

GUIDELINES FOR JOCKEY'S LICENCE

1. Applications for a jockey's licence in Mauritius are assessed on a case-by-case basis and within the framework of the following guidelines. As a rule, applications for **first time jockeys' licences** will not be considered from individuals aged 23 or above, or who have never previously held a jockey's licence or who cannot demonstrate adequate and relevant riding experience.
2. All applications must be submitted to the Licensing Committee via the Racing Department of the Gambling Regulatory Authority (GRA).
3. Applications for a **jockey apprenticeship** requires a riding referral from a qualified riding master, the applicant cannot be younger than 16 years old, having been in a riding program for no less than 12 months, and participated in at least 20 barrier trial rides. Applicants shall be under the age of 19 and weigh no more than 50kg's.

4. General Eligibility Criteria

5. Applicants are required to demonstrate that they meet the following criteria:
 - (i) Possess the competence and capability to race ride;
 - (ii) Are medically fit to ride in accordance with the Rules of Racing;
 - (iii) Can derive their primary or a reasonable portion of their income from race riding, or in the case of Apprentices, are in full-time paid employment under a licensed trainer;
 - (iv) Are otherwise a fit and proper person to hold a licence;
 - (v) In the case of overseas applicants, hold all relevant permits and authorisations to work in Mauritius as a professional jockey.

6. Application documents required for a Jockey:

- (i) NIC/Passport
- (ii) Two passport size photos
- (iii) Proof of address (less than 3 months)
- (iv) Certificate of character 6 months valid (from Home country for foreign nationals)
- (v) Riding and disciplinary record

Gambling Regulatory Authority

Level 12, Newton Tower, Sir William Newton Street, Port Louis, Mauritius | Tel: +230 260 2000 |
Fax: +230 213 1205 | Email: hrid@gra.mu | Website: <http://gra.govmu.org/>

- (vi) Medical history and clearance form
- (vii) If ridden abroad:
- (viii) Clearance from overseas Authority;
- (ix) Disciplinary Record
- (x) Letter of intent/undertaking from Trainer (*Contract of Employment shall be submitted once licensed*)
- (xi) Insurance/ Indemnity Cover (*To secure insurance cover with the Horse Racing Organiser*)
- (xii) If foreigner,
 - i. Residence / Occupation permit
 - ii. Contract with employer

7. Application document requirements for an Apprentice Jockey

- (i) NIC/Passport
- (ii) Two colour passport size photos
- (iii) Proof of address (less than 3 months), Birth certificate and letter from responsible party & NIC (*IF A MINOR*)
- (iv) Certificate of character 6 months valid (from Home country for foreign nationals)
- (v) Medical History and Clearance form
- (vi) Insurance/Indemnity cover (*Insurance cover with the Horse Racing Organiser*)
- (vii) Indentures (To be submitted if licensed with another jurisdiction)
- (viii) Letter of recommendation/clearance from GRA Riding Master
- (ix) Barrier Trial Result
- (x) If foreigner,
 - i. Residence & Occupation permit
 - ii. Contract with employer must be submitted once licensed
 - iii. Letter of intent/undertaking from Trainer (Contract of Employment)

8. Self-Assessment and Declaration

Applicants for an apprentice licence shall not be older than 19 years and must show that they:

- (i) are familiar with the Rules of Racing, particularly those applicable to jockeys;
- (ii) maintain a level of fitness appropriate for a professional jockey;
- (iii) possess the ability to ride various types of horses, including those with different temperaments;
- (iv) can take, understand and follow instructions effectively;
- (v) can use the whip correctly and in accordance with the Rules of Racing;
- (vi) has successfully completed at least 20 barrier trials or provide a signed statement from a recognised Riding Master confirming that the Apprentice is ready to ride in official races.

9. Previous Licensing History

10. Applicants who have not held a GRA licence in the previous two years must submit complete details of their professional history, including:

- (i) Riding records
- (ii) Disciplinary history from the relevant turf authorities
- (iii) Employment history
- (iv) A clearance certificate from their previous regulatory authority
- (v) All applicants must complete a Declaration of Health form, providing an accurate statement of their current health status, including any medication taken or injuries sustained in the past 12 months, along with an estimated riding weight.

11. Medical Examination

12. First-time applicants and those renewing their licence every two years must submit a comprehensive medical report completed by their personal doctor, who should have access to their full medical history.

13. Applicants who have suffered a serious fall or injury must submit both a detailed medical report and a clearance certificate from a relevant medical specialist prior to being licensed or re-licensed.

14. Insurance Requirement for Foreign Riders

15. All foreign jockeys must hold an adequate personal medical insurance policy covering potential treatment costs while riding in Mauritius. A copy of the insurance policy must be submitted to the Stipendiary Stewards.

16. Income and Activity Status

17. Applications will not be considered from individuals who intend to ride only occasionally or where there is insufficient demand for their services. Typically, an applicant should expect to ride at least 25 times per season unless they are engaged as a full-time Apprentice under a licensed trainer.

18. Ride Progression for Apprentice Jockeys

19. To qualify for renewal of an Apprentice Jockey's licence, the Stipendiary Stewards expect to see a steady progression in the number of rides taken. The following benchmarks serve as a guide:

1st season: Minimum of 3 rides

2nd season: Minimum of 6 rides

3rd season and beyond: Minimum of 12 rides

20. If these benchmarks are not met, the Apprentice must appear before the Stipendiary Stewards to justify why their licence should be renewed.

21. General Suitability ("Fit and Proper" Test)

22. The GRA must be satisfied that the applicant is a fit and proper person to hold a jockey's licence. This determination will consider any information or circumstances the GRA deems relevant.

23. Factors Considered in Assessing Suitability

24. The following are among the factors the GRA may consider:

- (i) Criminal history: Any criminal conviction in Mauritius or abroad must be disclosed. A Certificate of Character is required.

- (ii) Pending criminal proceedings, particularly those involving dishonesty, fraud, violence, sexual misconduct, or animal welfare issues.
- (iii) Civil judgments or settlements that may reflect negatively on the applicant's integrity or suitability.
- (iv) Regulatory history with the GRA, other turf authorities, or other sports regulators, particularly any breaches of rules or misconduct.

25. The applicant's conduct in prior dealings with:

- (i) The GRA during current or past licence applications
- (ii) Other regulators or racing authorities
- (iii) Any dismissal or resignation from positions of trust due to concerns over honesty or integrity.
- (iv) Drug or alcohol abuse, or other behaviours that may compromise safety, health, or professionalism.
- (v) Susceptibility to influence or corruption, including associations with individuals who pose a threat to the integrity of horse racing.

26. The GRA will exercise its discretion in assessing each application, considering the totality of the applicant's conduct, competence, integrity, and associations. The overriding objective is to protect the integrity of racing in Mauritius and ensure that only individuals who meet the highest professional and ethical standards are licensed.

27. Licensing Outcome

28. Where all mandatory criteria are met, and no concerns regarding suitability arise, the GRA may grant the licence. Conversely, if an applicant fails to meet the required standards or if other concerns exist—particularly those affecting the integrity or reputation of the sport—the application may be refused.