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# QATAR RACING & EQUESTRIAN CLUB

## General Instructions

1. All Owners, Trainers and Jockeys must hold a valid license for the current racing season, failing which their engagements will not be accepted by the Racing Department.
2. The Owner of a horse stabled and trained in Qatar must be a Qatari citizen or resident with a valid Qatar ID, except by special permission.
3. All persons shall comply with the requirements of animal welfare by taking such measures as should result in all horses under the control of QREC being cared for and treated in a humane and proper manner.
4. A Copy of the Transfer of Ownership effected by the Registration Department must be submitted to the Racing Department prior to the closing of entries, otherwise the horse will run under its previous ownership.
5. Any application to transfer ownership or change the trainer of a horse with an existing entry must be made directly to the Stewards. If the application is granted, a fee of QR 2,000 will be payable.
6. If a horse is entered for a Restricted race for horses owned by Qatari subjects, then all parties with an interest in the ownership must be Qatari nationals who are not members of the Royal Family. If a horse entered for a Restricted race is leased, then all interested parties including the lessor(s) must comply with the above.
7. Only one change of trainer during the racing season will be routinely accepted. Any subsequent applications for change of trainer in the same season must be approved by the Stewards on an individual basis.

8. Entries for unraced Horses and permanently imported Horses will not be accepted unless officially registered with both the Stud Book Department and the Racing Department accompanied with the complete racing record and a signed imported registration declaration form at least 3 days prior to the closing of entries. Failure to do so may render the horse ineligible.

9. Trainers or Owners must ensure that for ALL horses that have raced outside of Qatar that their performance records of the races they competed in are presented to the Racing Department at least 3 days before the closing of entries. Failure to do so may render the horse ineligible.

10. Entries for all race meetings will close at 09.00am on the Sunday preceding the race meeting date, unless otherwise notified. Multiple entries for the same horse on the same day will incur a fee of QR500.

11. Weights will be published on the day of entries.

12. Scratching and Reserves

Trainers must scratch their horses by the official scratching time, which is no later than 10:00 am on race day. All Reserve runners with no intention to compete must also be formally withdrawn by the standard scratching deadline of 10:00 am on race day.

Trainers seeking to scratch their horses after the official scratching time must obtain permission from the Stewards.

The first Reserve will assume the barrier position of the first runner withdrawn based on the time that the Chief Steward was notified of the scratching. The second Reserve will assume the barrier position of the second runner withdrawn.

Reserve runners will not gain entry into the race if 30 minutes or less has elapsed prior to the advertised starting time of the respective race.

Any Reserve runner not withdrawn must be presented for official pre-race Veterinary Inspection in the saddling area no later than 40 minutes before the scheduled start of

their race. Failure to meet this requirement will result in the mandatory scratching of the horse. (21 Oct 2025)

13. Declared Overweight: QREC will only permit jockeys to declare 2kg overweight, in accordance with Rule of Racing 52 (vi). In exceptional circumstances, Stewards may grant a request for an additional overweight, however this must be submitted to the Racing Office prior to race day.

14. Apprentice and Qatari rider allowances shall not be claimed in any Cup or feature race (that is, any race with prize money of Qr 100,000 & over), including all Class 1 races, unless expressly permitted by the race conditions. Only riders that have attained 20 or more winners will be eligible to ride in in any any Group or Listed race, H.H. The Amir Shalfa, and H.H. The Amir Silver Sword.

Qatari Rider allowance is as follows:

Eligible riders with 0-29 winners can claim 4kg

Eligible riders with 30-49 winners can claim 2.5kg

Eligible riders with 50-69 winners can claim 1.5kg

Apprentice allowance is as follows:

Apprentices with 0-14 winners can claim 4kg

Apprentices with 15-29 winners can claim 2.5kg

- Apprentices must declare a Minimum Riding Weight (MRW) to the Racing Office at least seven days prior to the Racing Season commencing. Apprentices arriving after the commencement of the Racing Season must declare their MRW when applying to be licensed or, if granted permission to ride temporarily on a license from another jurisdiction, they must declare their MRW before the final declaration of riders.
- Any apprentice seeking to adjust their MRW during the Racing Season, must obtain approval from the Stewards before the final riders are closed for the race meeting. Approval will only be granted under exceptional circumstances.
- At all race meetings, each apprentice must adhere to their MRW or, if race conditions provide, claim the portion of their allowance down to their MRW. Failure to comply may result in penalties imposed by the Stewards and may result in another apprentice being substituted who can utilise their claim down to their MRW

Apprentices are not permitted to be declared for rides for which the racing weight without their allowance is under their MRW.

- Apprentices are not permitted to ride overweight unless there are no other suitable riders available to which Stewards may grant permission.
- Visiting riders who were aged 25 or older when their current license was issued by their home authority do not meet the requirements for apprentices specified in QREC Rule 41(iv) as read with Rule 14(i) and therefore will not be eligible to claim any allowance.

15. At the time of publication of final declarations, the QREC management may withdraw any horse, which has been declared with no jockey. In such circumstances, the withdrawn horse may be replaced by another declared horse, which was the next highest in the order of priority to gain a run.

16. A horse may only race in Qatar if at least three clear days have passed since its previous race.

17. No horse will be allowed to start in a race if it has already started four times in the 31 days prior to the race in question. An exemption may be granted by the Chief Steward, but such exemptions will be rarely approved and will be subject to consultation with the QREC veterinarian.

18. Multiple declarations for a horse within the same racing week is not permitted, a penalty will apply for non-compliance.

In the case of multiple declarations being received the race allocation will be at the discretion of the Racing Manager/ Handicapper.

19. The Riding Fee for all Jockeys and Apprentices, will be QR 500.

- Pursuant to rule 52 (iv), any application to substitute a declared rider who is present will be subject to the discretion of the Stewards. If the substitution

is allowed, the Trainer will be fined a minimum of QR 1,000 and the originally declared rider shall receive QR 500.

- If the declared rider is unable to ride at the declared weight, is not present in time to weigh out, or refuses the mount, the Stewards will investigate the circumstances and a fine of at least QR 1,000 may be imposed on either the Trainer or Jockey.

20. A Trainer must ensure that each of his horses competing at a race meeting are attended to at all times whilst on course at that race meeting.

21. Trainers are to ensure that the required Racing Colours are available on Course. Failure to run in the full correct colours will result in the trainer being fined QR 200.

22. When a declared horse has been withdrawn from a race by a veterinary surgeon approved by QREC, that horse will be embargoed from racing for 10 days commencing on the day of the race in question. If a declared horse is withdrawn without a Veterinary Certificate then in accordance with the provisions of Rule 55(i) the trainer will be fined QR 1,000 and the horse will not be permitted to race for 10 days from the date of the race for which it was declared.

23. Any horse which is reported to be suffering from illness or injury will be subject to a veterinary examination. The Veterinarian's decision in relation to this illness or injury will be final.

24. All horses registered in Qatar must be micro chipped. All runners must be inspected against their passports on race day prior to racing. Failure to present the passport will result in the horse being withdrawn.

25. All runners must have their passport endorsed by a Veterinary Surgeon approved by QREC for current vaccinations for equine influenza. No horse will be permitted to start without a current endorsement and in this case the Trainer will be fined at least QR 1,000.

26. As per the provisions of rule 85, any horse which has competed at any unrecognized meeting will not be eligible to be entered or start in any race, For the avoidance of doubt, this includes endurance meetings, Al Maseela and Al Sabeq. Any such horse that runs in a horserace organised by the QREC and is subsequently discovered to have run at such an unrecognized meeting will be disqualified. It is the trainer's responsibility to check a horse's eligibility prior to making entries.

27. Trainers or their authorized representatives are required to be in the Saddling Enclosure & the Parade Ring or Paddock to attend to their respective runners unless prior permission has been obtained from the Stewards.

28. Please note that the QREC operate a dress code for any person entering the paddock. Only traditional dress or a shirt and tie and smart casual trousers (no shorts) are allowed for men. Women must wear traditional dress or smart clothing. No one will be admitted into the paddock without a security pass issued by the QREC.

29. All Trainers and their staff must seek express permission from the Stewards before entering the racecourse. Horses may be led to the starting stalls provided that the permission of the Stewards has first been obtained or, in the case of an emergency, by permission of the Starter. The Jockey must be mounted on leaving the parade ring and during the process of being led to post, unless the horse's behaviour poses an unacceptable risk. Any horse which is led to the start unmounted may be required by the Stewards to pass a Barrier Test before being declared to race next. If a horse shows continued reluctance to proceed to the starting position when being led, it may be withdrawn by the Stewards so as not to cause an unreasonable delay to the start of the race.

30. All Jockeys or work riders riding track work are required to wear the correct protective equipment including boots, skullcap and body protector. Horse attendants must wear appropriate footwear.

31. Gallops on the turf track will be staged after racing on a schedule that will be published at least one month in advance. Application forms for a gallop must be submitted to the Racing Department by 9am on Wednesday. Horses participating in a track gallop must be registered for racing with QREC and currently vaccinated against equine influenza.

One track gallop will automatically be available to horses that have not raced in Qatar. Any other applications will be dealt with on an individual basis. The Racing Department reserves the sole right to decide on the final gallops list as per the applications made by Trainers. Special permission may be granted by the Racing Stewards to allow a track gallop for any horse.

32. All unraced horses and those which have not raced for 12 months must pass a Barrier Trial to the satisfaction of the Stewards before being eligible to be declared for a race. A successful Barrier Trial for an unraced horse is only valid for 12 months.

QREC Management or the Stewards may make an exemption for a horse which has been imported having recently raced in another country. Horses which are imported on a temporary basis will not be required to Barrier Test.

Horses presented for a Barrier Trial must be registered with QREC for racing and currently vaccinated against equine influenza.

- Horses intending to Barrier Trial, must be presented fifteen minutes prior to their designated heat in full tack and accompanied by a groom. Failure to comply, may lead to a horse or horses being withdrawn.
- Horses participating in a Barrier Trial due to an embargo or requiring permission to race, must be ridden by either a licensed Jockey or Apprentice jockey.
- Any horse which has been required by the Stewards to pass a Barrier Trial before being declared to race next shall not be entered for a trial until 7 days have passed from the day on which the embargo was placed.
- Horses must be entered for a Barrier Trial, i.e. (email, application form or WhatsApp) no later than every Sunday before 9.00 am. Entries will not be accepted after this time.
- Only Race Bandages, i.e. Vet Wrap will be permitted on horses Barrier Trialling.

33. Handicap Ratings:

All winners in Qatar will automatically be rated. Otherwise, horses will be rated after having had at least 3 race starts unless they arrive as maidens from a country without internationally recognized merit-based handicap ratings.

An imported horse will be accepted with the rating from the country of export as long as that country has internationally recognized merit-based handicap ratings.

In order to be registered for racing, an imported thoroughbred horse must have a rating that equates to at least 65 on the international scale used in Qatar. It is the responsibility of the Trainer or Owner to confirm the rating before purchase, however, for information, a rating of 29.5 on the French scale or 70 on the German scale is considered sufficient.

The Stewards have discretion to allow thoroughbred horses with lower ratings to be registered for racing. Thoroughbred horses aged 2 years old, or 3 years old before April, may be registered for racing irrespective of their rating.

The ratings of imported thoroughbred horses will be adjusted as follows:

Thoroughbreds from Scandinavia -5

Thoroughbreds from Oman -15

The ratings of imported Purebred Arabian horses will be adjusted as follows:

Purebred Arabians from Oman aged 4yo and up -5

Purebred Arabians from Poland -3

Maiden Purebred Arabians from France without a recent Group placing -8

Other Purebred Arabians from France without a recent Group placing -3

No adjustment will apply to the ratings of Purebred Arabians imported from France which have been placed in the first four of a Group or Listed race from 31st March onwards.

Horses No Longer Eligible For Racing: Any horse aged 11 years old or over, which at the end of the current racing season has a Handicap Rating of less than 85 may not be permitted to race the following season.

Any horse aged 6 years old or over, which at the end of the current racing season has a Handicap Rating of less than 45 may not be permitted to race the following season. Local Thoroughbreds are exempt from this condition.

Unraced 6yo maiden and maiden horses with (NOR) No Official Rating can race in maiden races until reaching the age of seven years old. Seven-year-old maiden horses are ELIGIBLE to start in Novice, Graduation and Handicap races provided they have a handicap rating of 45 or higher.

Calculation Of Age: ARABIANS: 2-year-olds are not permitted to run. January 1st is used for calculation of age.

THOROUGHBREDS: 2-year-olds bred in the northern hemisphere are permitted to run from October in the year in which they turn two. January 1st is used for calculation of age, unless the horse was bred in the Southern Hemisphere in which case July 1st is used.

34. Any person who fails to abide by these instructions shall be guilty of a contravention of the rules of racing, and when a mandatory penalty is not specified, they shall be liable to any of the penalties provided for in the rules.