



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Advice and Frequently Asked Questions

Policies and Procedures and resources

Q 1: Where can I get information about HRV's policies surrounding coronavirus?

You can find information regarding COVID-19 via the Trots website

Go to <https://www.thetrots.com.au/> When you land on the page you will see an aqua coloured band along the top. Important Covid-19 details for Clubs, Industry and Participants

This provides you with HRV's policies and some useful resources surrounding race meeting requirements and you can also find the Declaration that all participants must complete upon entry.

There are also other resources such as links to websites where you can access posters (e.g. hand washing, stop the spread) cleaning and general information

Further information is available at the [Department of Health and Human Services website](#).

Race Meetings

Q 2: Who can attend race meetings?

Only essential personnel are allowed to attend race meetings.

Note: This includes licensed personnel, stewards, judges, starters, mobile driver, photo-finish operator, clerk of course, track attendant, curator, ambulance officials, camera operators, gate attendant, club officials, numbers attendant, vets, ambulance officials, security and approved media. Various other operational or support staff such as track workers and food & beverage attendants may be added to this list at the discretion of club management, based on their requirements for services.

If you feel sick or have any symptoms of COVID-19 you must not attend the race meeting.

Based on Government advice, HRV strongly recommends that the following participants do not attend race meetings:



- Those over the age of 70,
- Those over the age of 60 with underlying medical conditions
- Indigenous people over the age of 50

Q 3: What do I need to do when I arrive at the race meetings?

- You must have evidence that you are essential personnel. This means, that you must have your license on you. If you are a HRV employee or a club official you should have your identification
- You must complete the [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – Declaration by person entering a track](#). Copies of the forms will be provided at the entry; however, you are strongly encouraged to pre-fill these forms to speed up the entry screening process.
- You will be temperature tested upon entry. If you have a temperature of 37.6 or above, you will be denied entry.

Q 4: In what circumstances won't I be allowed entry into the race meeting?

If you answer “yes” to any of the below questions, you will be denied entry:

- Travelled overseas in the last 14 days.
- Travelled interstate in the last 14 days.
- If you have any cold or flu-like symptoms.
- If you have been in contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- If you have been requested to, or are obliged to self-isolate (e.g. – due to travel, close contacts or awaiting testing results).

You will **not be able** to enter the race meeting if you:

- Are an owner.
- Are a licensed person who is not engaged at this race meeting.
- Have temperature 37.6 degrees or above.



Regionalisation Model

Q 5: What is the regionalisation model?

From 9 July 2020, HRV will be re-entering into a period of regionalized racing for a period of 6 weeks. HRV announced the move ahead of the tightening of restrictions in metropolitan Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire, which has taken effect on 11:59pm on 8 July 2020.

This regionalization model is different to the one previously introduced, and includes the following regions:

- Regional (consisting of Ballarat, Bendigo, Shepparton, Stawell, Terang);
- Melbourne and Surrounds (Cranbourne, Kilmore, Melton); and
- North West (Mildura).

HRV will continue to race only at the 9 clubs that have been hosting race meetings since April. As per the recent regional model, participants will not be allowed to race outside of their region for the duration of the regional period.

Q 6: What does the new regionalisation model mean for me?

As a participant, you must only participate in the region that you reside in.

You can find your region on [here](#).

Q 7: I work in a different region, can I still participate in my allocated region under the new regionalisation model?

Yes you can. A participant can work their 'day job' in any region. They can only participate in the region to which they are allocated to.

Q 8: Why is the regionalization model not also limiting employees to their regions?

HRV have implemented a number of safety measures in place for all employees to follow at race meetings in accordance with the DHHS guidelines.

These measures are included in our race day procedures available via the Trots page as well as the safety notices.



Our Stewards will continue to work in small groups and will work in different regions whilst ensuring these safety measures are being followed.

Q 9: What is happening with feature races that were originally planned?

At this stage, HRV continues to race, and will follow advise from the health professionals and Government. The relevant teams are working through all matters and will advise of the outcomes as soon as possible.

Information about Covid-19

Q 10: Where can I get further support or resources about COVID-19?

For the latest advice, information and resources, you can go to the [Australian Government website](#), or the [DHHS website](#).

You can call the National Coronavirus Help Line on 1800 020 080. It operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you require translating or interpreting services, call 131, 450.

If you have concerns about your health, speak to your doctor. Telehealth is also available for doctor consultations that can be conducted online.

Q 11: What has HRV done to protect its participants and employees from COVID-19:

HRV has established key risk mitigations in response to COVID-19 and to minimise risk exposure within the industry including:

- Strict screening protocols at entry to races (including mandated self-declarations and temperature checks).
- Minimised the footprint at races with only essential persons allowed entry.
- Staff are wearing gloves and other PPE to protect them from COVID-19.
- HRV provides participants and employees with marks which must be worn where a 1.5metre physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Cleaning practices at venue has been heightened, and hand sanitisers are made available as well as soap and water.
- Signs have been put up to re-enforce hygiene.



- Adoption of a regionalisation model, which aims at limiting spread.
- Adopted social distancing measures in line with Government recommendations.

Whilst these are only some of the measures that have been introduced, HRV is constantly developing additional measures.

Q 12: What do I do if I have suspected symptoms of COVID-19?

If you have symptoms, you must self-isolate and get tested, even if your symptoms are mild. There are many testing sites, details of which can be found on the [DHHS website](#).

For more information about steps that must be taken, please see HRV's [COVID-19 Reporting and Response Policy and Procedure](#).

Q 13: What do I do if I have been in contact with a confirmed case, or have been tested with COVID-19, or if I have undergone a test and awaiting results?

HRV has established the HRV's [COVID-19 Reporting and Response Policy and Procedure](#) that must be complied with and details reporting obligations.

Participants, Club Officials and HRV and Tabcorp Park employees and volunteers must immediately report to HRV any instances where you have:

- Undertaken a COVID-19 test and are awaiting results.
- Returned a positive COVID-19 test.
- Been identified by DHHS as a close contact to a confirmed case of COVID-19.

You must report via online [COVID-19 Reporting Form](#), or alternatively, by calling HRV's OHS Reporting Line on 03 9214 0664.

If you fall under the categories above, you must not attend any race meetings, trial meetings or have any interactions with anyone from the industry until you have completed the form, and been medically cleared.

Personal Issues and Support

Q 14: I'm really stressed/anxious/worried about my job/my animals/the future of harness racing?

HRV understands that the current health crisis has with it a feeling of uncertainty and it is normal to develop feelings of stress and anxiety about the future.



HRV have an Industry Assistance Program as well as other counselling services which are accessible at no charge to HRV participants and employees. HRV strongly encourages utilising these services if you are feeling stressed, anxious or just want to chat to someone regarding your concerns.

Type of Service	Provider	Contact details
EAP / IAP	Benestar	1300 360 364 www.benestar.com
General Information	Beyond Blue	1300 224 636
	Heads Ups	Headsup.org.au
Counselling Services	Lifeline	13 11 14
	Griefline	1300 845 745
	Suicide Call back service	1300 659 467
	Men's helpline	1300 789 978
Welfare benefits	Centrelink	www.centrelink.gov.au

Q 15: I don't know how I am going to feed my horse, will HRV be providing assistance?

HRV recognises that during the current COVID-19 Pandemic, there may be some participants who will require assistance and support including the ability to access a paddock to spell a horse during this difficult time. It is important to remember that our industry revolves around horses, so making plans to care and protect them remains a priority.

To assist with the ongoing care of our industry's horse population HRV have established a [register](#) for participants to connect with one another for the purposes of accessing suitable agistment.

If you offer agistment or have a spare paddock, please complete the form below. The information you provide below will be available on thetrots.com.au webpage for other industry participants to view and ultimately contact you if they require agistment during this pandemic.

Please note that HRV strongly recommends that prior to placing any horses into agistment that both parties involved have an agistment agreement in place to protect both parties. A pro forma agistment agreement form can be obtained [here](#).