

# **Track Rules Rockingham Park 2009 Harness Meet**

1. All trainers must have a signed stall/ship in application on file with the racing office before participating in races at Rockingham Park. If there are more than one adequate entry in any event, preference may be given to horses entered by trainers with signed applications on file in the Racing Office.
2. These rules in addition to those promulgated by the New Hampshire Racing and Charitable Gaming Commission and the U.S.T.A. shall be in force for the 2009 season at Rockingham Park. In the event of any conflicts in the rules, the Judges shall determine which rules shall apply. The violation of any of the rules may result in disciplinary action including loss of purse, fines and/or suspension. Any ruling by the Judges is subject to appeal to the New Hampshire Racing and Charitable Gaming Commission.
3. The track racing surface will be open daily between 6-11 A.M on race days and 6:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. on dark days, except for Thursdays (10 A.M. for grading). **The towing of horses will not be allowed in the stable area or on the main track. The towing of a single horse will be allowed only on the practice track.**
4. Declarations must be made by 9:00 A.M. the day of the draw. When making out the declaration blank or calling in to make an entry, all pertinent information must be given such as: name of horse, driver's name, trainer's name, event(s) to be entered, whether the horse will be racing with either Phenylbutazone (Bute) or Lasix and whether it will be the first time for either medication, whether there have been any recent ownership or trainer changes and if there are any potential interest conflicts with other horses in the same event. Exact spellings of questionable names should be brought to the attention of the person taking the declaration over the phone as well. **No email or faxed declarations will be accepted.**
5. Email the Race Office at **RaceOffice@rockinghampark.com** to have your email address on the mailing list for the new condition sheet each week. It will be sent out automatically as soon as it is available. For daily overnight sheets, send your email address to **rock\_entries@yahoo.com**.
6. Horses stabled on the grounds at Rockingham Park are expected to be raced at Rockingham Park.
7. The preference date for first-time starters will be their most current qualifying race with a satisfactory line.
8. Scratch time and driver change deadline will be the next office day following the draw at **10:00 A.M.**
9. The minimum base claiming price will be \$2,500 for the beginning of the 2009 racing season. A horse must finish 3<sup>rd</sup> or better in their last 3 starts in order to advance to the next higher base claiming level. Horses showing a base-claiming

price less than \$2,500 can only race in the \$2,500 claiming event.

10. Horses that have not raced in thirty (30) days from their last start must re-qualify.
11. Horses failing to go in the required qualifying time on a fast track will be placed on the Stewards' List for Poor Performance. Track conditions listed as **Good, Slow, Sloppy or Heavy** will not count against a horse as far as time and breaks are concerned.
12. Horses that do not have **Lifetime Electronic Eligibilities** from the U.S.T.A. will not be drawn into a qualifying race.
13. Qualifying Standards for the beginning of the 2009 meet will be:

Gait	Aged	3 Yr. Olds	2 Yr. Olds	Aged Horses coming from 5/8 Mile Track	Aged Horses coming from HalfMile Track
Pace	2:02	2:03	2:04	2:03	2:04
Trot	2:04	2:05	2:06	2:05	2:06

14. Horses – **4 Year Olds & Up** – will be given 3 consecutive chances to qualify this meet – **with the exception of broken equipment or interference**. This rule will be strictly enforced.
15. Horses must be in the paddock 30 minutes before the qualifying race that they are in.
16. Horses failing to show a good performance may be required to re-qualify. Horses making breaks in two (2) consecutive races on a fast track and finishing worse than 2<sup>nd</sup> will be put on the Stewards' List and required to re-qualify. A horse must re-qualify after two (2) consecutive scratches for any reason. Horses that break three (3) or four (4) times during a race could be put on the Judges' List for Poor Performance.
17. All foreign horses will be classified at the discretion of the Racing Secretary.
18. Any horse in the current day's program that either falls or gets loose on the track at any time during the racing program shall be examined by the State Veterinarian to determine if the horse is to be allowed to race or be scratched.
19. Horses that refuse the starting gate twice will be scratched – **with the exception of broken equipment or interference**. This pertains to all overnight events, early and late closing events, stakes and futurities. Horses that refuse the starting gate and are scratched must go a satisfactory qualifying race before entering into an overnight event.
20. Horses that do not finish – **without broken equipment** – must re-qualify. Horses that are interfered with and do not finish may be allowed to race without re-qualifying at the Judges' discretion.
21. A scratched horse will not be allowed to school on the same day that it was programmed to race when scratched.
22. Horses that are not tattooed or freeze-branded will not be allowed to enter into a qualifying race at this track.

23. Horses that are placed on the Vet's List will not be removed without a recovery Vet's Slip releasing the horse to race.
24. Claiming Allowances will be:

3 Year Old Colts & Geldings	3 Year Old Fillies	4 Year old Horse & Geldings	4 Year Old Mares	Aged Mares
50%	70%	30%	50%	20%

25. All horses must have a health certificate, EHV and rabies vaccinations and a Coggins test from the current year (2009). This includes all new horses shipping in for the first time. **There will be no exceptions.**
26. Drivers and trainers will wear their colors, white pants and approved helmets with chin straps in place while on the track during the races. During non-racing hours everyone on the track, either jogging or training a horse, must wear a helmet.
27. Drivers will refrain from conversation with each other and the patrons while parading and scoring or at any other time while on the track.
28. Drivers must keep their feet in the stirrups at all times – **with the exception of when removable earplugs are used.** Drivers must keep their hands in the handholds at the start of the race.
29. Drivers will parade and score their own horses. If they are unable to do so, arrangements must be made for someone else to do so along with notifying the Paddock Judge. A driver must score his or her own horse at least one (1) time.
30. All horses must post parade and score. All horses are required to go once around the track unassisted before the start of the race. Horses that fail to meet this requirement may be placed on the Stewards' List and the trainer on record fined. The reasoning being is to be sure that the horse is manageable.
31. The use of straight, rubber bits at any time will not be permitted at this track.
32. Horses either having hobbles added or removed must re-qualify. If the attempted qualifying race is unsatisfactory they will be allowed to race the way they were previously equipped.
33. Trainers are responsible for the condition of both their horses and equipment. If any unnecessary delay is caused by faulty equipment or shoeing, the trainer may be fined.
34. Broken equipment shall be shown to the Paddock Judge immediately after the race. If the equipment was found to be faulty, in the opinion of the Judges, fines may be imposed. Shoes are not considered broken equipment.
35. All U.S.T.A. approved sulkies must have inspection stickers.
36. All sulkies are to be equipped with wheel discs. Multicolored wheel discs will not be allowed.
37. All horses shall go the course – **except in the case of an accident or broken equipment.** If a driver is unable to continue, take the horse to the outside fence

and hold him until the race is completed. Drivers should dismount and hold the horse if it has suffered injuries in a race when it is impossible to finish the race. Failure to comply may result in a fine or suspension.

38. All drivers involved in an accident – **no matter how minor** – are required by the Judges to be examined by medical personnel at the track.
39. Driving half in and half out will not be permitted.
40. There will be no holes given. If you give one, you must pull out and go.
41. All horses shall be raced in a consistent manner.
42. All objections will be placed with the Starter upon the completion of the race clearly stating where the violation happened. The driver will then go to the Winner's Circle area and call the Judges' stand.
43. The winning horse shall return to the Winner's Circle after the race. There will be no passengers on the sulky at any time.
44. Whenever possible, a driver who wins with a horse shall drive it in its next start.
45. All drivers, trainers, owners and grooms must be licensed by the New Hampshire Racing and Charitable Gaming Commission. No temporary licenses will be issued. Owners not present when their horse races will be allowed **only one start without being licensed**. After that initial start, the horse will be scratched if the owner is not licensed and the owner will be suspended until the license is obtained. No purse money will be released until any or all owners are licensed.
46. Before entering the stable area, all vehicles must stop at the gate and all occupants must present proper identification to the Security Officer.
47. Dogs must be securely tied up while in the stable area at all times. Owners must provide proof of current rabies vaccinations.
48. Baking soda is STRICTLY prohibited on the grounds of Rockingham Park.
49. All new drivers must report to the Presiding Judge and the Starter.
50. All drivers must submit to a breathalyzer test one hour prior to post time of the first race they are programmed to drive in. Anyone with a reading of 0.05 or above will not be allowed to drive and will face disciplinary action from the Judges.
51. Any suspension of ten (10) days or more will be considered a full suspension. This suspension shall mean denial of access to any association property, which includes grandstand, parking area, stable area and administration offices.
52. The procedure for making a claim will be done with the Horsemen's Bookkeeper located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Administration Building. Only certified check or cash (U.S. Funds) will be accepted. The claim must be made at least **30 minutes** prior to the post of the race in which the horse is in. The claimant must be licensed by the New Hampshire Racing and Charitable Gaming Commission before making the claim.

53. Transfer of ownership cannot be done without registration papers and proper fees for processing. Transfer slips are only to be used if the registration certificate is at the USTA office or for a signature from a person that is not present that shows ownership on the current registration certificate. In the case of a lost registration certificate, a statement with signatures of all owners stating that fact along with a \$22 fee for a duplicate registration must be submitted to the USTA.
54. The oral administration of Phenylbutazone can be performed by a trainer upon prescription of a licensed veterinarian. Phenylbutazone, which is injected, must be administered by a licensed veterinarian. Each horse receiving Phenylbutazone must be listed on the trainer's *Request for Phenylbutazone Form*, which by must be received at the Commission Office or by the Commission Judge on the grounds of the racing plant no later than noon, 48 hours prior to the horse's next start. In order to remain below the allowable level, the Florida Racing Laboratory recommends the following doseages:
- No form of bute be administered within 24 hours of racing.
  - If bute has been administered daily during training, stop at least 48 hours before racing.
  - If bute has not been administered during training, administer no more than 2 grams (2 bute tablets) or 10 cc of IV 24 hours or more before racing.
55. The confirmation of a bleeder horse shall be certified in writing by the commission veterinarian and entered by the commission veterinarian on the bleeder List. A copy of such certification shall be issued to the owner of the horse or his agent upon request. Horses qualified for medication and so indicated on the official bleeder list shall be treated at least 3 hours prior to post time of the race. A bleeder horse shipped into this state from another jurisdiction shall comply with the procedure outlined above. However, a bleeder horse shipped into this state from another jurisdiction shall be automatically placed on the Bleeder List provided that the jurisdiction from which it was shipped qualified it as a bleeder using criteria satisfactory to this state. A current certificate setting forth his qualifications as a bleeder shall be transmitted to the commission Stewards at the track in this state to which the horse is shipped.
56. Horses in each race will be randomly selected for pre-race testing for blood gas on site. A pre-race "black box" reading above 37 millimoles per liter for horses not on lasix and above 39 millimoles per liter for horses treated with lasix will result in the horse being scratched. In the event that the Florida Racing Laboratory confirms a positive TCO<sub>2</sub> finding, there may be additional penalties. Baking soda and tubing equipment shall not be allowed in the stable area unless authorized by a Commission Veterinarian.
57. The violation of any of the rules may result in disciplinary action including loss of purse, fines, and/or suspensions.
58. Drivers will be allowed whips not to exceed four feet. Provided further that the following actions shall be considered as excessive or indiscriminate use of the

whip:

- a. Causing visible injury to the horse.
- b. Whipping a horse after the finish of a race or after a horse is no longer in contention in the race.
- c. Whipping under the arch or shafts of the sulky.

The use of the whip shall be confined to an area above and between the sulky shafts, to include the sulky shafts. Hitting the wheel discs is prohibited. Drivers shall keep a line in each hand at all times.

At extended pari-mutuel tracks, under the supervision of the Judges, there shall be a mandatory visual inspection by the Commission Veterinarian of each horse following each race for evidence of excessive or brutal use of the whip. A representative of the horsemen's organization or other person chosen by the driver's or trainer's track committee may also be present. At all other meetings, the Judges shall have the authority to order and/or conduct such visual inspection at their discretion.

The brutal use of a whip or crop or excessive or indiscriminate use of the whip or crop shall be considered a violation and shall be punishable by a fine and/or suspension.

59. All drivers must have their elbows in front of their body during the race. The object of this is to insure proper control of the horses as well as the safety of all.
60. A trainer is responsible to have licensed personnel in attendance with each horse from the time it enters the paddock until it returns to its stable. This includes any and all times while it is detained in the test barn.
61. These rules in addition to those promulgated by the New Hampshire Racing and Charitable Gaming Commission, and the U.S.T.A. shall be in force for the 2009 Season at Rockingham Park. In the event of any conflicts, the Judges at Rockingham Park shall determine which rules shall apply.
62. The management at Rockingham Park has the right to supersede any of the above rules in the event that there is a shortage of horses in the box.