 <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">HARNESS RACING VICTORIA</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">PONY TROTS GUIDELINES DURING COVID-19</h2>	<p style="margin: 0;">RW-PR-102 (4 JAN 2021)</p>
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Harness Racing Victoria (“HRV”) is committed to ensuring that the safety of both senior and junior participants, employees, visitors and contractors is prioritised above all else. The purpose of these guidelines is to provide Pony Trots participants and their guardians with clear protocols, which must be followed at race meetings in response to COVID-19.

These Guidelines must also be read in conjunction with the ‘Covid-19 Racetrack Access and Operational Procedure’ which is available via the [trots website](#).

Pony Trots is a structured sporting event for children and for this reason Pony Trots participants are considered essential persons for the duration of their engagement.

These guidelines must be complied with by all Pony Trots participants and guardians participating at Race meetings and Trials. It is expected that guardians will instruct children in their care of the required protocols.

1. Prior to Event

Nominations


- All Pony Trots participants are required to nominate, using the online nomination form which may be accessed [here](#). Only one nomination for each race meeting is permitted.
- Late nominations will not be accepted. Please refer to the table below for nomination deadlines.

Day of Race Meeting	Nomination Deadline
Tuesday	Thursday 5pm week before the race meeting
Wednesday	Friday 5pm week before the race meeting
Thursday	Monday 5pm week of the race meeting
Friday	Tuesday 5pm week of the race meeting
Saturday	Tuesday 5pm week of the race meeting
Sunday	Wednesday 5pm week of the race meeting

- At the time of nomination, the name of the guardian accompanying the Pony Trots participant must be listed. Only one guardian is permitted for each Pony Trots Participant. The guardian must hold a current Victorian Stable hand licence. The licence application form can be accessed [here](#).
- Where possible, the guardian nominated should be someone who is **not** participating in subsequent races, as it is preferable for children to vacate the stalls at the completion of their race. (refer section 4)

Other Information

- Guardians are advised that they are not permitted to bring children that are not competing in Pony Trots to the racing area/stalls. (e.g. siblings)

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- Any guardian who wishes to assist a child, other than their own, must hold a [working with children check](#)
- It is recommended that guardians complete [Infectious Disease Training](#)

2. Arrival at the Racetrack

- Clubs will be provided with a list of the Pony Trots participants and accompanying adults (guardians), which should be checked off at the entry point.
- Pony Trots Participants and Guardians must not attend the race meeting if they are unwell.
- Pony Trots Participants and Guardians are only permitted to attend the racetrack and stalls when scheduled to race. (They may attend race meetings as members of the public if they have pre-booked with a club that is hosting spectators, however they will not be permitted access to the racing area/stalls on these occasions. Please be aware that not all clubs are hosting spectators for all events)
- The [Infectious Disease Declaration](#) must be completed by each person entering the race meeting. The infectious disease declaration may be completed by the guardian accompanying the Pony Trots participant.
- Wear the wristband issued by the club.
- Follow the directions of Club and/or Pony Trots Officials in relation to stall allocation and any other club specific protocols.

3. During the Race Meeting

- Observe all signage related to the maximum number of people permitted in each room at any one time.
- Ensure that 1.5 metre social distancing is maintained. If social distancing cannot be maintained, wear a mask.
- Those under the age of twelve are not required to wear masks.
Those over the age of 12 years must:
 - Wear a mask **indoors**.
 - Carry a mask at all times.
 Mask do not need to be worn outdoors or whilst competing.
- Wear the polo top and cap provided as part of the membership.
- Fit wheel discs over exposed spikes.
- Hygiene - Pony Trots participants and carers must maintain a high level of personal hygiene, including regularly washing their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or applying hand sanitiser (containing at least 60% alcohol) where there is no access to water.



PONY TROTS GUIDELINES DURING COVID-19

**RW-PR-102
(4 JAN 2021)**

- The guardian will be permitted onto the track to assist the child as required. Supervising adults entering the track must wear a hi-vis vest (Guardians are asked to please supply their own vest where possible, however there will be some vests available to borrow)
- Stay in the allocated area, limit movement to that which is essential.
- To maintain social distancing, there will be no direct hand over of trophies from presenters to participants. Pony Trots participants will be required to collect their trophies from the presentation table.

4. Conclusion of Engagement

- Where possible, children are required to vacate the stalls after their race. The exception to this is where the nominated guardian is participating in subsequent races and there is no alternative carer. The child will be permitted to remain with their guardian and/or their horse, however movement around the stalls should be limited.