WAIKATO RACING HUB

WAIKATO HARNESS RACING

TAMAHERE RACEWAY

DAILY TRAINING & TRACK MAINTENANCE OPERATING PLAN

A typical training day — for planning assessment purposes

DRAFT 1— 14 September 2026 | Prepared for BCD Group / Project Planning Team

1. Purpose and Status

This document describes the anticipated day-to-day training and track maintenance operations at the WRH Waikato Harness Racing's Tamahere Raceway on a typical, non-raceday. It has been prepared at the request of the project planning team to sit alongside the WRH Waikato Harness Racing's Raceday Operations Plan and provide context for the assessment of environmental effects — in particular hours of operation, vehicle movements, staffing, lighting, noise, and water use associated with routine daily activity.

Training days will represent the overwhelming majority of the facility's operating calendar — approximately 30 days per year, compared with a projected 50 racedays. The routine daily pattern described here, rather than raceday activity, therefore defines the facility's ordinary operating character and its typical effects on the surrounding environment.

All figures are indicative and based on established operating practice at comparable New Zealand harness training track scaled to the projected horse population. Final operating protocols will be confirmed by facility management prior to commissioning.

2. Facility Context and Operating Assumptions

- Projected training population at maturity: Approximately 200 horses training per day on the training tracks.
- Training infrastructure: training track (inside the main raceway), horse walkers, and stabling.
- Training operates 7 days per week, 52 weeks per year. Sunday and public holiday activity is typically lighter (roughly 40–60% of weekday volume).
- The dominant training activity window is early morning: approximately 05:30–10:30 (06:00 start in winter). Afternoon activity is limited to stable routines, light exercise (walkers), and track maintenance.

3. Typical Training Day Timeline

The table below sets out the indicative sequence of a standard weekday. Times shift seasonally (earlier starts in summer heat; later light in winter).

3.1 Early Morning — Track Preparation and Opening

Time	Activity	Responsibility	Notes
05:00	Track staff arrive; site security disarmed; plant started	Track Manager	First staff vehicle movements (2-3 vehicles)
05:10	Training lights on, track inspection, track watered and groomed;	Track Manager	Tractor and light plant operations

Time	Activity	Responsibility	Notes
05:30	Track open for training; first horses onto surfaces	Track Manager	Track lighting operates until daylight (seasonal)

3.2 Peak Training Window

Time	Activity	Responsibility	Notes
05:30–08:30	Peak trackwork period — highest horse numbers on all surfaces;	Trainers / Track Manager	Peak on-site population and vehicle presence. Float arrive starts at approx.05:30
07:00	Vet, farrier and equine service providers on site attending stables	Trainers	Light commercial vehicle arrivals
08:30–10:30	Second wave — slower work, education of young horses,	Trainers	Horse numbers taper steadily

3.3 Late Morning — Track Close and Midday Maintenance

Time	Activity	Responsibility	Notes
10:30	Tracks closed to horses; final float departures	Track Manager	Outbound float movements largely complete by 11:00
11:00–13:00	Primary daily maintenance: Debris removal, watering, and grooming;	Track staff	Tractor and light plant operations
12:00-13:00	Manure and soiled bedding collection from trainer precincts to central composting/removal facility	Facilities	3 truck movement per week, daytime only

3.4 Afternoon and Evening

Time	Activity	Responsibility	Notes
13:00–16:00	Stable routines only — feeding, grooming, walkers; no fast work	Trainers	Low activity; ambient noise minimal
14:00–16:00	Scheduled maintenance and machinery servicing	Track staff	Low activity; ambient noise minimal
16:00–17:00	Evening stable round; feed deliveries received (scheduled)	Trainers / Facilities	Bulk feed/bedding deliveries 3 per week, daytime only
17:00	Site secured; track staff depart; security patrols/CCTV overnight	Facilities	Low activity; ambient noise minimal
Overnight	Security and overnight stable checks	Automated / Security	Silent operation

4. Track and Surface Maintenance Program

Track maintenance follows a layered cycle — daily, weekly, and seasonal — designed to protect surface integrity, horse welfare, and racing quality. The indicative program below reflects standard practice for racing and training centre.

4.1 Daily

Surface / Asset	Activity	Timing
Tracks	Debris removal, watering, grooming	11:00–13:00
Water system	Refill the water tanks from water pond	13:00 – 15:00

4.2 Weekly

Surface / Asset	Activity	Timing
Tracks	As required - Grading and levelling, harrowing and fixing washouts	Afternoon
Plant & machinery	Servicing, washdown at bunded washpad	Afternoons
Stable precinct roads	Sweeping; stormwater inlet checks	Weekly

4.3 Seasonal / Periodic

Surface / Asset	Activity	Timing
Levelling	Levelling to ensure banking has even coverage of sand	Monthly
Harrowing	Loosens the top 50mm to ensure that the track doesn't get too hard	As required
Grading	Level out low and high spots	As required
Irrigation Pond & drainage	Pump servicing, drainage jetting	Autumn
Trees & landscaping	Pruning, planting maintenance per landscape management plan	Seasonal

5. Indicative Daily Vehicle Movements

The profile below indicates typical weekday movement volumes at facility maturity. Movements are heavily concentrated in the 05:15 window and are predominantly light vehicles.

Vehicle Type	Movements/Day	Pattern
Track staff, trainers, jockeys & stablehand light vehicles	90–100	Inbound 05:15–07:30; outbound 09:00–12:00; smaller afternoon shift.
Horse floats / trucks (float-in trainers)	4-5	Inbound 05:30–07:30; outbound 08:30–10:30
Service providers (vets, farriers, physio)	2-4	06:30–12:00
Feed, bedding & bulk deliveries	1-2	Scheduled, 09:00–16:00 only
Waste / manure removal	1	Midday – 13:00

Note: at maturity the majority of the training population is expected to be stabled on-site, materially reducing float movements compared with the current dispersed Cambridge model, where horses are floated daily between private properties and the training centre. Consolidation on a single site is a net traffic benefit for the wider road network.

6. Staffing on a Typical Day

- Track & grounds staff: 2-3 (05:00 start; finish ~14:00–17:30 staggered).
- Facility operations, administration & security: 2-3 across the day.
- Trainer employees (stablehands, riders): indicatively 90 on site during the morning window, employed by individual training businesses.
- Visiting service providers (vets, farriers, dentists, physiotherapists): 3-6 per day.

7. Environmental and Amenity Considerations

7.1 Hours and Noise

The principal noise-generating activities are early-morning track preparation plant (from ~05:10) and midday/afternoon maintenance machinery. Trackwork itself is inherently quiet — hoofbeats, low-volume PA is not used on training days, and no crowds are present. Heavier maintenance are confined to daytime hours. Evening and overnight activity is limited to security.

7.2 Lighting

Track and stable precinct lighting operates from approx. 05:10 until daylight during autumn–spring months (from approx. 06:00 in winter) Lighting design will be directional and shielded to training surfaces and working areas, with spill managed at boundaries in accordance with the lighting assessment. Night racing is proposed (refer Raceday Operations Plan).

7.3 Water

The track surface is watered during the day, via a truck mounted water tanker. Moisture is managed to targets and logged daily by the Track Manager. Water demand is highest November–March.

7.4 Manure, Bedding and Waste

The stables have a rubber mat floor that ensures that any horse effluent and manure is collected in the bedding and removed daily. Manure and soiled bedding are collected daily from stable precincts to a central covered facility for composting and/or off-site removal (1 truck movements daily). Washdown areas are bunded and drained to the site's treatment systems in accordance with the stormwater and wastewater design.

7.5 Biosecurity and Horse Welfare

Standard training-centre biosecurity protocols apply: horse identification on entry, isolation capability for suspect cases, and vet oversight. Continuous health-monitoring technology is expected to be progressively adopted across the training population, supporting early detection of illness and heat stress.

8. Weekly and Seasonal Variation

- Sundays and public holidays: reduced volumes (~40–60% of weekday), later starts, no scheduled maintenance plant beyond essential work.
- Winter: later daylight extends lighting operation and there is a later arrival on site in the morning (approx. 06:00).
- Renovation periods: individual surfaces closed in stages and with 2 tracks, training can continue on either track

Prepared for BCD Group / project planning team. Figures indicative; to be refined with facility management protocols prior to commissioning.