

REA Agistment Rules & Updates as at Dec 2012

REA Agistment

Agistment facilities are available to financial members of the REA.

There are five single agistment paddocks (strip paddocks) catering for a maximum of 2 horses each (horses have the one owner) adjacent to the riding arena and four 3 horse (multi-owner) paddocks.

Agistment is provided on a "first in" basis. Given the location and standard of the agistment facilities and the riding arena there is generally a waiting list of members requiring agistment.

Single membership enables a member to apply to agist one horse, whilst family membership enables a member to apply to agist two horses at the REP.

The application for agistment must be made by a member over the age of 18 years. The Agistee is the person responsible for the care, custody and control of a horse residing at the REP. All costs connected with the agistment of the horse are borne by the agistee.

The REA Agistment Officer is the first point of contact and is responsible for all agistment applications and matters arising.

REA Agistment Process

1. An Agistment "Expression of Interest" Form must be completed by the Agistee for each horse and submitted to the REA Agistment Officer to be placed on the "Agistment wait list".
2. Should agistment space be available, each person on the 'Agistment wait list' will be contacted by phone, email & text by the REA Agistment Officer, before proceeding to the next person on the Agistment wait list.
3. Once the offer of an agistment spot is accepted, the new agistee must complete an "REA Agistment Application Form" with proof of vaccinations, to the REA Agistment Officer for REA Management Committee approval.
4. Wait for REA Committee Approval. Horses **must not** occupy this vacant agistment spot until Committee approval has been given.
5. Pay Bond to REA Treasurer and take up agistment spot. Agistment fees are invoiced from Sunday and ends on a Saturday. A probationary period of 3 months applies to all new agistees.

The REA Agistment Application, forms the agistment contract between the agistee and the REA.

Agistment is not transferable. The agistment runs with the agistee. Therefore should the agistee sell or lease the horse to another person, the horse must be removed from the REP and a new application for agistment be made.

Recommendations

When you are putting your horse in a new paddock:

- Check the electric fencing is working. The REA Testing unit is in metal cupboard in the REA shed.
- Show your horse the boundaries and show it where the water trough is.
- Allow the horse sufficient daylight to get its bearings in the new paddock.
- Keep an eye on how it is getting along with the other horses.

- Do not take feed into the paddock to catch your horse as you may find you have all the horses trying to catch you.
- When hand feeding your horse remove it from the agistment paddock to ensure the safety of yourself and your horse.
- When releasing your horse in the paddock turn it to face the gate so that you have time to get out of its way before it moves off to join the other horses.
- When you are catching your horse make sure it can hear you coming. Approach your horse's shoulder and slip the lead rope around its neck before putting on the halter.
- Don't run or make loud noises as this could startle your horse.

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Agistment Fees

Agistment fees are set by the REA Management Committee.

The REA Agistment fees are calculated, from Sunday to Saturday every week and issued monthly.

2012 - Agistment fees are as follow;

\$25/ week per 1 horse in a single strip paddock & and extra \$15/for a 2nd horse (subject to REA Approval)

\$20/ week per 1 horse in the large shared paddocks.

The agistment fees cover lease costs, rates, insurance, maintenance, water, etc. agistment fees may be increased at any time by the REA Management committee (generally at the commencement of a new calendar year) however four weeks written notice will be provided.

Bonds

A bond equal to four weeks agistment fees is required prior to commencement of the agistment period. Your bond will be refunded in full when your agistment is cancelled (by either party) if there are no outstanding agistment fees.

Renewal of Agistment

Agistment contracts must be renewed by **31 December each year**. The secretary will send you the REA Agistment Application via email in November together with a notice for any outstanding agistment fees for the year. The contract (ie: REA Agistment Application) must be completed and returned together with payment for any outstanding agistment fees for the year and Immunisation certificates/receipts by 31 December.

If you fail to comply with this requirement your agistment contract may be terminated and you will be required to pay all outstanding fees and remove your horse from the REA within 2 weeks of notice of termination.

Cancellation of Agistment Contract

The REA requires two weeks written notice, if you wish to remove your horse from the REP. If your agistment contract is terminated by the REA Management Committee for any reason, you will have 14 days from when notice is given, to vacate the REP. During that time, you or anyone else is not permitted to ride your horse/s on REP property. Once your horse is removed from the REP and subject to having current membership you may recommence use of the REP riding facilities.

Payment of Agistment Fees

Agistment fees must be paid four weeks in advance, commencing on a Sunday and ending on a Saturday. Monthly invoices will be issued by the REA Treasurer for payment within 14 days.

Agistment fees may be paid by:

- Direct Debit into Redlynch Equestrian Association account

BSB 633108 Account 1142 84037

with a reference stated for identifying payments made.

- Cheque by mail to PO Box 194, Redlynch QLD 4870.

Failure to pay agistment fees

Should you fail to pay your agistment fees in accordance with the agistment contract requirements the agistment contract will be terminated and you will be required to remove your horse from the REP within 14 days.

If you owe agistment fees or other charges lawfully imposed by the REA in excess of \$300 your horse will be sold in whatever manner the President of the REA deems fit. Following such sale the proceeds shall be distributed as follows:

1. Payment of all expenses incurred in such sale;
2. Payment of monies owing to the REA Inc;
3. Payment of balance to the agistee.

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Liability for Loss, Injury or Damage

While your horse is agisted at the REP, the REA will not be liable for any sickness, disease, death or injury suffered by the horse or any other matter arising from or connecting to the agistment of the horse.

All reasonable and proper care of the property is taken by the REA, but all risks are assumed by the owner of the horse. It is the horse owners responsibility to insure their horse and horse gear/equipment against all risks while they are on the property or being transported.

In the unfortunate event that an agisted horse dies, its remains may be required to be removed from the REP. Immediate contact with the REA President, or Management Committee is required. Burial may be arranged on the REP grounds, under some circumstances. Please be advised these circumstances may be decided on by environmental legislation and council regulations. The President and Management Committee understand this is a sensitive and emotional ordeal, and will work with you to minimise distress.

Suitability of Horses to be Agisted

Stallions, riggs and mares with foals at foot are not permitted to be agisted at the REP. Horse's with vices e.g.. windsucking, cribbing, biting, kicking etc, must be identified on the Agistment Application. These vices may affect an agistment application being accepted by the REA Management Committee. If full disclosure of your horse's vices is not made on REA Agistment Application and subsequently become evident by either causing or Vices being passed on to another horse, the REA Management Committee may terminate the agistment contract and you will be required to remove your horse from the REP.

Vet and Farrier

You are responsible for calling and paying for your own Vet and Farrier as required. The REA Committee will notify the horse owner immediately they become aware that a horse is suffering from any significant or noticeable sickness, disease or injury.

You must notify the REA immediately you become aware that your horse is suffering from any significant or noticeable sickness, disease or injury. The name and contact number of your Vet and farrier and your emergency contact number must be included on the agistment contract. You must advise the REA if any of these contacts and numbers change. If your horse is badly injured or very ill and the REA is unable to contact you immediately, we will call your Vet on your behalf. All costs must be paid by the agistee.

Access to Agistment Paddocks

Access to agistment paddocks is restricted to agistees and any person authorised by the agistee to enter (ie: farrier, vet, etc). Physical access to two of the three horse paddocks is currently via another agistment paddock. Riding is not permitted in and/or through agistment paddocks. To ensure the safety of horses and agistees, horses being moved through paddocks must be led by halter and lead rope. Horses should not be fed in gate ways or on paths that may block other agistees accessing their horses safely. Please ensure connecting gates are secure at all times.

Feeding

It is your responsibility to provide supplementary food for your horse. All horses agisted at the REP **must** be hand fed as well as allowing the horses to graze on the grass. In times of extended dry weather in addition to supplementary food you may be required to provide bales of grass hay in your paddock for your horse to graze on.

Watering

It is your responsibility to ensure all water troughs your horse uses, are regularly cleaned, fully operational and contain adequate water. In times of extended dry, watering of paddocks may be required to maintain grass coverage.

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Worming, Drenching, Vaccinating, Teeth - Including NEW Hendra Virus immunisation!

As the horse owner/Lessee, it is your responsibility to maintain the condition of your horses teeth and to worm, drench and vaccinate your horse against tetanus and strangles regularly.

All agistees **must** be able to provide documentary proof of vaccination for tetanus & strangles in the form of a receipt of vaccination purchase & batch no (if self administering) or vet certificate/invoice to the REA Agistment Officer.

As at 31/12/2012 it will be **compulsory** for all REA agistees to have had immunisation against Hendra Virus. Proof of the 2 rounds of Hendra immunisation must accompany your REA Agistment Contract before taking up an agistment spot at the REA. Hendra Vaccination also applies to overnight visitors, casual/temporary night agistment at the REP.

Condition of your Horse

The REP is in a location highly visible to the general community, in order to maintain the reputation of the REA as an association that promotes good horse care and horsemanship, horses agisted at the REP must be maintained in "good" condition at all times.

Both the horse owner and the REA may be held legally liable if agisted horses are not properly looked after.

The Management Committee will use the (*extract from AHRC Level 1 Equestrian Coach (Recreational), B & M Hartog 1998*) for assessing the condition of a horse. Should the condition of your horses be assessed as "poor", "very poor" or "very fat" you will be required to implement a feeding program to ensure your horse's condition improves. Should you fail to do so you, your agistment contract will be terminated, and you will be required to remove your horse from the REP immediately. Extremes on both end of the scale are not good.

Transfer of Responsibility for your horse

If for some reason you are not able to attend to your horse for a period of time you must arrange for another REA member to do so (as only REA members are permitted to access the REP). You must also advise the REA Committee prior to the period where the responsibility for care of your horse/s is transferred. The name, address and contact phone number of the member and period of time must be advised to the REA committee prior to the period commencing.

Property Maintenance

Maintenance of agistment paddocks

Fences

Agistees are responsible for the maintenance of their paddock fence lines and replacing broken insulators and rust prevention on galvanised corner posts. Please check the electric fence line for overhanging trees and sticks and weeds on a regular basis to ensure the electric fences are fully operational. An electric fence test unit, replacement insulators etc can be found in the REA cupboard. Wire brush and "Cold Gal" rust preventative paint is also in the shed cupboard. Please advise the REA Maintenance Officer of any major problems with the fencing.

Slashing/Spraying

All agistees are responsible to periodically mow the grass in their agistment paddock. Agistees must complete a tractor induction before use of the REA mower and the 'Tow and Collect manure collector'. All agistees are responsible for regular spraying of weeds in their agistment paddocks in order to minimise weed infestations and along fence lines.

Mucking out the paddocks

Agistees are responsible for regular collection/removal of horse manure from the REA paddocks. Manure may be stockpiled and removed on a regular basis. Manure may also be placed around trees in the paddocks etc.

Mowing/dispersal of manure in Main Riding Arena

Strip Paddock Agistees are encouraged to assist in the dispersal of manure in the main arena by mowing or towing the gate behind the tractor regularly during the dry months. This will assist with parasite management and improve the aesthetics of the REP.

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Covered Stalls

All REA members may use the covered stalls as required. The Agistment Officer is to be sent a Ph text with your name and stall number when you occupy a covered stall. Manure and excess feed/hay must be removed from the stalls after use and placed around the trees. Gates are to be kept closed and latched at all times. The covered stalls must not be used as temporary agistment.

The Hospital stall is for use by sick or injured horses, preference of this stall will be given to the horse in most need or accompanied by a Vet Certificate.

As of 31/12/2012 All horses who wish to remain at the REP overnight, must have proof of being fully immunised against Hendra Virus.

Night agistment in the Riding Arena

If you are an Agistee with horse/s agisted in a strip paddock adjacent to the riding arena you are entitled to release your horse/s into the riding arena during the following times:

Summer 6.30pm – 7.00am weekdays
6.00pm – 7.00am weekends

Winter 6.00pm – 7.30am weekdays
6.00pm – 7.00am weekends

Your horse/s must not be released whilst the arena is in use or when visitors are camping in the main arena. You are required to notify users/riders that you are about to release your horse and allow them enough time to dismount safely, tend their horse/s and/or leave the arena.

Casual/Temporary Night Agistment

REA Members and multi-horse paddock agistees may apply to the Agistment Officer to agist their horse/s in the Jump Arena at night for up to 3 nights/week maximum. An REA Agistment Application and proof of Hendra vaccinations must be submitted to the Agistment Officer prior to any casual/temporary night agistment at the REP. Approval from the Agistment Officer must be obtained each night casual/temporary agistment is required. A charge of \$2/horse/night is payable in advance.

REA Flood Plan

Due to seasonal flooding at the REA, Agistee's in the large shared paddocks may need to be evacuated to the covered stalls during the day and returned to their paddocks when flooding subsides. In the event of extended flooding periods, the REA agistment Officer will plan and co-ordinate all night releases of agistees into the main or jump arena should it be required.

Evacuation of agistees horses to higher ground ie: covered stalls should be conducted or agreed to by the Agistee. Crossing of fast flowing creeks should be avoided and personal safety must be exercised at all times.

Some Agistees have expressed that **they do not wish to evacuate their horses** during seasonal flooding as they have adequate high ground within their paddocks. Please respect their wishes, by not moving any other agistee horse, unless you have their permission to do so.

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Cyclones

"A cyclone is a violent storm characterised by high winds rotating about a calm center of low atmospheric pressure that can produce winds in excess of 200 km/h which can cause extensive damage and result in death or injury caused by flooding, buildings collapsing or flying debris.

(Source: BOM Website)

The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) issues: 1 of 2 Community Announcements

a) "**A Cyclone Watch**". ie: when a cyclone is expected to hit within **48 hours**.

b) "**A Cyclone Warning**". ie: when a cyclone is expected to hit within **24 hours**.

- **A Cyclone Warning is Serious!! This is the Highest level of alert from BOM.**
- they identify communities likely to be hit,
- the name of the cyclone,
- its position,
- severity & movement. Communities under threat will be advised to take certain steps.
- intensity,
 - Category 1 - wind gusts less than 125 km/hr
 - Category 2 - wind gusts 125 to 169 km/hr
 - Category 3 - wind gusts 170 to 224 m/hr
 - Category 4 - wind gusts 225 to 279 km/hr
 - Category 5 - wind gusts more than 280 m/hr

(Source: BOM Website)

REA Cyclone Plan

When a **Cyclone Watch** has been issued by BOM;

- Agistees are required to prepare & remove any loose items from their paddock.
- All Members are to assist with packing up the REA, in preparation for a Cyclone Warning.
- Members wishing to use the REA as a cyclone shelter for their horses are to submit their Agistment Contracts to the Agistment Officer a.s.a.p. or place them in the box in the shed.
- If windy, Strip paddock agistees have preference to the covered stalls, & they should move their horses to the covered stalls in case of falling branches.
- Shared paddock agistees are to remain in their respective paddocks until a "Cyclone Warning" is issued by BOM.

When a **Cyclone Warning** is issued by BOM: **This is Serious!!**

- **RIDING AT THE REA IS NOT PERMITTED.** Riders are to dismount and cease riding at the REP.
- All agistees are to be released into the main arena.
- Horses are NOT to be stabled in the stalls during a Cyclone Warning.
- Rugs are to be removed from all horses during a Cyclone Warning.
- Halters with name tags & contact details are optional.
- Masking tape your name & contact details to your horses mane is preferred, just in case boundary fences are damaged and horses escape from the REP.
- All agistee horses & Members horses will be released into the main arena & not separated.
- Go home & keep safe. Listen to radio broadcasts for further BOM updates.

Once a **Cyclone Warning** is cancelled and it is safe for you to return to the REA;

- Catch your horse and check for any injuries and provide assistance to others, if required.
- Take your horse home (if a temporary agistee) or move it to a stall a.s.a.p.
- Agistees must thoroughly check paddock fence lines and remove any debris.
- Return your horse to its agistment paddock when you are satisfied with its condition.
- Assist in main arena clean-up & repairs, if required.
- Report any damage or loss a.s.a.p. Write it down and leave it in the forms box in the shed.
- If the REP is deemed safe, the REA will be re-opened to riding activities a.s.a.p.