

A U G U S T 2 0 2 0

SA CENTRIC HANDICAPPING CHANGES COMING SOON

You asked for it and its coming......

Following the recent Ratings and Handicapping forum, the HRSA team are now working through modifying the current National Ratings and Handicapping system to make it more South Australian centric.

The Forum was attended by a cross section of representatives from the Harness Racing industry, recommendations were tabled and discussed, HRSA Operations Manager David Thuen and the HRSA team are now working through the various concepts and prioritising the outcomes most keenly looked for by the harness racing industry in SA

The primary focus will be on modifying the rating given to juvenile horses, both 2YO's and 3YO's, as well as those older horses commencing their careers. The overwhelming consensus being that the rating afforded to these young and inexperienced horses is deemed too high in comparison to the ratings of many of their more seasoned rivals.

Making it easier to nominate horses was also a key discussion point along with stopping the manipulation of the nomination system.

HRSA will launch the concepts to the industry for consultation before implementation as early as September.

HRSA Chairman George Fiacchi commented: - "The Ratings and Handicapping system has been one of the key issues troubling the industry and perceived to be hampering growth."

"It was a great afternoon with healthy and productive debate, the attendees were fantastic and put their own agendas aside and focussed on what was beneficial for Harness Racing."

"I'm excited to see the outcomes and how it will encourage the younger SA horses participating."

"The Boards mantra is to put Harness Racing in South Australia first, and reward those that support our industry positively, it's great to see everyone working together to find solutions and the green shoots are appearing."

For further information please contact:

ROSS NEAL | CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (08) 8285 2899 • rneal@saharness.org.au

Harness Racing SA Ltd

Harness Racing SA Ltd

ABN 68 094 559 930 1 Globe Derby Drive, Globe Derby Park SA 5110 Telephone: (08) 8285 2899 Stewards (08) 8250 5692 Internet: <u>www.harness.org.au/sa</u> Email: saharness@saharness.org.au