

**Policy:** 609.4  
**Effective:** 18 January 2012  
**Revised:** January 2012  
**Subject:** Nominations & Scratchings  
**Reference:** *HRNSW Board Meeting – 27 February 2007*  
*HRNSW Board Meeting – 23 September 2008*  
*HRNSW Board Meeting – 25 February 2009*  
*HRNSW Board Meeting – 6 December 2010*  
*HRCC Meeting – 7 December 2010*  
*HRNSW Board Meeting – 26 October 2011*  
*Harness Racing Act 2009*

### **NOMINATION, ACCEPTANCE, SCRATCHING AND DRIVER DECLARATION POLICY**

#### **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 This policy has been proposed to help maintain high levels of nominations and final acceptors at all race meetings.
- 1.2 A policy of not allowing nominations to be viewed was trialed from 1 November 2008 to 28 February 2009 and was found to be unsuccessful.
- 1.3 At the review of policies in March 2011 it was decided that the Nomination and Scratching Policy should be merged with the Final Field Scratching and Driver Declaration Policy.
- 1.4 Further amendments include bringing forward the day and time for FINAL notification of drivers. This will allow ample time for information to be sent to the media to ensure that the correct information is published.

#### **2. NOMINATIONS**

##### **2.1 Nomination and Acceptance Closing Times:**

- a) Nominations and Acceptances for all meetings close as advertised in the New South Wales Official Notices and Program.
- b) Should there be a change in nomination and acceptance times, a SMS will be sent to all trainers advising the change.
- c) All times are correct at the time of printing but are subject to change. For the most up to date nomination and acceptance times the meeting calendar on [www.harness.org.au](http://www.harness.org.au) should be referred to.

- 2.2 At the close of nominations, all nominations will be displayed on HarnessWeb until acceptance closing time. They will not be obtainable by calling the Racing Office.

- 2.3 Any nominated horse not scratched prior to acceptance close time will be deemed an acceptor.
- 2.4 A scratching fee of \$44 (GST inclusive) will be charged to the trainer of any horse scratched between the close of nominations and the close of acceptances. Normal scratching penalties will apply for horses scratched outside of these times.
- 2.5 If for the purpose of maximizing a field size it is necessary to accept nominations after the original closing time of nominations, horses nominated prior to the original closing time will be given preference in selection of the field/s, regardless of whether or not these horses have an unfulfilled engagement.
- 2.6 A horse must be nominated by telephone, on an official nomination form, in neat and legible print, or via HarnessWeb.
- 2.7 Trainers who nominate by facsimile should ensure that their machine has the correct time, date and ID facsimile number.
- 2.8 Trainers who nominate by HarnessWeb are reminded that they should always check any nominations lodged by using the 'MY NOMS' icon. This will confirm that nominations have been correctly lodged and provide a chance to rectify any problems or errors.
- 2.9 Race programs are subject to change. Trainers should always refer to the race calendar on [www.harness.org.au](http://www.harness.org.au) for updated programs.

### 3. FINAL FIELD SCRATCHINGS

- 3.1 Horses will be permitted to scratch without a Veterinary Certificate from non feature races for a fee of \$77 (GST Inclusive), which will be charged to the trainer. A horse will then be stood down from racing for 6 days. For the \$77 (GST Inclusive) fee only to apply, the scratching must be notified prior to the official scratching time for the race.
- 3.2 Any horse withdrawn without paying the Scratching Fee will automatically be stood down for 28 days.
- 3.3 The Trainer of any horse withdrawn after the official scratching time for race may be penalised an additional fee of \$100 for the late notification of a scratching.

### 4. DRIVER DECLARATIONS

- 4.1 The FINAL notification time for Drivers will be 10.30am two days prior to the running of the race. A fee of \$50 may apply for non-compliance.
- 4.2 The FINAL notification time for the scratching from a race will be 9.00am on the morning of the race.