



NZTR DIRECTIVE

Use of Grass Tracks for Harness Racing Effective 27 March 2026

Dear Racing Club Presidents and Managers,

As demand for grass track venues to host additional Harness meetings increases, this has, in some cases, affected the ability of the relevant Clubs to hold scheduled Thoroughbred meetings at those venues.

Accordingly, New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing advises that, with immediate effect, Clubs must obtain NZTR approval (from NZTR's Head of Tracks and Infrastructure Tim Lambert (cc'd)) before agreeing to hold a Harness meeting on their grass tracks. In issuing this directive, NZTR is not intending to take away from Clubs the ability to earn additional income from holding Harness meetings, but wants to ensure (to the maximum extent possible) that those meetings do not impact the performance or availability of our grass tracks for Thoroughbred meetings or trials.

Regards,

Mitch Lamb
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