61D-2.024 Track General Rules.

1. Chapter 61D-2, F.A.C., applies to all permitholders conducting racing in Florida.
2. The permitholder shall notify the division of any significant changes to track dimensions or design.
3. All racing permitholders shall at all times maintain their track surfaces in good condition and shall have proper implements to maintain a uniform track surface.
4. All tracks shall have an inner rail and an outer rail. Both rails shall be designed not to collapse or break away when a contestant is running parallel to the rail bumps, lunges or falls into the rail during normal training or racing.
5. A race track shall not require the racing animal to change its course in response to any obstacles on the racing surface.
6. All race tracks must be oval in shape.

Rulemaking Authority 550.0251 FS. Law Implemented 550.0251, 550.2415 FS. History–New

61D-2.025 Race General Rules.

1. Each race must have at least eight entrants with a minimum of at least six contestants in each race.
2. Each race, with the exception of a harness race, must start by use of a box or gate.
3. Each greyhound race:
   a. Must be conducted on a track that is at least 1,250 feet in length and at least 20 feet in width; and
   b. Must not be shorter than 1,250 feet in length.
4. Each quarter horse or any statutorily authorized substitute breed race conducted under a quarter horse permit:
   a. Must be conducted on a track that is at least 1,300 feet in length and at least 70 feet in width; and
   b. Must not be shorter than 330 feet in length.
5. Each thoroughbred race:
   a. Must be conducted on a track that is at least 4,620 feet in length and at least 70 feet in width; and
   b. Must not be shorter than 3,960 feet in length.
6. Each harness race:
   a. Must start by use of a rolling gate;
   b. Must be conducted on a track that is at least 3,300 feet in length and at least 80 feet in width; and
   c. Must not be shorter than 3,300 feet in length.
7. All racing contestants must compete simultaneously on a common track.
8. Any race that does not meet the requirements of this rule shall exclude the race from being counted as part of the performance.

Rulemaking Authority 550.0251 FS. Law Implemented 550.0251 FS. History–New

61D-2.026 Jai Alai Game General Rules.

1. Chapter 61D-2, F.A.C., applies to all permitholders conducting jai alai games in Florida.
2. The permitholder shall notify the division of any significant changes to court dimensions or design.
3. Jai alai permitholders shall at all times maintain their court surfaces in good condition and shall have proper implements to maintain a uniform court surface.
4. Jai alai games must be conducted on an indoor, three-walled court meeting the following requirements:
   a. The side wall must be between 175 to 180 feet long and 40 to 50 feet in height;
   b. The front wall and back wall must be at least 35 feet in width and height; and
   c. The front wall must be made of granite and the other two walls and floor must be made of granite or gunite.
5. Each jai alai game must be played to a minimum of 15 points each game.
6. Jai alai permitholders must establish a rotational system of players of at least eight different players.
7. Jai alai players must be certified by a recognized national or international jai alai association.
8. Any jai alai game that does not meet the requirements of this rule shall exclude the game from being counted as part of the performance.

Rulemaking Authority 550.0251 FS. Law Implemented 550.0251 FS. History–New

Draft (9/4/13)
61D-2.027 Performances.
(1) Permit holders may not conduct more than two performances during one operating day.
(2) A performance may not begin within 60 minutes from the end of the previous performance.
(3) A matinee performance shall not begin after 6:00 p.m. and evening performance shall not begin before 6:00 p.m.
(4) Each performance shall have a separation of race numbers and performance numbers in the internal totalisator system.
(5) Exotic wagers may not be commingled races or games from end of one performance to the start of the subsequent performance.
(6) Each performance shall have a separate racing or game program.


61D-2.028 Jockey Requirements.
(1) No person under 18 years of age shall be licensed by the division as a jockey.
(2) A jockey shall be physically able to participate as a jockey.
(3) A new applicant shall show competence by the demonstration of riding ability. The demonstration of riding ability is defined at a minimum as:
   (a) Breaking with a horse in company from the starting gate;
   (b) Working a horse in company around the turn and down the stretch;
   (c) Switching the riding crop from one hand to the other while maintaining control of the horse in a stretch drive;
   (d) Causing a horse to switch leads coming out of the turn.
(4) The applicant shall submit written verification from the stewards confirming compliance with paragraphs (3)(a) through (d) above.
(5) A jockey shall not be an owner or trainer of any horse competing at the race meeting where the jockey is riding.
(6) A person whose weight exceeds 130 pounds at the time of application shall not be licensed as a jockey.
(7) During the conduct of a pari-mutuel race, each jockey shall wear racing silks consisting of white pants and racing colors registered with the racing secretary. The stewards may authorize a temporary substitution of racing colors when necessary.
(8) The racing colors to be worn by each jockey in a race shall be described in the program, and any change shall be announced prior to the start of the race.
(9) Jockeys must wear a protective helmet and boots which have been specifically designed for horse racing when riding in races or when exercising horses.


61D-2.029 Qualifications of Horses to Start.
Before a horse is permitted to start, the racing secretary shall ensure that at least ten published past performances, whether in races or workouts, are available to enable the public to make a reasonable assessment of the horse's capabilities.