



RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CONCESSION DRIVERS POLICY

28 January 2020

1. A Novice Concession Driver is a licensed driver who has held a licence for a period of less than five years from the date a Grade B licence was first granted.
2. Concession drivers will be divided into three Concession Groups depending upon the number of winning drives they have had.
3. For the purpose of Concession Drivers, race meetings will be categorised into three classifications:
 - a) **Metropolitan Prime** (Gloucester Park, Friday), plus any other race where the stake money is \geq \$15,000
 - b) **Provincial** (includes race meetings classified as Metro Midweek)
 - c) **Community** (includes race meetings classified as Country)
4. A new B Grade Driver commences with a full concession at all venues (but will not be able to drive in metropolitan prime races until they meet the criteria for an A Grade Driver license). This is a **Community concession**.
5. Once a driver has more than 100 winners in total (or 20+ Metropolitan Prime Wins) they lose their concession at Community race meetings. This driver continues to have a concession at Metropolitan Prime and Provincial classified race meetings. **This is a Provincial concession**.
6. Once a driver has more than 150 winners in total (or 35+ Metropolitan Prime Wins) they lose their Provincial concession and can only claim a concession at Metropolitan Prime races. **This is a Metro Concession**.
7. For the purposes of calculating a novice concession, a dead-heat for first placing shall not count as a win
8. A Novice Concession Driver Claim will be for a five-year period and shall apply from the issue date of the licence to drive in races or until a Novice Concession Driver has driven 50 winners at prime metropolitan race meetings or 200 winners in total, whichever comes first.
9. At the completion of the five year period, a driver who has not driven 50 winners at prime metropolitan race meetings or 200 winners in total, may apply to the licensing steward for an extension of up to 2 years provided, if an extension is granted;
 - a) The driver's performance will be reviewed every 6 months, or more frequently if stewards deem necessary,
 - b) The extension may be cancelled at any time if the driver is not demonstrating a commitment to pursuing a professional driving career.
10. When considering an extension the licensing steward will consider the following:
 - a) Extended periods of injury, or other health issues which caused the driver to be unable to drive in races (including pregnancy)
 - b) Employment circumstances which precluded the driver from being able to pursue a professional driving career
 - c) Other reasons put forward by the driver which indicate a determination and commitment to pursue a professional driving career
 - d) The licensing Steward will also consider reports from other stewards and the Driving Master when considering any application and review.
 - e) Disciplinary records will also be considered when an extension is applied for, and time lost due to suspension may preclude the extension being granted, or reduce the term of the extension.
11. This policy will apply to a driver that is eligible to claim a novice concession at the time of enactment. This policy will not apply to a driver that is not eligible for a novice concession under the policy existing at the time this policy comes into effect.



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12. A novice concession can only be claimed in a race where the conditions of the race stipulate.
13. Definitions
 - a) "Novice driver" means a licensed driver who is determined to be a Novice Concession Driver by a Controlling Body.
 - b) "Novice Concession Driver concession" means a concession given to a horse in a race whereby its HWOE are reduced by the Novice Driver's current HWOE Allowance.
14. A horse driven by a Novice Concession Driver claiming a concession can enter a race as determined by the concession clause of that race.
15. The Novice Concession Driver concession applies to race entry only and does not reduce a horse's HWOE for the purposes of the barrier draw.
16. To obtain a Novice Concession Claim in a race, the trainer of the horse must signify at the time of nomination that a novice concession is being claimed.
17. Notification of a specified Novice Concession Drivers for the purpose of a novice concession claim shall be made PRIOR TO Acceptance Time for the race meeting.
18. Where a Novice Concession Driver engaged to drive a horse with a novice concession allowance is unable to fulfil the driving engagement;
 - a) A replacement Novice Concession Driver shall be engaged to drive the horse.
 - b) Provided that where betting on the race has started the driver selected under clause (a) shall be of comparable ability to the replaced driver.
 - c) Where a suitable replacement Novice Concession Driver is not available the horse shall be withdrawn from the race without penalty.
19. When a Novice Concession Driver exceeds the maximum number of lifetime wins permitted for a concession claim and has further driving engagements, the driver will be permitted to claim the relevant concession/s for the remainder of such meeting and any other subsequent meetings where drivers have already been declared as per the advertised driver declaration deadline for the meeting.
20. When a Novice Concession Driver utilises a concession claim in a Heat and the horse he/she drives in the Heats qualifies for the Final, such driver will be eligible to claim that concession in the Final on the same horse even if such driver has won his/her final win for the respective concession claim.
21. If a horse races prior to Acceptance Time for a meeting thereby having its HWOE increased, then provided that such race is one in which a concession may be claimed, a Novice Concession Driver who is eligible to claim a concession may be engaged for, or substituted for, the engaged driver of such horse prior to Acceptance Time.

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