



## RACING YOUR HORSE

### 6. Pre-Import Veterinary Examination



Every racehorse is required to undergo a pre-import veterinary examination prior to export to Hong Kong to confirm that it is suitable for racing purposes. This examination must be carried out by a suitably qualified veterinary surgeon selected by the Owner or Prospective Owner during the 30 days prior to the horse entering pre-export quarantine.

The process by which horses are approved for importation is multilayered. First, the examining veterinary surgeon must complete an examination in accordance with the Hong Kong Jockey Club Veterinary Pre-Import Examination Protocol. Second, the documentation and all associated diagnostic images must be assessed by a Club nominated veterinary surgeon. And thirdly, the examining and nominated veterinary surgeon reports must be forwarded to the Hong Kong Jockey Club's Veterinary Departments for final review, classification and approval.



A copy of the Hong Kong Jockey Club Veterinary Pre-Import Examination Protocol and detailed guidelines on specific conditions and their potential significance for suitability for racing in Hong Kong are available through the Club.

Prospective Owners (or Agents) are advised not to make any commitment to purchase a horse until they have been informed, in writing, of the veterinary classification of the horse by Hong Kong Jockey Club Dual Site Stables Operations and Owners Services Department.

The HKJC reserves the right to refuse the importation of any horse deemed to be unsuitable.

### **Objectives of the Pre-Import Veterinary Examination**

The objectives of the Hong Kong Jockey Club pre-import examination are to direct and support the thorough examination of racehorses in an effort to identify and assess aspects of a veterinary nature that may affect a horse during training and racing in Hong Kong.

The examination protocol has evolved over time, and is aimed at providing Prospective Owners and Owners with a multilayered veterinary evaluation of each horse.

Despite thorough clinical examination, diagnostic imaging and testing, it will never be possible to detect all defects, abnormalities or potential problems. For this reason, the export examination in no way represents a guarantee that a horse will remain free of health issues or that it will be useful or have competitive success as a racehorse.



The certificates of examination provide information on the suitability of a horse on the day of examination. This veterinary information should form only part of the information that must be considered – along with other aspects such as performance, appearance and the opinions of other professionals, such as trainers – before deciding whether or not to purchase or import any horse into Hong Kong.

The HKJC does not recommend, accredit or endorse any examining veterinarians and as a result, cannot accept responsibility for the services performed or the accuracy, completeness or opinions offered by them (or their employees). Accordingly, Prospective Owners and Owners should choose an examining veterinary surgeon either known or recommended to them and must satisfy themselves that the veterinarian they select has the necessary skills, knowledge and experience in the examination of Thoroughbred racehorses (intended to race in Hong Kong).

While every effort has been taken to cover common aspects of the veterinary examination of racehorses, the HKJC examination protocol is only a guideline, and each examining veterinarian must rely on his or her professional knowledge and judgment in the examination and assessment of any individual horse.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club and their nominated veterinarians serve to provide Prospective Owners, Owners and the Club with an independent, balanced professional opinion as to whether any condition or aspects identified during the examination process may affect the suitability or preclude a horse's entry into Hong Kong as a racehorse.



The final certification/interpretation offered by the Club is provided as a free service to assist Prospective Owners and Owners in reaching an informed decision. Accordingly, the Club cannot be held liable for any loss, damage, cost or expense arising out of, or in connection with, the purchase or importation of a horse.

The purchase and importation of any horse involves risk – and at best, the Hong Kong Jockey Club pre-import examination process will help to identify, assess and quantify that risk.



## 7. Arrival Procedures

Prior to arrival in Hong Kong, all horses must undergo a 21 days pre-export quarantine in their home country. However, horses from South Africa, must undergo a 21 days quarantine at Kenilworth Quarantine Station in the African Horse Sickness Free Zone in Cape Town, prior to completing a 90 day residency (including 40 days pre-export quarantine for Europe) in Mauritius, followed by a further 60 day residency period (including 21 days pre-export quarantine) in the UK. After arrival, all horses must complete a minimum period of 14 days post-arrival quarantine in Hong Kong before being placed with trainers at Sha Tin. These periods may be extended for veterinary reasons. Each Owner should nominate the trainer of his/her choice prior to his/her horse's arrival in Hong Kong.

*Upon arrival, an import administration fee of \$1,000 will be levied.*



## 8. Declaration Form on Purchase of a Horse

Owners are required, under Rule 41(3), to declare to the Club whether or not their new horse is bought with contingencies, leased or is the subject of any other joint arrangements. If there are such contingencies, leases or other arrangements, a document stating the names, addresses of all the parties interested and full details of the terms of such sale shall be signed and lodged with the Club on the horse's arrival in Hong Kong. However, such declaration will not be deemed as the Club's approval and the Stewards of the Jockey Club may refuse to register such sale.

## 9. Declaration on Agent

Owners wishing to import a horse are required to make a declaration to the Club if any person has acted as their agent in connection with the purchase of their new horse. Such declaration shall be made in a prescribed form and lodged at the Racing Registry prior to importation of the new horse into Hong Kong.

## 10. Trackwork

Morning trackwork at Sha Tin starts every morning at 4:45 am and is normally completed by around 8:45 am. Owners may watch their horses from the trainers' stand, situated on the edge of the main training track. Owners attending must wear their owner badges and obtain visitor badges for accompanying guests from the security post at the track entrance gate.

Trackwork hours at Conghua Racecourse are *from* 6:00 am to 9:00 am.





## 11. Barrier Trials and Stalls Tests

- a. In addition to morning track work, Owners may also attend barrier trials. These trials are run on the large all weather track at Sha Tin on Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:15 am. All weather barrier trials are held at 9:00 am on Thursdays at Conghua Racecourse. Owners watching from the trainers' stand must wear their owner badges and obtain visitor badges for accompanying guests from the security post at the track entrance gate. Grass trials at Sha Tin are held on *designated Tuesdays*, starting at 7:00 am and grass trials at Conghua Racecourse are held on *designated Thursdays at 8:30 am and designated Fridays at 7:00 am*. There are also periodic barrier trials at Happy Valley. *Notice of all grass trials* is published well in advance.
- b. Stalls tests are held to show that a horse has been schooled by the trainer to load into, stand in and jump out of starting stalls and is therefore ready to race. These are held on Mondays and Thursdays (except public holidays) at the 1800 metres chute at 7:30 am. If a general holiday falls on a Monday, stalls tests may be moved to Tuesday if necessary provided that no grass trials are scheduled on that day. Stall tests at Conghua Racecourse are held on Thursdays at 7:30 am. Each griffin must pass a stall test and a barrier trial before it can be entered to run.
- c. Barrier trials are conducted both as an aid to training and as an official means of testing a horse's tractability, soundness and suitability to race or continue to race. For example, both







griffins and privately purchased horses (those that have raced overseas before being imported) must pass one barrier trial before being entered to run in a race.

*Note: For safety reasons, access to the sand mounting area is restricted to licensed persons, stables staff, accredited guests and HKJC officials. Owners wishing to enter the area must be accompanied by a stable representative. Children under 12 years of age are prohibited from entering the sand mounting area at all time.*

## 12. Authorised Representatives

- a. An Owner may seek the approval of the Stewards of the Jockey Club to the appointment of an Authorised Representative to represent the Owner when the Owner is to be absent from Hong Kong and during any such absences the Authorised Representative may exercise all rights with respect to the Owner's horse in all dealings with the Owner's authorised agent.
- b. If an Owner is unable to manage his/her horse, his/her Authorised Representative must be a member, or a body corporate which, having previously been approved by the Stewards of the Jockey Club.

## 13. Entries

- a. To facilitate entries and planning, the monthly programme will be published about two months in advance. It includes such information as prize money, distance, rating band, names of cups, etc. for each meeting. A prospectus for each meeting carrying the latest details will be issued normally two weeks in advance.

To participate in a race a horse must first be "entered". Entries for Saturday/Sunday meetings normally close at 10:00 am on Monday. Entries for Wednesday meetings normally close at 10:00 am on Thursday in the preceding week. In the event that races are re-opened due to insufficient entries, entries for those races will close at 11:30 am on the same day. Handicaps are usually published by 4:00 pm on entries closing days.



- b. Horses are entered to run and those entered cannot be withdrawn except under the following circumstances:
- (i) On veterinary grounds. (Veterinary Surgeon's confirmation is required)
  - (ii) If the race entered is a terms race (except griffin races).
  - (iii) If they are set to carry 7 lbs or more out of the handicap before declarations.
  - (iv) If the race conditions allow the withdrawal of entered horses.
  - (v) Stable change.
  - (vi) With the permission of the Stewards.
  - (vii) If the horse is promoted from the standby reserve list after being entered for the subsequent race meeting, the trainer may elect for such a horse to be withdrawn prior to the closing time of declarations for the subsequent race meeting. After the closing time of declarations for the subsequent race meeting, horses may only be withdrawn in accordance with the provisions as detailed above in (i), (v) and (vi).
- c. A trainer is allowed to indicate on the entry form an order of preference for his horses entered in the same race. He also has the option to indicate, in each race meeting, up to two of his first preference horses which should be given priority to run, i.e. trump cards.
- d. Priority to run (Protection) will be granted to horses ranked as 1st preference by the Trainers provided that in their last entry in the current season they were:
- Declared starters of an abandoned race; OR
  - Standby declared starters published at the time of declaration which subsequently failed to obtain a run; OR
  - Ranked as 1st preference but were balloted out and could not obtain a run.





In the event of a horse failing to obtain a start or being a standby declared starter in a race in which priority to run is determined by special conditions, this race entry will not be taken into account in respect of the horse's priority to run status at its subsequent race entry. Rather, its priority to run status shall be determined as that which it held following its race entry which immediately preceded the special conditions race entry.

e. In general, priority to run is determined in the following order:

- 1st: horses with protection and balloted out in their previous entry with protection (double protection)
- 2nd: horses with protection and trump card
- 3rd: horses with protection
- 4th: horses with trump card
- 5th: horses indicated as trainers' 1st preference
- 6th: horses indicated as trainers' 2nd preference
- 7th: horses indicated as trainers' 3rd preference and so on

Balloting will take place, if necessary, for horses of equal status. However, for horses of equal status entering for Class 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 races, priority will be given to horses which have:

- (i) won their last start in the current season.
- (ii) placed 2nd, 3rd or 4th in their last start in the current season in that order and within 45 days of this race.

In respect of a previously abandoned race(s), for horses with same protection status, priority to run will be given to the declared starters first and then the two standby declared starters of such abandoned race(s).

f. Protection, trump cards and preferences will not be applicable to races in which priority to run is determined by special conditions published in a relevant prospectus or notice.



In the event that a race is re-opened for a further period, priority to run will be given to entries received prior to the original advertised time of close of entry except for races involving a selection panel.

- g. An entry fee is levied on all entries. The entry fee for a race is calculated on a percentage basis of prize money; the current rate is 0.3%. Subject to the race conditions, entries on the standby reserve list not getting a run will get a refund. Further, entries in a subsequently abandoned race will also get a refund. Entry fee is exempted for races open to overseas runners but a declaration fee will be levied as specified in the Race Prospectus.
- h. The details of every race are contained in a race meeting prospectus which is normally produced two weeks in advance of the race by the Racing Registry. All trainers receive copies of the prospectus for each meeting and Owners, who may want their own copies, may obtain them free of charge from the Racing Registry.

#### 14. Handicaps

- a. About 97 per cent of all races in Hong Kong are handicaps. A handicap is one in which the weights are adjusted by the Handicapper in order to equalise horses' chances of winning.
- b. Handicap races are currently divided into five race classes from Class 1 down to Class 5. In addition, all Group 3 and some Group 2 races in Hong Kong are handicaps. In Hong Kong each horse is allocated a handicap rating as soon as practicable. This is simply the expression in lbs (weight) of the Handicapper's assessment of a horse's relative ability. Horses are continually reassessed during the season.





- c. In all handicaps, the maximum allocated weight shall be 133 lbs and the minimum allocated weight shall be not less than 113 lbs.
- d. Northern Hemisphere and Southern Hemisphere 2-year-olds (as at 31 December) will receive a 5 lbs weight-for-age allowance in all handicaps of that season.

## 15. Terms Races

- a. A Terms Race is one in which weights are allocated according to a horse's age and sex, and/or according to his racing record. All Group 1 and Some Group 2 races are terms races. Terms Races for the *2019/2020* season are:

### Group One



LONGINES Hong Kong Cup



LONGINES Hong Kong Mile



LONGINES Hong Kong Sprint



LONGINES Hong Kong Vase



FWD QEII Cup



FWD Champions Mile



Chairman's Sprint Prize



Stewards' Cup



Citi Hong Kong Gold Cup



Standard Chartered Champions & Chater Cup



Centenary Sprint Cup



Queen's Silver Jubilee Cup



### Group Two

Chairman's Trophy

BOCHK Jockey Club Cup

BOCHK *Wealth Management* Jockey Club Mile

BOCHK *Wealth Management* Jockey Club Sprint

Sprint Cup

### 4-Y-O Classic Series

BMW Hong Kong Derby 2020

Hong Kong Classic Cup

Hong Kong Classic Mile

### Other Races

Griffin Trophy

Griffin races

- b. A chart showing the Hong Kong Scale of Weight-for-Age is contained in the Rules of Racing.

## 16. Jockeys and Apprentice Jockeys

- a. There are five different categories of jockey: freelance jockeys, stable retained jockeys, Club retained jockeys, visiting jockeys and apprentice jockeys. A trainer will normally advise an Owner and make arrangements for his/her horse to be ridden by a particular jockey.
- b. Some Trainers, with larger number of horses, may have a stable retained jockey who is contracted to ride for that stable; 85% Owners with those trainers are required to support the stable retained jockey. A stable retained jockey may not normally be declared to



ride outside his retaining stable if his retaining stable has a runner ridden by another stable's retained jockey. The Stewards may, however, give such permission in exceptional circumstances. Freelance jockeys ride on a freelance basis. For more information, please refer to Stewards' Instruction 41.

- c. The Club may employ Club retained jockeys. These jockeys are primarily available to trainers and Owners without a retained jockey.
- d. An apprentice jockey, normally referred to as an apprentice, is a young "learner jockey" indentured to the Club and allocated to a trainer. The current apprentice jockey allowance to claim in any flat races on the sliding scale are shown below:-

If he has not ridden 20 winners	- 10 lbs
If he has ridden 20 winners but has not ridden 45 winners	- 7 lbs
If he has ridden 45 winners but has not ridden 70 winners	- 5 lbs
If he has ridden 70 winners but has not ridden 95 winners	- 3 lbs
If he has ridden 95 winners	- 2 lbs

- e. Freelance jockeys can claim weight allowances to compensate for their lack of experience on a downwards sliding scale dependent upon the number of wins they achieve. The current allowances applicable in Hong Kong are shown below:-





If he has not ridden 20 winners	- 10 lbs
If he has ridden 20 winners but has not ridden 45 winners	- 7 lbs
If he has ridden 45 winners but has not ridden 70 winners	- 5 lbs
If he has ridden 70 winners but has not ridden 95 winners	- 3 lbs
If he has ridden 95 winners but has not ridden 250 winners	- 2 lbs

## 17. Official Pre-Race Veterinary Inspection

a. All horses, which are entered for a race, must pass an official veterinary inspection before they race. The objectives of this inspection are to protect horse and rider safety, to provide for the welfare and humane treatment of racehorses and to assist in maintaining consistent racing performances. A Veterinary Officer from the Department of Veterinary Regulation, Welfare and Biosecurity Policy will perform these inspections in the morning on the day before racing and the decision of this Department will be final.



b. The inspection requires the horse to be trotted in-hand free of any bandages, rugs, etc. on a firm flat surface away from and back towards the Veterinary Officer. The Veterinary Officer may then perform any other procedures at his discretion, which are required to assist him in making a decision on a horse's veterinary suitability to race.



## 18. Declarations

Declarations normally take place two or three days before a race. Declarations normally do not incur any fee or charge except otherwise specified in the Prospectus. Once the horse has been declared it may not be withdrawn unless under exceptional circumstances, or for veterinary reasons only. For example, a horse may become lame or suffer an illness or injury in the period between close of declarations and the running of the race. If this were to happen, the trainer would inform one of the Club's Veterinary Officers who would then examine the horse and if found to be not suitable to race, would advise the Stewards to withdraw it.

## 19. Anti-doping Measures

- a. On the day a horse races, its urine (or blood if it does not produce a urine sample in time) will be analysed for prohibited substances prior to taking part in the race, by the Club's Racing Laboratory. Additional samples may be taken at any time, as required. Horses that do not provide a urine sample pre-race will be required to provide urine and blood samples after the race. This procedure has proved to be a highly effective deterrent against doping. A horse placed either first or second in its race will have further urine and blood samples taken for analysis immediately after the race. Should a horse's performance be unusual in comparison with previous races, it may be selected, at the discretion of the Stipendiary Stewards, for further urine and blood sample analysis immediately after its race. These horses may also be selected for official post-race veterinary inspections by a Veterinary Officer of the Club.



- b. Samples may be taken for analysis at any time from any horse registered in training. This is to ensure that horses receive only those medications prescribed by the Club's Veterinary Surgeons.

## 20. The Race and Paddock Procedures

- a. All runners are brought, already saddled, into the parade ring prior to each race. This provides an opportunity for Owners to meet their trainers and jockeys, to assess prospects for the race, to judge a horse's condition and, importantly, to discuss the riding instructions and anticipated tactics. Stewards' Instruction 29 covers these points in detail and it is reproduced below, in full. An Owner should be familiar with its contents even though he/she will have signed an Authority-to-Act form instructing his/her trainer to comply with the Instruction's provisions (See Item 3).



- b. Each trainer is required to instruct the jockey of any horse for which he is responsible to ride that horse in such a manner as to ensure that the best possible placing is obtained. Each Owner who wishes to give additional tactical instructions to his jockey should do so through the trainer. Should an inquiry be held involving the running and/or riding of a horse the trainer and the Owner will be asked to repeat their respective riding instructions.



## 21. Winning

The crowning moment of every Owner's hopes and dreams comes when his/her horse wins a race. The winner is taken to the Winners' Enclosure to allow



the Owner to lead in his/her horse and to pose for photographs with the trainer and jockey. The maximum number of guests a winning Owner can bring to take a winning photo is 50. Should an Owner be lucky enough to win a trophy, then this is usually presented in the unsaddling enclosure immediately after the jockey has weighed in. To enhance the ownership experience, the Club will provide each winning Owner with a photo album capturing the winning moments, *an unedited DVD, a USB thumb drive with an edited video clip of the race* and a bottle of exclusive premium champagne.

## 22. Owners Presence at Objection Hearings

In the event that an objection is being lodged, Owners of the concerned horses are allowed, if they so wish, to be present at the objection hearing. If the horses in question have more than one Owner, only one of them is allowed to be present at this hearing. When Owners wish to exercise the above right of attendance, it is their sole responsibility to ensure that they present themselves in time at the inquiry room for the hearing in order not to cause delay in the conduct of the race meeting.



## 23. Prize Money

a. The distribution of prize money is as follows:

### PRIZE MONEY

CLASS 1.....	\$2,800,000
CLASS 2.....	\$2,100,000
CLASS 3.....	\$1,450,000
CLASS 4.....	\$967,000
CLASS 5.....	\$725,000
GRIFFINS .....	\$850,000

### GROUP RACES

#### Group One

LONGINES Hong Kong Cup.....	\$28,000,000
LONGINES Hong Kong Mile .....	\$25,000,000
<i>FWD</i> QEII Cup.....	\$25,000,000
<i>FWD</i> Champions Mile .....	\$20,000,000
LONGINES Hong Kong Sprint.....	\$20,000,000
LONGINES Hong Kong Vase.....	\$20,000,000
@ Chairman's Sprint Prize.....	\$18,000,000
* Stewards' Cup .....	\$10,000,000
* Citi Hong Kong Gold Cup.....	\$10,000,000
* Standard Chartered Champions & Chater Cup ....	\$10,000,000
@ Centenary Sprint Cup.....	\$10,000,000
@ Queen's Silver Jubilee Cup .....	\$10,000,000

#### Group Two

Chairman's Trophy .....	\$4,250,000
BOCHK Jockey Club Cup .....	\$4,250,000
BOCHK <i>Wealth Management</i> Jockey Club Mile.....	\$4,250,000
BOCHK <i>Wealth Management</i> Jockey Club Sprint .....	\$4,250,000
Premier Bowl .....	\$4,250,000



Oriental Watch Sha Tin Trophy .....	\$4,250,000
<i>Kwoon Chung Bus</i> Sprint Cup .....	\$4,250,000

### Group Three

Bauhinia Sprint Trophy.....	\$3,250,000
Celebration Cup .....	\$3,250,000
Centenary Vase .....	\$3,250,000
Chinese Club Challenge Cup.....	\$3,250,000
January Cup.....	\$3,250,000
Sa Sa Ladies' Purse .....	\$3,250,000
Lion Rock Trophy.....	\$3,250,000
National Day Cup .....	\$3,250,000
Premier Cup .....	\$3,250,000
Premier Plate.....	\$3,250,000
Queen Mother Memorial Cup .....	\$3,250,000
Sha Tin Vase .....	\$3,250,000

### 4-Y-O Classic Series

BMW Hong Kong Derby 2020 .....	\$20,000,000
Hong Kong Classic Cup .....	\$10,000,000
Hong Kong Classic Mile.....	\$10,000,000

<i>Griffin Trophy</i> .....	\$2,000,000
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### SPECIAL BONUS

* Triple Crown.....	\$10,000,000
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@ Hong Kong Speed Series.....	\$5,000,000
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<i>Happy Valley</i> Million Challenge.....	\$1,000,000
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For any horse which wins both the Hong Kong Macau Trophy and the Macau Hong Kong Trophy in the same season, while remaining in the same ownership, and in the stable of the same trainer..... \$1,000,000





50% Bonus Prize Money to the Owners of any ISG which finishes in the first five placings in the Griffin Trophy.

### High Achievement Bonus

For any horse with a minimum rating of 80 which gains its first win in Class 2 before reaching the age of 5 ..... \$1,000,000  
 (A horse which had been awarded an ISG Bonus will receive a top-up bonus of \$400,000)

For any horse with a minimum rating of 80 which gains its first win in Class 1 or above before reaching the age of 5 ..... \$1,500,000  
 (A horse which had been awarded a Class 2 High Achievement Bonus will receive a top-up bonus of \$500,000. A horse which had been awarded a Class 2 High Achievement Bonus before the 2019/2020 season will receive a top-up bonus of \$650,000. A horse which had been awarded an ISG Bonus but not a Class 2 High Achievement Bonus will receive a top-up bonus of \$900,000.)

### ISG BONUS

For any ISG which gains its first win in Class 3 before the end of its first full season after year of purchase ..... \$600,000

b. The normal distribution of prize money is:

1st	57%	4th	6%
2nd	22%	5th	3.5%
3rd	11.5%		

Prize money for Group One Races is paid down to the sixth place and the distribution is laid down in accordance with prospectus of the relevant races.



c. From the prize money won by the first five placed horses (or six when applicable), the Club will deduct payments for trainers, jockeys and stable staff as shown below.

Trainer	9.2%
Hong Kong Assistant trainer & Hong Kong stable staff	10.8%
Jockey	10% for a winning horse, 5% for a placed horse (2nd-5th, 6th when applicable)

In other words, the Owner(s) will receive 70% of the prize money for a winning horse and 75% for a placed horse (2nd-5th, 6th when applicable)

d. Riding fees are as follows:

Jockey (Except for stable retained jockey).....	\$2,200 per ride (of which \$1,000 is payable to the Club)
Stable retained jockey riding for supporting Owner & horses trained by other trainers.....	\$2,200 per ride (of which \$1,000 as contribution towards the retainership of the concerned Stable Jockey)
Stable retained jockey riding for non-supporting Owner in the stable.....	\$6,000 per ride (of which \$5,000 as contribution towards the retainership of the concerned Stable Jockey)
Apprentice Jockey.....	\$1,200 per ride (of which \$600 payable to the Club)



e. The Club shall render, subject to a laboratory test clearance issued by the Head of Racing Laboratory, an account within three weeks after each meeting and pay over all prize and added money, after deduction of any overdue payments in the account, to the persons entitled unless there is a protest/objection pending.



f. Owners can choose to receive all prize money and added money at their designated bank account by auto-pay. This arrangement is more convenient and can expedite the payment process. If you want to enjoy this service, please complete the “Stakes Money Direct Credit Authorization Form” and return the completed form to the Club’s Accounts Payable Section. The form can be downloaded from the Club’s website: <http://member.hkjc.com/member/english/horse-owner/owners-information/download-forms.aspx>