

HARNESS INDUSTRY INFORMATION MICROCHIPPING

Harness Racing Australia (HRA) has resolved to introduce a new rule, which requires the microchipping of foals commencing 1 September 2017. The Office of Racing Integrity (ORI) is responsible for the implementation of that HRA resolution.

ORI and Tasracing are working together to minimise the impact to industry participants with respect to the introduction of this rule. While final procedural details are not yet established, the intention is that the following will occur:

- HRA will be supplying microchips at no cost to participants in the initial period of introduction (2017/18 Season);
- Only a veterinary practitioner can legally microchip a horse in Tasmania. It is therefore intended that an approved Veterinarian will undertake the microchipping task;
- The Veterinarian will accompany the Freeze Brander, where practicable, and implant microchips when freeze branding occurs.

Participants will be advised once final procedural details are established for the 2017/2018 season. The whole process will be reviewed on a continuing basis to ensure everything is happening in the most efficient manner.

Alpha-angle freeze branding will continue to be used as a method for the identification of horses for the foreseeable future.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office for assistance.

Leanne Purdon
Licensing & Registration Officer
22 August 2017