

COMPETITIVE & ENCOURAGEMENT STAKES

Effective immediately HRNSW has changed the conditions of the Competitive and Encouragement Stakes.

Competitive Stakes

The intention of Competitive Stakes events is to allow those horses that might not be competitive in class or divided stakes racing to be placed against others of the same capability at a given time in their career.

Generally these races have worked very well prior to the introduction of the new race programming and handicapping system on 1 September 2014 and since that date.

Numerous circumstances have occurred in all Regions where well performed horses have gained a start under the advertised conditions by virtue of competing in standing start or long distance events in New Zealand within its last 6 starts.

As soon as this scenario frequently occurred, which is against the intention of the race conditions, HRNSW took steps to ensure that such scenario does not arise again into the future.

The new conditions for Competitive Stakes events is as follows:

- For horses which have had a minimum of 6 career starts and whose last 6 starts were in NSW
- An average individual mile rate of no better than a specified time is to be stated
- The average individual mile rates are to be based on a specified number of starts (i.e. 4, 6 or 10)
- The conditions may or may not have a specified class restriction (i.e. assessed no better than C1).

For example:

For horses which have had a minimum of 6 starts and whose last 6 starts were in NSW that have an average individual mile rate of no better than 2:02.0 (over the last 6 starts) and are assessed no better than C1.

Encouragement Stakes

The intention of Encouragement Stakes events is to allow trainers that have not won a specified number of races over a prescribed time to race against other trainers in the same situation.

Generally these races have worked very well prior to the introduction of the new race programming and handicapping system on 1 September 2014 and since that date.

Numerous circumstances have arose in the 2014/15 season where trainers with limited wins in the 2013/14 season have been eligible under the conditions and have gone on to win multiple races in the 2014/15 season.

As soon as this scenario occurred, which is against the intention of the race conditions, HRNSW took steps to ensure that such scenario does not arise again into the future.

The new conditions for Encouragement Stakes events is as follows:

- The conditions may or may not have a specified class assessment front and/or specified class assessment back (i.e. C0/C1).
- For horses trained by trainers which have not won a specified number of races during a specified time frame.
- Horses must be trained by an eligible NSW licensed trainer for 28 days prior to acceptances.
- Eligibility is determined by lodgement of the stable return to HRNSW.

For example:

3YO+ C0/C1. For horses trained by trainers which did not train a winner in the 2013/14 season. Trainers who have trained a winner in the 2014/15 season are ineligible. Horses must be trained by an eligible NSW licensed trainer for 28 days prior to acceptances. Eligibility determined by lodgement of the stable return with HRNSW.

For further information please contact the Racing Office on **1300 712 612**.

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