NEW ZEALAND THOROUGHBRED RACING

PUREI HŌIHO NĀTI O AOTEAROA

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAINERS, PRE-TRAINERS AND ACCOUNTABLE PERSONS

NZTR is working on system enhancements to better record Trainer assignments, accountable persons, and horses' status and location throughout their lives.

We recognise that the current system does not adequately support pre-training notifications. This notice explains the notification requirements, the current process for Trainers, and guidance for pre-Trainers while these limitations are addressed.

When to notify NZTR

Under Rules 320B, Rule 417 and Rule 1405 Trainers, Pre-Trainers or accountable persons must notify NZTR within specific timelines of a horse entering or leaving their care and control, either permanently or temporarily, or dying while under their care and control.

The current notification processes are outlined below.

Event	Notification method	Deadline
A horse enters a Trainer's or Pre-Trainers care and control	**SR35** – online or PDF. See **pre-Trainer** advice below regarding current system limitations and record keeping.	Within 24 hours (Rule 320B)
An active horse leaves a Trainer's care and control (i.e., permanent transfer not just a short spell)	**SR35** – online or PDF	Within 24 hours (Rule 320B)
A horse moves, or is expected to move, from its recorded location for **120 days or more**.	The Accountable Person must email NZTR Registrations (email below) with the new address.	Rule 1405 does not specify a notification deadline. NZTR will advise.
A horse retires, whether remaining in your care or being rehomed	**SR24** – online or PDF	On retirement; within 1 month of the date of retirement (Rule 417)
A horse dies while under your care and control	**SR24** – online or PDF	**Trainers or Pre-Trainers:** Within 24 hours (Rule 320B). **Owners or Racing Managers:** Within 72 hours if racing or training related (Rule 417(3)), or within one month if unrelated to racing or training (Rule 417(4)).

Stable returns and Trainer assignments

The current Stable Return process (SR35) records a horse's Trainer assignment, training location, arrival/exit dates and racing colours. NZTR has updated the PDF form to clearly capture both incoming and outgoing horses and help keep publicly available Trainer assignments accurate.

Four-week training requirement – Rule 324
Subject to Rule 324, a horse must have been in training under a Trainer's direct charge or care for at least four continuous weeks immediately before racing. Spelling following a race within that period counts as training. Timely submission of the Stable Return (SR35) helps NZTR verify compliance with this requirement.

Pre-Trainers
NZTR recognises that the current system does not adequately support notifications of horses entering or leaving a pre-Trainer's care and control. The SR35 process is designed for Trainer assignments and does not provide a separate pre-training status.

We are working through these limitations and will communicate a clear process for pre-Trainers. In the meantime, please maintain accurate records of horses entering and leaving your care, including dates and locations, and contact NZTR Registrations if you need assistance.

Spelling of horses (120-day threshold)
No notification is required under Rule 1405 solely because a horse moves for spelling for fewer than 120 days. If the horse moves, or is intended to move, for **120 days or more**, the Accountable Person must notify NZTR of the new address or location of the horse. Other notification and filing requirements under the Rules still apply.

If responsibility for the horse's care and control passes to someone else, such as the horse is transferred to another Trainer, the Trainer releasing the horse must notify NZTR within 24 hours using SR35, or SR24 if the horse is retiring and being rehomed.

A Trainer receiving the horse must also submit an incoming SR35 within 24 hours. For horses entering or leaving a pre-Trainer's care, please refer to the guidance above.

Reinstatement requirements
Retired horses returning to training, including Hong Kong imports, still require a Stable Return within 24 hours of entering a trainer's or pre-trainer's care and control. As retired status blocks submission, the trainer, pre-trainer or accountable person must contact NZTR Traceability for "reinstatement pending" status, allowing the return to be completed while reinstatement is assessed. This status does not constitute approval for reinstatement.

It is recommended to submit reinstatement requests before the horse enters the stable where possible, to avoid unnecessary costs if approval is declined.

Stable inspections and compliance
The RIB checks Trainers' stable returns during stable inspections. Trainers should ensure their returns are up to date, as failure to meet notification requirements may result in enforcement action.

Trainers must also maintain accurate location records for all horses under their care and control. If a horse is away from the stable at the time of an inspection, the Trainer must be able to advise RIB stewards where it is located. For pre-Trainers, NZTR will work with the RIB to ensure current system limitations are recognised, and expectations are clear and practical while an appropriate notification process is developed.

Accurate records and timely notifications support Thoroughbred traceability and help NZTR maintain a clear record of each horse's location and who has care and control.

How to notify NZTR
Trainers can submit stable returns through the relevant NZTR Service Centre or complete and submit the SR35 PDF form.

Retirement and death notifications can be submitted through the Service Centre or using the SR24 PDF form.

For assistance, contact NZTR Registrations at registration@nztr.co.nz or Traceability at traceability@nztr.co.nz.