



RNSW Policy on Major Fractures or Other Major Orthopaedic Injuries

Pursuant to the power vested in the Rules of Racing, RNSW directs and requires all trainers to adhere to the following policies regarding the return to training and to racing of a horse which has sustained a major fracture or other major orthopaedic injury regardless of whether or not surgery was conducted to repair the fracture/injury.

Major Fractures or Other Major Orthopaedic Injuries

These include fractures that are repaired with placement of surgical implants, but also includes those that are managed conservatively. Major fractures/orthopaedic injuries include, but are not limited to:

- Front and hind cannon bone fractures
- Pastern bone fractures
- Carpal (knee) slab fractures
- Midbody and basal fractures of the proximal sesamoid bones
- Long bone stress fractures

Timing of Requirement for Trainers to Report

A trainer must give notification to the Stewards, together with a veterinary certificate of clearance from the specialist veterinary practice which performed such examinations/surgery, prior to the horse returning to training subsequent to the injury. Such clearance must testify that the horse is suitable to train and to perform fast work.

Further Injury Information that may be Required of the Trainer

The RNSW Senior Official Veterinarian will review the clearance certificate and where deemed necessary, the Stewards will request any further tests or examinations that the Official Veterinarian requires after discussions with the certifying veterinarian, before the horse resumes training after the injury.

Requirement to Trial

The trainer must lodge a further veterinary certificate of clearance with the Stewards prior to the subject horse being required to compete in an official trial. Upon review of that certificate, the Official Veterinarian will determine should any further tests or examinations be required.

Subsequent to Trial

Subsequent to competing in an official trial, the subject horse will be examined by the RNSW Official Veterinarian who may request any further tests or examinations.

Ongoing Responsibilities of the Trainer

The trainer must monitor, together with the stable veterinarian, any lameness or musculoskeletal issues with the subject horse. Should such issues occur, the trainer shall direct the stable veterinarian to conduct whatever diagnostic procedures are necessary. Such information is to be provided to the Stewards, together with an assessment by the stable veterinarian as to the suitability of the subject horse remaining in training.

R P Murrehy
Chairman of Stewards

7th November 2014