



## GROUP RACING GUIDELINES

1. Harness Racing Australia (HRA) shall cause a list to be compiled of such races as it may in its entire discretion decide and which it shall designate as comprising Group or Listed Races.

2. Unless HRA otherwise decides the names of races which appear in the Group and Listed Races shall be as listed on the National Website.

3. No race shall be entered in the Schedule until its listing therein is approved by the HRA Executive following a recommendation from the State Controlling Body Member via the Feature Race Committee.

4. For the purpose of the Group Races list all Australasian Grand Circuit and Trotting Masters races shall be listed as Group One races.

5. Group One, Two, Three and Listed Race status is **not automatic**. Application in writing must be made and recommended by the State Controlling Body to the Feature Race Committee, and then approved by the HRA Executive.

6. Harness Racing Australia may in its discretion decide the criteria for entry of races into the respective Group and Listed Race lists.

7. Harness Racing Australia delegates to the HRA Feature Race Committee the responsibility to appraise applications and to review lists from time to time and submit recommendations to the HRA Executive. The HRA Chief Executive will communicate and/or call meetings with Member Chief Executives to plan and schedule the Grand Circuit, Trotting Masters and Feature Race Lists for the coming Season as required.

8. Unless Harness Racing Australia otherwise decides, the criteria for entry of races published on the National Website shall be as follows:

### A. GROUP ONE RACES

i. A Grand Circuit event, Trotting Masters event, Free For All, Handicap, Classic or State Restricted event of National Importance where the minimum advertised stakemoney threshold must be \$100,000 for pacers and, \$50,000 or more for trotters.

ii. Recognising the time honoured and historical significance of the State Derby and State Oaks races conducted in each State, these races are exempted from the Group One stakemoney threshold requirements of 8A(i). However, to be classified as Group One Races they must carry minimum advertised stakemoney of \$50,000 in 2013/14, \$75,000 in 2014/15 and \$100,000 from 2015/16 for Pacers and 50% of the specified stakemoney for Trotters. If the stakemoney threshold is not met, all State Derbies and State Oaks races will be classified as per their stakemoney threshold.

### B. GROUP TWO RACES

A Handicap, Free For All, Classic or State Restricted event of Major or State Importance, where the minimum stakemoney threshold must be \$50,000 or more in respect of races for pacers, and, \$30,000 or more for trotters.

### C. GROUP THREE RACES

A Handicap, Free For All, Classic or State Restricted Event of State Importance, where the minimum stakemoney threshold must be \$30,000 or more in respect of races for pacers, and, \$20,000 or more for trotters.

### D. LISTED RACES

An event of Major, National or State Importance where the minimum stakemoney threshold must be \$25,000 for pacers, and, \$15,000 for trotters.

**Date of Effect: 1 September 2013**