



HRNSW RACE PROGRAMMING & HANDICAPPING – GUIDELINE AMENDMENTS

HRNSW confirms that it has complete confidence in the National Rating Points System adopted by Harness Racing Australia from 1 July 2019.

Since the introduction of the National Rating Points System HRNSW has received constructive feedback from stakeholders.

Based on HRNSW observations and the feedback received from stakeholders the following changes will be implemented to the HRNSW Race Programming & Handicapping Guidelines **from 1 August 2019** (excludes Saturday night meetings at Tabcorp Park Menangle at this stage):

1. All Maiden events and HRNSW Rewards Series events will be drawn by Random Barrier Draw
2. All other events will be drawn by National Rating Points
3. The Up to 49 National Rating Points event will be amended to an Up to 55 National Rating Points event which will have no Driver Concessions and no Mares Concessions
4. With respect to race field selection in the Up to 55 event:
 - a) in the first instance from highest to lowest National Rating Points Fillies & Mares will be drawn in to fields against other Fillies & Mares
 - b) in the second instance from highest to lowest National Rating Points Colts, Entirets & Geldings and Fillies & Mares that were not selected in the Fillies & Mares event will be drawn into fields
 - c) any horse rated 56 or better cannot use a Concession claim to race in the Up to 55 event
5. All horses with National Rating Points above 56 will be able to use dual Concessions with an aim to gain an advantage in both Field Selection and the Barrier Draw in races with backs higher than 55 (i.e. Up to 69).

For Example:

In an Up to 69 event a Mare with National Rating Points of 62 can use a Mares Concession and a 5 point Concession Driver to reduce it's rating to 52 which may place it at an advantage in the Field Selection (if there are 2 Divisions it may be drawn in the 2nd Division) and in the Barrier Draw (it will draw inside horses with National Rating Points of 53 or more) noting that due to no Concessions in the Up to 55 event this horse cannot reduce its rating to 52 to make it eligible for such a race.

HRNSW appreciates the feedback from stakeholders which is encouraged to continue. Race Programming is to remain a live issue for the foreseeable future.

**John Dumesny
Chief Executive**