veterinarian in restraining injured horses during assessment and management of injuries, or assisting during euthanasia including, but not limited to, the erection of privacy screens and crowd control.
- 6. Protocols to be in place so that the relevant staff are so positioned that they are able to view and react quickly to any catastrophic breakdown, including the provision of suitable transport (where necessary) to the breakdown site.
- 7. A suitable area on or adjacent to racecourse to where a horse can be moved, if possible, for euthanasia out of the public's view.
- 8. Make suitable arrangements for the disposal of the deceased horse, respecting owner's wishes and also respecting restrictions when barbiturates are used in the euthanasia process.

R P Murrihy Chairman of Stewards 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014