

HRNSW RACE PROGRAMMING & HANDICAPPING - GUIDELINES

The purpose of the Race Programming & Handicapping Guidelines is to facilitate transparency in relation to the programming, handicapping and field selection of races conducted in New South Wales. These Guidelines are to be read in conjunction with other HRNSW Racing Policies.

PROGRAMMING

Standard Eight (8) Race Program

The following races will formulate a standard race program:

2YO	(as per the 2YO Calendar)
3YO	(3C0 and 3C0/3C1 on rotation within a Region)
C0	Maiden
C0	(No Age Front, 3YO+ and 4YO+ on rotation within a Region)
C1	<u>Claimers cannot race in C1 front races</u>
C2	Also eligible claimers with a claiming price of \$3,500 inclusive of GST (on rotation within a Region) – <u>automatic if a Claiming Race is not programmed, added if a Claiming race is programmed and is deleted due to a lack of nominations</u>
C2/C3	Also eligible claimers with a claiming price of \$5,000 inclusive of GST (on rotation within a Region) – <u>automatic if a Claiming Race is not programmed, added if a Claiming race is programmed and is deleted due to a lack of nominations</u>
C3+ Divided Stakes	(on rotation within a Region when there is a C2 only race programmed)
C4+ Divided Stakes	(on rotation within a Region when there is a C2/C3 race programmed)
C8 or better no better than M2 (with also eligible clauses)	At least one race per month per Region
Claimers	One race per week per Region (\$3,500-\$5,000), excludes Menangle and Metropolitan tracks (<u>if the Claiming Race is deleted due to a lack of nominations, horses will be placed in the C2 (\$3,500) and/or C2/C3 (\$5,000) if their price meets the conditions of the race</u>).

FEATURE EVENTS

Club Feature Events may be programmed at race meetings (where the prizemoney and trophies exceed \$2,000 over the base prizemoney – includes Heats for Finals) and in such cases these races will replace the same class on the program. In these instances the barrier draw will be indicated prior to the close of nominations.

FIELD SELECTION

All fields will be selected based on dollars won in the past five (5) starts excluding metropolitan meetings held at Tabcorp Park Menangle (generally Saturday) and other Race Series covered under separate HRNSW Policies. If horses have equal prizemoney dollars in their last five (5) starts, a random draw will be performed by the HRNSW Chief Steward and Integrity Manager to select which horse will be included in the field.

First start horses are assured a start at the first nomination if the programmed race proceeds.

BARRIER DRAWS

Barrier Draws for the following set front races (2YO, 3YO, C0, C1, C2) are to be predominately PBD/2C, PBD/3C & RBD with PBD/SEX to be used on occasions and will be indicated in the published race conditions.

Barrier Draws for C2/C3 set front races and the Divided Stakes are to alternate between PBD/C, RBD, PBD/SEX & PBD/\$L5 however these will be indicated in the published race conditions.

If horses have equal \$L5 starts a random draw will be performed by the HRNSW Chief Steward and Integrity Manager to select which horse is placed higher and lower in the barrier order.

Barrier Draws for Claiming Races will be based on the Claiming Price other than in the Metropolitan Region where the barrier draw will be PBD/\$L5.

CONCESSIONS

Driver Concessions

Driver Concessions can be used on all races with a set front of C1 or higher (i.e. a C2 can claim into a C1 event). This Concession **MUST** be made when nominating the horse.

Mares Concessions

A mare can only use a double concession in races where the front is C3 or better.

For example:

- a) a mare assessed C3 can only use a mares concession to be treated as a C2. A driver concession cannot be used in this instance.
- b) a mare assessed C5 can use a mares concession and a drivers concession to be treated as a C3 (in a C3 or better front race)

A mare's concession is automatic in all races where a claim can be applied.

NOMINATIONS

All nominations **MUST** be lodged via HarnessWeb, no other form of nominating will be accepted.

Trainers who do not have the digital capacity to nominate may however do so through the Club Secretary who will email the nominations to the HRNSW Handicappers fifteen (15) minutes prior to the close of nominations. These persons must make application to and be approved by HRNSW in the first instance.

Note: HRNSW Handicappers will not accept nominations direct from Trainers who must utilise HarnessWeb, Club Secretaries or SMS Message response in the instances of extended nominations.

Nominations will **NOT** be displayed for any event at any stage.

Trainers must declare Concession Driver Claims when nominating, no Concession Driver Claims will be accepted after the close of nominations.

Stable Doubles

Nominations for all races are closed with no option to withdraw, except for stable doubles which **MUST** be noted in the comments box when nominating.

For example:

A trainer who has multiple horses nominated for the C1 and who doesn't want his horses to race against each other **MUST** note in the comments box "only 1 runner" and indicate which horse is preferred to start.

SPLITTING OF RACES

Owner, Trainer and Driver multiples are not considered when splitting races, the only consideration is the dollars won by a horse in its last five (5) starts.

- a) In the first instance (where possible) a race is to be split based on SEX (which may include stable doubles).

For example:

A C1 event receives 25 nominations and there are 10 mares nominated. All mares will be drawn in the same race even if a trainer has two mares nominated, unless they have submitted a note in the comments section of HarnessWeb which can only indicate a preference to which mare is to be included in the field.

Note: A trainer with two mares nominated for the C1 will be obliged to start both mares in the mares' race if selected, unless they have submitted a note in the comments section of HarnessWeb. **For clarity the non-accepting mare will not be drawn against the C1 colts and geldings and thus will not be an acceptor for the meeting.**

- b) In the second instance a race will be split taking into consideration the dollars won by a horse in its last five (5) starts (a trainer may have multiple horses drawn in the same division, except that horses trained by the same trainer may be withdrawn if the trainer noted in the comments box "only 1 runner". If the trainer's lower prizemoney horse(s) dollars last five (5) starts is included in Division 2 after taking into consideration the comments box notations of other trainers the trainer may have a horse in the Division 2. For sake of clarity the horses will be listed in order of dollars last five (5) starts and the maximum field size at the particular track (10 or 12) will constitute the field selected. A trainer therefore may have multiple starters except if the trainer makes a notation in the comment box when nominating.

Note: A trainer with two or more horse nominated for a race will be obliged to start all horses selected in a Division if they are grouped together based on dollars won in their last five (5) starts, unless the trainer has submitted a note in the comments section of HarnessWeb.

For example:

Division 1		Division 2	
Horse	\$L5	Horse	\$L5
A Trainer Jones	\$11,000	K Trainer Jones	\$4,000
B	\$10,000	L	\$3,300
C	\$8,000	M	\$3,000
D	\$7,500	N	\$2,750
E Trainer Jones	\$7,000	O Trainer Jones	\$2,250
F	\$6,750	P	\$2,000
G	\$6,500	Q	\$1,750
H	\$5,000	R	\$1,500
I	\$4,500	S	\$1,250
J	\$4,250	T	\$1,000

In this example Trainer Jones has requested in the comment box only one (1) starter in each Division.

Horse **A** would be included in Division 1 and Horse **E** is removed.

However due to Trainer Jones's Horse **E** being removed Horse **K** would be elevated from Division 2 up to Division 1 but Horse **K** also would be removed due to Trainer Jones requesting only one (1) starter.

Trainer Jones's horse **O** would however gain a start in Division 2.

Trainer Jones may stipulate the order in which of his four horses he would prefer to gain a start in the first instance.

Note: A second division may only be conducted to assist with a standard eight (8) race program or if funded from the Unplaced Unfunded Prizemoney Fund.

SPLITTING OF HEATS FOR FINALS

Horses will be listed in order of dollars last five (5) starts and split by order of entry.

For example: Twenty horses are nominated which will require two fields and thus the odd numbered horses will be drawn in Heat 1 and the even numbered horses will be drawn in Heat 2.

Heat 1	Heat 2
1	2
3	4
5	6
7	8
9	10
11	12
13	14
15	16
17	18
19	20

For example: Thirty Horses are nominated which will require three fields and thus these will be split as follows:

Heat 1	Heat 2	Heat 3
1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12
13	14	15
16	17	18
19	20	21
22	23	24
25	26	27
28	29	30

The same methodology would be adopted for additional Heats (Four, Five or Six).

Note: For Heats into Finals the use of the comment box to provide for only one horse per Heat will not be an option for trainers.

EXTENSION OF NOMINATIONS

Nominations are to be extended for individual races only, not the entire meeting.

When nominations are extended HRNSW will send Trainers within the Region a SMS as per the below example:

HRNSW: Penrith nominations extended until 12:00pm (time may vary) for codes PEC15051802 (7 nominations received) & PEC15051805 (6 nominations received)

Trainers who wish to enter a horse will respond to the SMS message within the prescribed time or further necessary extension.

Club Secretaries will **NOT** be provided with a printout of horse nominations, they will be provided with the number of horses nominated for each race and the names of trainers who regularly race at the track who have not nominated.

Club Secretaries may make direct contact with trainers to attract additional horses when insufficient horses are nominated for individual races.

Club Secretaries must nominate horses electronically via email to the HRNSW Handicappers prior to the close of extended nominations.

All late nominations will be considered for a start in line with the Race Field Selection Policy, which stipulates the original nominations are assured a start.

For example:

There were seven (7) original nominations for a C2. Five (5) late nominations are received within the extension period. The Handicappers will select the three (3) remaining starters from the five (5) late nominations based on the dollars last five (5) starts.

DELETED RACES

Where a race is deleted from a programme trainers will be given the opportunity to nominate their horse(s) in another race on the programme (which may be out of class), if that race has position(s) available. This will be undertaken by the Club Secretary in order of prizemoney dollars won in the last five (5) starts from the horses nominated in the deleted race.

For example:

The C1 race with five (5) nominations is deleted from the programme. These horses would be eligible to compete in the C2 race which has nine (9) nominations. The Club Secretary would be provided with the list of eligible horses from the deleted race in order of prizemoney dollars last five (5) starts.

Horse A	\$3,250
Horse B	\$2,950
Horse C	\$1,920
Horse D	\$1,210
Horse C	\$1,009

The Club Secretary would then contact the trainers in order commencing with Horse A (the highest \$L5 starts) until the position is taken in the field. A maximum 10 minutes will be allowed for contact and decision before the Club Secretary will proceed to the next horse in order. Therefore it is possible that the trainer of Horse C may take the position after a period of 20 minutes if the trainers of Horses A and B decline the opportunity. The out of class horse in a \$L5 starts barrier draw would be positioned according to its prizemoney dollars in its last five (5) starts.

The Club Secretary will not be provided with the names of those horses nominated in the C2 race.

STANDARD RACE MEETINGS

Eight (8) races constitutes a standard race meeting however additional 'guaranteed' races may extend the number of races to ten (10), taking into consideration the 10.30pm curfew for night meetings.

GENERAL

Out of Class Nominations

Horses are permitted to nominate out of class in set conditions race however if it is deemed by HRNSW that such nominations are intended to circumvent the intent of the Guidelines or eligibility conditions of other races or to take advantage of barrier draws such nominations will be voided by HRNSW.

For example: A C1 horse is nominated for a C4 race to satisfy an eligibility conditions for another races or to gain an advantage in a barrier draw will **not be accepted** by HRNSW.

It is acceptable for horses to be nominated or placed in a race out of class if a trainer clearly indicates this option in the comment box when nominating that horses are to be split.

Reserves

A reserve will be drawn in all races where sufficient nominations are received however where there are split divisions no reserves will be drawn into fields. Reserves will be drawn in Heats into Finals.

Ballots

Where a horse has been balloted from a race meeting in NSW that horse will be guaranteed a start at the next nomination in a base prizemoney funding race. Tabcorp Park Menangle and Carnival of Cups Feature races (above base funding) are not included. An unfulfilled engagement is not classified as a ballot.

For example: Horse 'Jones' is nominated for Penrith on July 5 and is not selected in a field and is nominated at Penrith on July 12 it will be guaranteed a start at the meeting second meeting.

Prior Commitment

Horses which are not engaged at a meeting held prior to the meeting being formed will be given preference at that meeting over horses which have an unfulfilled engagement other races which carry prizemoney of \$15,000 or more.

For example: Horse 'Jones' is engaged at Penrith on July 5 or Bankstown on July 6 therefore it will not be drawn into a field at Menangle on July 10 before another horse which is not engaged in either Penrith or Bankstown. Naturally if there are insufficient nominations horse 'Jones' if nominated would be selected in the Menangle field.

Review

These Guidelines are under continuous review with stakeholders and may be amended by HRNSW if necessary after further consultation.