

Objective gait analysis using Sleip

As part of the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission's (QRIC) pre-race veterinary assessment process in the lead-up to select races, Sleip objective gait analysis software may be used to assess a horse's action.

Sleip assists QRIC veterinarians by helping to develop an understanding of a horse's usual pattern of movement. It may also assist in identifying, investigating and interpreting any change in gait or movement pattern.

The aim is to support informed, evidence-based decision-making and to reduce the need for last-minute requests for additional information or investigation.

Usually, the QRIC Veterinary Department will request at least one Sleip recording in the week preceding the pre-race veterinary examination. QRIC veterinary staff will review the recordings and may contact you to discuss any observations or request further information if required.

Sleip does not replace the judgement of the examining veterinarian. It is an additional tool to support a shared understanding of the horse's movement, assist veterinary assessment and support informed decision-making.

The Sleip system is straightforward to use, with instructions provided within the application. Screenshots have been provided overleaf for convenience and reference.

Important Information

Recordings should accurately represent your horse's normal pattern of movement. Where the horse's action at the physical veterinary examination differs significantly from that shown in the Sleip recording(s), this may prompt closer review by QRIC veterinarians and may result in further assessment, or influence consideration of the horse's suitability to race.

Accordingly, trainers are advised not to upload a recording if the horse has recently received any analgesic, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication or other treatment likely to mask discomfort or alter gait.

Recording guidance (to support optimal results)

To obtain the most accurate and useful recordings:

- Hold the phone in **landscape orientation at eye level**, and keep it as still as possible.
- Ensure the horse's **head, pelvis, and limbs** are clearly visible throughout the recording.
- Only the **horse and handler** should be visible in the frame.
- Trot the horse **back and forth twice** to capture sufficient strides for reliable analysis.
- Maintain a **steady, unrushed trot**.
- Avoid abnormal head carriage (e.g. tight lead, lifting the head with the rope) and avoid chasing or rushing the horse, as this can result in uneven or unreliable trot-ups.
- The handler should run **beside**, not in front of, the horse, allowing the head to move freely.
- Select a quiet, familiar environment with minimal background activity or other horses.

If you have any difficulty downloading, accessing or using Sleip, please contact the QRIC Veterinary Department for support and advice by email at vets@qric.qld.gov.au.

Please note Sleip is currently only supported on iPhones 8 or later.

Sleip

04.

Record the horse
straight from behind

Trot the horse 30-40m
away from the camera

01.

Find a good location

- 30-40m
- Straight
- Flat
- Well-lighted

A tripod is useful but not essential

05.

Turn the horse around
and trot back towards
the camera

06.

Repeat. You should
trot the horse back
and forth twice in the
same recording

02.

Rotate your phone to
landscape mode

Record at eye-level



03.

Press start to record



07.

Press stop and upload
the recording

