

1. OBJECTIVE

- 1.1. The objective of this policy is to outline the process required to be undertaken if a driver suffers a concussion following a race, trial or trackwork accident.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1. This policy applies to Trainers, Drivers and Stablehands licensed to drive.

3. DEFINITION

- 3.1. 'Concussion' occurs when, after a blow to the head, there is brain injury with some immediate, or delayed disturbance to cerebral function.

4. POLICY

- 4.1. In making an assessment, a Medical Officer must refer to the Assessment of Concussion document (Appendix 1) in the event of a driver fall where a head injury may have occurred.
- 4.2. Where a driver is transferred to hospital following a fall that renders them unconscious, that driver will automatically be stood down for a period of twelve (12) days. That driver must be cleared subject to the below provisions as directed by the Stewards and such Medical Practitioner must issue a certificate of clearance.
- 4.3. Where a driver is involved in a fall that involves their head striking the ground or any other object that renders them dazed or unconscious, and the on-course medical officers consider there is a possibility the driver may be suffering from concussion, the Steward-in-Charge will stand the driver down until they are examined by a Medical Practitioner and passed clear to resume driving. If that diagnosis determines that a concussion may have occurred, the driver will be stood down for a period of no less than twelve (12) days and be required to gain a clearance as described in clause 4.5.
- 4.4. In cases where there is any doubt in the determination of concussion, the driver should be referred for further medical examination and stood down from driving immediately for a period of no less than twelve (12) days and until such time as the driver receives a clearance from a Medical Practitioner.

- 4.5.** A driver who after being diagnosed with concussion after being referred to a hospital or Medical Practitioner must obtain clearance to resume driving in accordance with the following provisions.
- 4.5.1.** Application to resume driving to be made to the Office of Racing Integrity Stewards no less than twelve (12) days following the day of the incident.
 - 4.5.2.** The driver is to be reviewed by a Medical Practitioner, Specialist Neurosurgeon or Neurologist and be passed asymptomatic and cleared to drive, which shall be detailed by the issuing of such certificate by the consulting specialist.
 - 4.5.3.** Any driver that is subject to the provisions of clauses 4.2, 4.3 or 4.4 within two (2) months of the first application may be required to receive a clearance from a Specialist Neurosurgeon or Neurologist before being permitted to resume driving.