



2 April 2026

## **NZTR BARRIER CERTIFICATION POLICY**

### **For Passing horses at Official Barrier Trials or Jumpouts**

To be eligible for racing in New Zealand, every horse must have a current Barrier Certificate. This certificate must be issued by an authorised official in New Zealand or by an authorised official of a recognised overseas racing jurisdiction.

All horses who have not previously trialled or raced before August 1 will be subject to the below barrier certification guidelines. These guidelines ensure that horses are adequately prepared and demonstrate appropriate behaviour during barrier trials and jumpouts to maintain the safety and integrity of racing.

#### **Identification**

All horses seeking a Barrier Certificate or being reinstated from a Steward's embargo must be identified by Brands or Microchip before taking part in the jumpout or official Barrier Trial.

#### **Guidelines**

1. Horses can only be certified using overhead, Simtrack, Steriline, or RIB/NZTR approved, overhead starting gates.
2. Horse must be tractable and able to be ridden satisfactorily to the barrier.
3. A barrier attendant should lead the horse into the barrier.
4. In addition to being led in, the horse may be guided into the starting barriers by up to a maximum of two attendants, on either side of the horse's flanks.
5. A buggy whip may only be used in certain circumstances and in accordance with approved protocol.
6. A horse must be loaded in a reasonable period of time (not exceeding 90 seconds).
7. The horse must stand in the gates without incident. It must not rear, get a leg up on the running board, become cast, attempt to burrow under the front gates, attempt to sit down, be unduly fractious or kick excessively.
8. The trainer or staff of the stable may not assist in the loading process.
9. A horse must jump away clearly and perform tractably out of the barriers.
10. The horse will not be permitted to participate in any subsequent trials or jumpouts on the same day in the event that the horse is not approved at its first jumpout or trial on the day for certification purposes.
11. Following any day of Official Barrier trials, the Starter shall report any unsatisfactory barrier performance to the Stewards.

2-Apr-26

**Additional guidelines for horses seeking Reinstatement from embargo.**

1. Horses seeking approval to race or to be re-instated from embargo should be loaded prior to all other runners in a trial or jumpout, unless prior approval has been given by the Stewards.
  2. If a horse fails a barrier test it will be required to satisfactorily complete a further barrier trial prior to being passed to race. The preceding conditions, unless varied by the Stewards, shall apply as guidelines when determining whether, or not, a horse's trial is deemed satisfactory.
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