

HRNSW RACE PROGRAMMING & HANDICAPPING - GUIDELINES

The purpose of the Race Programming & Handicapping Guidelines is to facilitate transparency in relation to the programming, handicapping and field selection of races conducted in New South Wales. These Guidelines are to be read in conjunction with other HRNSW Racing Policies and relate to Menangle Midweek, A, B, C Classification & Non TAB Meetings.

PROGRAMMING

Standard Eight (8) Race Program – A, B & C Classification Meetings

The following races may formulate a standard race program:

2YO

On rotation within a Region:

- 0 lifetime wins, or;
- no more than 1 lifetime win, or;
- no more than 2 lifetime wins, or;
- open to all 2YO's.

from time to time races are to be written for Fillies and/or Colts & Geldings

(will be written into a 2YO Calendar)

No Driver Concessions & No Mares Concessions

3YO

On rotation within a Region:

- 0 lifetime wins, or;
- open to all 3YO's.

from time to time races are to be written for Fillies and/or Colts & Geldings

No Driver Concessions & No Mares Concessions

4YO+

On rotation within a Region:

HRNSW Rewards Series Heats & Finals

- Up to 45 also eligible horses that have not won a race valued at \$5000 or more
- ***No Driver Concessions & No Mares Concessions***

Fillies & Mares

On rotation within a Region:

- Fillies & Mares Up to 60 – ***Driver Concessions Apply***

Open Age

Set races based on the following thresholds:

- Up to 49 – ***One Concession Only (Driver or Mares Concession)***
- Up to 55 – ***Double Concessions Apply***
- Up to 69 - ***Double Concessions Apply, also eligible horses with a claiming price between \$3,500 and \$5,000 (GST Inclusive)***
- Up to 75 - ***Double Concessions Apply***
- Up to 90 - ***Double Concessions Apply***
- Open - ***Double Concessions Apply***

Claimers in Ratings Events

Connections can nominate their Claiming horse with a price between \$3,500 and \$5,000 in the Up to 69 and Up to 90 Ratings Points races through HarnessWeb and are to advise their horses' Claiming Price in the Comments Box (i.e. \$5,000 Claiming Price).

\$3,500 Claimers will be considered for both Race Field Selection and in the Barrier Draw as a horse with 60 National Rating Points - ***No Driver Concessions & No Mares Concessions***

\$5,000 Claimers will be considered for both Race Field Selection and in the Barrier Draw as a horse with 65 National Rating Points ***No Driver Concessions & No Mares Concessions***

Claiming Events Claiming Race Programming in the Metropolitan Area will remain unchanged with ***No Driver Concessions & No Mares Concessions***:

- Menangle Tuesday Claiming Price of \$14,000 (GST Inclusive)
- Menangle Tuesday Claiming Price of \$9,000 (GST Inclusive)
- Penrith Thursday Claiming Price of \$6,000 (GST Inclusive)
- Bankstown Friday Claiming Price of \$6,000 (GST Inclusive)

Trotters in Pacing Races

50 or less remain the same number of National Rating Points

Trotters with National Rating Points of 50 or less will be considered for both Race Field Selection and in the Barrier Draw at the same number of points (i.e. a Trotter with National Rating Points of 47 can nominate for an Up to 49 National Rating Points race and will be considered as a 47 National Rating Points horse). **Driver & Mare Concessions are Applicable (hence a 54 rated Trotter can use a Driver or Mare Concession to race in an Up to 49 National Rating Points event).**

51 to 90 reduced to 50 National Rating Points

Trotters with National Rating Points between 51 and 90 will be considered for both Race Field Selection and in the Barrier Draw as a horse with 50 National Rating Points. (i.e. a Trotter with 86 National Rating Points can nominate for an Up to 55 National Rating Points race and will be considered as a 50 National Rating Points horse). **Driver and Mare Concessions are not Applicable.**

91 to 120 reduced by 40 National Rating Points

Trotters with National Rating Points between 91 and 120 will receive a 40 point reduction with respect to Race Field Selection and in the Barrier Draw. (i.e. a Trotter with 100 National Rating Points can nominate for an Up to 65 National Rating Points race and will be considered as a 60 National Rating Points horse). **Driver and Mare Concessions are not Applicable.**

FEATURE EVENTS

Club Feature Events may be programmed at race meetings (where the prizemoney and trophies exceed \$2,000 over the base prizemoney – includes Heats for Finals) and in such cases these races will replace the same Ratings event on the program. In these instances the barrier draw will be indicated prior to the close of nominations.

FIELD SELECTION

Race Series covered under separate HRNSW, Club or Futurity Policies will be selected in line with such Policies.

All other races will be selected based on Ratings Points from the Highest Points to the Lowest Points.

If there are multiple horses on the same points for the last position in a race field then horses shall be ranked based on dollars won in the last five (5) starts in descending order (highest to lowest).

Menangle Saturday Night

Ten (10) Starters will be drawn into every mobile start race.

Twelve (12) Starters will be drawn into every standing start race.

Menangle Tuesday, Bathurst, Goulburn, Newcastle & Riverina Paceway

Twelve (12) Starters will be drawn into every race.

All other race meetings

Ten (10) Starters will be drawn into every mobile start race.

Twelve (12) Starters will be drawn into every standing start race.

Emergencies

Emergencies are drawn into races where there is only one Division of the race conducted.

The number of starters in races and the barrier configurations at tracks with a circumference of 940m or greater will be reviewed by HRNSW in consultation with stakeholders.

Exclusions

Horses having their first start are guaranteed a start at A, B, C & Non-TAB Classification Meetings in races conducted for the base prizemoney (i.e. \$6,500, \$6,000, \$4,500 and \$2,000).

CONCESSIONS

Driver Concessions

Driver Concessions can be used in all races, except;

- a) 2YO races
- b) 3YO races
- c) Fillies and Mares cannot use a Drivers Concession in races with a back ≤ 50 National Rating Points
- d) Where it is stipulated in the race conditions that they do not apply

A Concession **MUST** be made when nominating the horse in HarnessWeb.

If you assign a Concession Driver and the Concession NOT claimed dot is highlighted **then a Concession will not be Claimed.**

To Claim a Concession with an assigned driver simply assign your Driver and Select Concession Claimed and your Concession will be Claimed based on the Number of Points your Driver can Claim.

To Claim a Concession without an assigned driver Select Concession Claimed and then select the number of Points you wish to Claim.

Search Driver

Driver Details

Concession

- Concession NOT claimed
- Concession claimed

Concession Claim

101 to 250 Claimed Wins
0 to 100 Claimed Wins

Driver Concessions in NSW are based on the following table:

Term 5 years from attainment of an initial B Grade Drivers Licence plus a 2 year extension if under 100 wins.

Races ≤\$14,999

Ratings Deduction	Driver
5	0-100 total wins
3	101-250 total wins

Mares Concessions

A mare receives a Ratings deduction of 5 points in all races, except;

- a) 2YO races
- b) 3YO races
- c) Where it is stipulated in the race conditions that they do not apply

A mare's concession is automatic in all races where a claim can be applied.

A mare can utilise a double claim in all eligible races by having a Concession Driver engaged.

For example:

A mare nominates for a \$6,500 race and has 75 Ratings Points, she will automatically drop to 70 with a mares concession and then connections engage a driver that has won 160 races meaning she will drop another 3 Ratings Points. She will therefore be assessed as a 67 rating horse.

BARRIER DRAWS

Barrier Draws are to be either based on Ratings Points or will be a Random Barrier Draw.

The Barrier Draw will be stipulated in the race program.

For Example:

An Up to 69 National Rating Points race is drawn as follows:

Draw	Rating
1	62 (67 rated Mare)
2	63
3	64 (74 rated Mare with a 5 Rating Deduction Driver)
4	64
5	65 (\$5,000 Claiming Price)
6	65
7	68
8	68 (73 rated horse with a 5 Rating Deduction Driver)
9	68
10	69 (72 rated horse with a 3 Rating Deduction Driver)

NOMINATIONS

All nominations **MUST** be lodged via HarnessWeb, no other form of nominating will be accepted.

Trainers who do not have the digital capacity to nominate may however do so through the Club Secretary who will email the nominations to the HRNSW Handicappers fifteen (15) minutes prior to the close of nominations. These persons must make application to and be approved by HRNSW in the first instance.

Note: HRNSW Handicappers will not accept nominations direct from Trainers who must utilise HarnessWeb, Club Secretaries or SMS Message response in the instances of extended nominations.

Nominations will **NOT** be displayed for any event at any stage.

Trainers must declare Concession Driver Claims when nominating, no Concession Driver Claims will be accepted after the close of nominations.

Stable Doubles

Nominations for all races are closed with no option to withdraw, except for stable doubles which **MUST** be noted in the comments box when nominating.

For example:

A trainer who has multiple horses nominated for a race and who doesn't want their horses to race against each other **MUST** note in the comments box "only 1 runner" and indicate which horse is preferred to start.

SPLITTING OF RACES

Owner, Trainer and Driver multiples are not considered when splitting races, the only consideration is National Rating Points. All horses will be selected based on their National Rating Points (horses with an unfulfilled engagement will only gain a start after all horses that do not have an unfulfilled engagement are listed as starters).

Note: A trainer with two or more horse nominated for a race will be obliged to start all horses selected in a Division if they are grouped together based Ratings Points, unless the trainer has submitted a note in the comments section of HarnessWeb.

For example:

A trainer nominates for an Up to 49 Ratings Points event

Division 1		Division 2	
Horse	Ratings Points	Horse	Ratings Points
A Trainer Jones	49	K Trainer Jones	45
B	49	L	45
C	49	M	45
D	49	N	45
E Trainer Jones	48	O Trainer Jones	45
F	48	P	44
G	48	Q	43
H	47	R	43
I	47	S	43
J	46	T	42

In this example Trainer Jones has requested in the comment box only one (1) starter in each Division.

Horse **A** would be included in Division 1 and Horse **E** is removed.

However due to Trainer Jones's Horse **E** being removed Horse **K** would be elevated from Division 2 up to Division 1 but Horse **K** also would be removed due to Trainer Jones requesting only one (1) starter.

Trainer Jones's horse **O** would however gain a start in Division 2.

Trainer Jones may stipulate the order in which of his four horses he would prefer to gain a start in the first instance.

Note:

A second division may only be conducted to assist with a standard eight (8) race program or if funded from the Unplaced Unfunded Prizemoney Fund.

Notwithstanding the above examples, races selected Bottom Up will be in the opposite order to such examples.

SPLITTING OF HEATS FOR FINALS

Horses will be listed in order of National Rating Points and split by order of entry.

For example: Twenty horses are nominated which will require two fields and thus the odd numbered horses will be drawn in Heat 1 and the even numbered horses will be drawn in Heat 2.

Heat 1	Heat 2
1	2
3	4
5	6
7	8
9	10
11	12
13	14
15	16
17	18
19	20

For example: Thirty Horses are nominated which will require three fields and thus these will be split as follows:

Heat 1	Heat 2	Heat 3
1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12
13	14	15
16	17	18
19	20	21
22	23	24
25	26	27
28	29	30

The same methodology would be adopted for additional Heats (Four, Five or Six).

Note: For Heats into Finals the use of the comment box to provide for only one horse per Heat will not be an option for trainers.

EXTENSION OF NOMINATIONS

Nominations are to be extended for individual races only, not the entire meeting.

When nominations are extended HRNSW will send Trainers within the Region a SMS as per the below example:

HRNSW: Penrith nominations extended until 12:00pm (time may vary) for codes PEC15051802 (7 nominations received) & PEC15051805 (6 nominations received)

Trainers who wish to enter a horse are able to nominate via HarnessWeb within the prescribed time or further necessary extension.

Club Secretaries will **NOT** be provided with a printout of horse nominations, they will be provided with the number of horses nominated for each race and the names of trainers who regularly race at the track who have not nominated.

Club Secretaries may make direct contact with trainers to attract additional horses when insufficient horses are nominated for individual races.

Club Secretaries must nominate horses electronically via email to the HRNSW Handicappers prior to the close of extended nominations.

All late nominations will be considered for a start in line with the Race Field Selection Policy, which stipulates the original nominations are assured a start.

For example:

There were seven (7) original nominations for the Up to 49 Ratings Points event. Five (5) late nominations are received within the extension period. The Handicappers will select the three (3) remaining starters from the five (5) late nominations based on Ratings Points.

DELETED RACES

Where a race is deleted from a programme trainers will be given the opportunity to nominate their horse(s) in another race on the programme (which may be out of class), if that race has position(s) available. This will be undertaken by the Club Secretary in order of Ratings Points from the horses nominated in the deleted race.

For example:

The Up to 49 National Rating Points race with five (5) nominations is deleted from the programme. These horses would be eligible to compete in the Up to 55 National Rating Points race which has nine (9) nominations. The Club Secretary would be provided with the list of eligible horses from the deleted race in Rating Points order (highest to lowest).

Horse A	49
Horse B	48
Horse C	46
Horse D	44
Horse E	43

The Club Secretary would then contact the trainers in order commencing with Horse A (the highest on Rating Points) until the position is taken in the field. A maximum 10 minutes will be allowed for contact and decision before the Club Secretary will proceed to the next horse in order. Therefore it is possible that the trainer of Horse C may take the position after a period of 20 minutes if the trainers of Horses A and B decline the opportunity.

The Club Secretary will not be provided with the names of those horses nominated in the Up to 55 National Rating Points race.

STANDARD RACE MEETINGS

Eight (8) races constitutes a standard race meeting (other than where indicated in the Race Dates Calendar), however additional 'guaranteed' races may extend the number of races to ten (10), taking into consideration the 10.30pm curfew for night meetings.

GENERAL

Out of Class Nominations

Horses are permitted to nominate out of class however fields are selected based on National Rating Points in descending order (Highest to Lowest).

In this instance connections are encouraged to nominate out of class and within class and to leave a preference in the Comment Box in HarnessWeb.

Ballots

Where a horse has been balloted from a race meeting in NSW that horse will be guaranteed a start at the next nomination in a base prizemoney funding race. Tabcorp Park Menangle and Carnival of Cups Feature races (above base funding) are not included. An unfulfilled engagement is not classified as a ballot.

For example: Horse 'Jones' is nominated for Penrith on July 5 and is not selected in a field and is nominated at Penrith on July 12 it will be guaranteed a start at the July 12 meeting.

Prior Commitment

Horses which are not engaged at a meeting held prior to the meeting being formed will be given preference at that meeting over horses which have an unfulfilled engagement other than races which carry prizemoney of \$15,000 or more.

For example: Horse 'Jones' is engaged at Penrith on July 5 or Bankstown on July 6 therefore it will not be drawn into a field at Menangle on July 10 before another horse which is not engaged in either Penrith or Bankstown. Naturally if there are insufficient nominations horse 'Jones' if nominated would be selected in the Menangle field.

Review

These Guidelines are under continuous review with stakeholders and may be amended by HRNSW if necessary after further consultation.

Rating Review Team

Harness Racing Australia has instigated a Rating Review Team.

The Rating Review Team meets on an as needs basis to discuss any issues that have been raised by stakeholders with respect to the National Rating Points implementation.

Any change to the Australian Handicapping Rules may require an amendment to these guidelines.

National Rating Points Matrix

Race Stake (\$)	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th - Last
0 - 2,500	2	0	0	0	0	0
2,501 – 4,999	3	1	0	0	0	-1
5,000 – 8,499	4	1	0	0	0	-1
8,500 – 14,999	5	1	0	0	0	-1
15,000 – 49,999	6	2	1	0	0	-2
50,000+	7	2	1	0	0	0

NSW PRIZEMONEY DISTRIBUTION

28 June 2019

HARNESS Racing New South Wales has today announced that the percentage prizemoney distribution for non-futurity races will be altered as of July 1 to accommodate the introduction of the National Rating Handicapping System.

As the National Rating Handicapping System attracts rating points for the second-placed horse and in races with prizemoney above \$15,000, the third-placed horse also attracts rating points a redistribution of the prizemoney was required.

The National Rating Handicapping System also allows for prizemoney through to the fifth-placed horse as horses through to fifth do not receive a reduction in rating points.

Prior to the implementation date of the percentage redistribution HRNSW only provided prizemoney above 2 per cent through to the fourth-placed horse therefore an adjustment to the distribution was also required.

The prizemoney distribution for races up to \$50,000 will be as follows:

- First 52%
- Second 18%
- Third 12%
- Fourth 6%
- Fifth 4%
- All other starters 2% each

The percentage prizemoney distribution for futurity races such as the NSW Breeders Challenge, Bathurst Gold Crown and Australian Pacing Gold or races \$50,000 and above are not affected by this decision of the HRNSW Board.

Place	Percentage	Prizemoney	Owner \$	Trainer \$	Driver \$	Driver Fee	Total
1st	52.00%	\$3,380.00	\$2,886.00	\$253.50	\$169.00	\$71.50	\$3,380.00
2nd	18.00%	\$1,170.00	\$952.25	\$87.75	\$58.50	\$71.50	\$1,170.00
3rd	12.00%	\$780.00	\$611.00	\$58.50	\$39.00	\$71.50	\$780.00
4th	6.00%	\$390.00	\$269.75	\$29.25	\$19.50	\$71.50	\$390.00
5th	4.00%	\$260.00	\$156.00	\$19.50	\$13.00	\$71.50	\$260.00
6th	2.00%	\$130.00	\$58.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$71.50	\$130.00
7th	2.00%	\$130.00	\$58.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$71.50	\$130.00
8th	2.00%	\$130.00	\$58.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$71.50	\$130.00
9th	2.00%	\$130.00	\$58.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$71.50	\$130.00
10th	2.00%	\$130.00	\$58.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$71.50	\$130.00
TOTAL	102.00%	\$6,630.00	\$5,167.50	\$448.50	\$299.00	\$715.00	\$6,630.00