

Policy: 652.7
Effective: 1 December 2019
Revised: November 2019
Subject: Two-Year-Old Racing Policy
Reference: *Harness Racing Act 2009*
HRNSW Board Meeting – 29 March 2016
HRNSW Board Meeting – 31 October 2017
HRNSW Board Meeting – 9 October 2018
HRNSW Board Meeting – 2 May 2019
HRNSW Board Meeting – 25 June 2019
HRNSW Board Meeting – 25 July 2019
HRNSW Board Meeting – 31 October 2019
HRNSW Board Meeting – 21 November 2019

TWO-YEAR-OLD RACING POLICY

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This Policy has been developed through a series of submissions and consultative electronic surveys to enhance, strengthen and guarantee the racing opportunities of two-year-old pacers in NSW.
- 1.2 Submissions were accepted from industry stakeholders in July and October 2015 which culminated in an electronic survey in January 2016.
- 1.3 In all 71 submissions were received and 1,854 stakeholders were invited to complete the survey of which 579 responded the results of which can be viewed are on the HRNSW website ([click here](#)).
- 1.4 This Policy will take effect from the commencement of the 2016/17 Racing Season (1 September 2016) and will be reviewed September 2017.
- 1.5 The Policy was amended in October 2017 to include a clause concerning the splitting of races to provide additional opportunities for fillies to compete against their own gender (refer clause 2.4).
- 1.6 The Policy was amended in May 2019 to include a clauses which define how many days there are to be between runs for 2YO's and to determine that horses that are stood down in Heats cannot compete in Consolations within a specified timeframe – this clause was further discussed and amended in October & November 2019.

2. POLICY

- 2.1 The programming of two-year-old races will commence on the 1st of January and end on the 31st of August each year – which will be known as the Two-Year-Old Racing Season.
- 2.2 A schedule of all two-year-old races will be programmed during the Two-Year-Old Racing Season and will be released by HRNSW in the October preceding the commencement of the Season.
 - a) The schedule will take into consideration established Feature & Futurity Races and will focus on NSW Breeders Challenge eligible horses

- b) The schedule will be Regional based – Metropolitan, Hunter, North West, Western/Young and Riverina/Young. Young being geographically located central to the Western Districts and the Riverina will play a pivotal role in the scheduling of races at key times in the season.
 - c) The schedule will create race opportunities for fillies on a regional basis.
 - d) The Schedule will not include two-year-old races for prize money below \$5,000. Therefore two-year-old races will not be programmed at Non-TAB or C Classification Meetings.
 - e) The Schedule will only be amended by HRNSW taking into consideration imperative industry requirements.
 - f) Race conditions will be released in accordance with standard HRNSW practices.
- 2.3 Scheduled two-year-old races will be guaranteed at the value of HRNSW Funding if there is a minimum six (6) horses nominated when the original nominations close.
- a) No less than six (6) horses must remain as acceptors for the scheduled race when the fields are released by HRNSW.
 - i. Where field manipulation occurs or is alleged to have occurred, the matter will be referred to the HRNSW Stewards for deliberation.
- Note: if horses have an unfulfilled engagement they will not count as an acceptor with respect to a minimum of six (6) horses nominated when the original nominations close.
- b) If at the close of acceptors a Club has maximum field sizes for a standard meeting of eight (8) races a two-year-old race with six (6) or more acceptors will be additionally included on the meeting program therefore creating nine (9) races.
 - i. The additional two-year-old race will be funded from the established Two-Year-Old Guarantee Fund.
 - ii. The division of other race nominations to increase the number of races to the standard eight (8) races so as to enact the ninth (9th) race Two-Year-Old Guarantee will not be permitted.
 - iii. All Futurity races will be required to be included in the standard eight (8) race meeting allocation.
- 2.4 Notwithstanding clause 2.3, if;
- a) there are twelve (12) or more final acceptances for a standard 2YO race, and;
 - b) there are six (6) or more fillies accepted, and;
 - c) there are six (6) or more colts & geldings accepted
- the race is to be split into a fillies division and a colts & geldings division.

Prizemoney for the additional race will be supplied from the Two-Year-Old Guarantee Fund.

Note: if horses have an unfulfilled engagement they will not count as an acceptor with respect to splitting races (i.e. there are 12 acceptors and 2 horses have unfulfilled engagements, the race will not be split and the 10 horses without a prior engagement will be drawn as starters)

- 2.5 The maximum field size for all 2YO events is ten (10); however two (2) emergencies will be drawn into all Finals and Group events.
- 2.6 Two-year-old pacers will not be permitted to start in races conducted in NSW prior to 1 January.
- 2.7 Two-year-old horses must have their races spaced at least three (3) days apart. (i.e. a two-year-old horse that races on Wednesday can next race on Saturday).

Definition

"Race" means a race or official trial or official time trial or event in which harness racing horses race or participate.