



AUSTRALASIAN PACING GRAND CIRCUIT & TROTTING MASTERS



Guidelines

In 2012, two race series known as the Pacing Grand Circuit and the Trotting Masters were established, replacing the previous Grand Circuit arrangement (from 1992), following a review of the positioning and relevance of the existing series. A revised framework for the series was adopted, based on the following:

1. Until otherwise decided the two series of races shall be known as the Australasian Pacing Grand Circuit ("the Grand Circuit") and the Australasian Trotting Masters ("the Masters") – to be known collectively as "The Circuits".
2. The Feature Race Committee (FRC) of Harness Racing Australia will meet annually to recommend the races comprising The Circuits, with races selected according to the Group Racing Guidelines for HRA Executive approval.
3. Until the FRC otherwise decides, the names of races which appear in The Circuits shall be as listed in the relevant series Calendar.
4. A race shall not be entered in or deleted from the Calendars without the prior consent of the FRC (with approval from HRA Executive).
5. All races, whether single event races or where the event is raced as a series - the final race of such series, shall be a Group One, and have a minimum advertised stakemoney threshold of stepped minimums of \$125,000 (2012/13), \$150,000 (2013/14) and \$200,000 (2014/15 and beyond).
6. Races in The Circuits may be mobile or standing start events and may be raced over any distance of a mile or more.
7. With the exception of the Miracle Mile, all races in The Circuits shall be open nomination events and without discrimination as to age, sex, ownership, training or domicile.
8. Clubs conducting races in The Circuits may set such other conditions as they may desire providing they are not in conflict with or the intent of Clause seven (7) or other applicable rules and/or agreements.
9. Any group of Member Clubs conducting the Circuit races may combine to establish point score competitions, or the like, whereby additional prizes or bonuses are paid to the owners of the winner of a group of races or meet some other condition.
10. The Controlling Body of each State, or New Zealand, shall ensure that a race or Carnival will not be programmed so as to clash with races in The Circuits.
11. Each individual race of The Circuits shall be raced under the Rules of Harness Racing of the State or New Zealand concerned and where applicable the Rules of the FRC.

12. This framework shall be reviewed as the need arises.

Australasian Pacing Grand Circuit Champion and Australasian Trotting Master

13. A Points System competition shall be conducted on all races of The Circuits on the basis of 100 for first, 60 for second, 40 for third, 20 for fourth, 10 for fifth, 5 for sixth, 4 for seventh, 3 for eighth, 2 for ninth, and 1 for tenth and lower placed horses. 0 points apply for Did Not Start, Did Not Finish or Disqualified.
14. In the event of a dead heat, the points of such horses dead heating shall be added together and equally divided.
15. The horse with the greatest number of points at the conclusion of each of The Circuit series shall be declared the winner of the Points System Competition for that racing season, that is:
- Australasian Pacing Grand Circuit Champion(s).
 - Australasian Trotting Master(s).
16. In the event two or more horses tie for first placing on points, such horses shall be declared joint winners of the Points System Competition. There are no count back provisions.
17. For the purposes of calculating points, the winner and placegetters are those which are ultimately declared the winner and placegetters of such race.
18. Naming rights sponsorship may be offered from time to time on a commercial basis.

Note: For the purposes of nomination and ratification each Country's National Body nominates its races through its respective Grading Committees – Harness Racing New Zealand and Harness Racing Australia. The latter's Grading Sub-Committee is the HRA Executive.

Australasian Grand Circuit and Australasian Trotting Masters – Guidelines – as at 8 October 2012.