



Carnival of Cups Bonus Scheme 2026-2027

1.0 BACKGROUND

This Policy sets the rules with respect to the bonus for the Harness Racing NSW (HRNSW) Carnival of Cups bonus for 2026-2027.

2.0 RACES

- 2.1 i) All races will be conducted for National Ratings (NR) up to 120.
- ii) Races will be run over the following track and distances:

Date	Track	Name	Distance
6 November 2026	Wagga	The Bidgee	2800m
11 December 2026	Bathurst	Gold Rush Cup	2790m
8 January 2027	Newcastle	Steel City Cup	2550m
30 January 2027	Penrith	Renshaw Cup	2525m
12 February 2027	Albury	The Murray Cup	2555m

- 2.2 There is no requirement for horses to be trained in NSW.
- 2.3 There is no requirement for a horse to be bred in NSW, or Australia

3.0 FIELD SELECTION

- 3.1 Races will be selected manually by the HRNSW Handicapping Panel
- 3.2 Horses are not guaranteed a start in any race
- 3.3 All Races will have a preferential barrier draw based on National Ratings (NR)

4.0 BONUS SYSTEM

- 4.1 Individual horses will be assigned a points allocation at the end of each event based on their finishing position
- 4.2 There is no requirement for horses to start in all of the determined Carnival of Cups races
- 4.3 There is no requirement for races to have twelve (12) runners for a horse to receive points.
- 4.4 If any position results in a dead heat, as determined by the Stipendiary Stewards, both horses will receive the points allocated for that position
- 4.5 The Bonus will be determined based on a horses finishing position at each event, based on the following table:



Place	Points
1st	30
2nd	24
3rd	20
4th	17
5th	15
6th	10
7th	8
8th	6
9th	5
10th	4
11th	3
12th	2

- 4.6 Horses can only gain points for performances in the races outlined in 2.1 ii)
- 4.7 If two or more horses have received the same amount of points at the conclusion of the last race, a tie-breaker will be determined by:
- The most winning performances across all five (5) races, then;
 - The most second place performances across all five (5) races, then;
 - The most third place performances across all five (5) races, then;
 - The most appearances in each of the five (5) races;
 - If horses are still tied, prizemoney will be divided between all horses. E.g. if two horses are tied for first, first and second bonus money will be combined and divided between both horses.

5.0 BONUS PRIZEMONEY

- 5.1 The Total Bonus Prize is \$100,000, with the following allocation:
- \$70,000 for the horse with the most accrued points at the end of all five (5) races being contested;
 - \$20,000 for the horse with the second most accrued points at the end of all five (5) races being contested;
 - \$10,000 for the horse with the third most accrued points at the end of all five (5) races being contested.
- 5.2 All monies won from the Bonus will be payable to the Owner at the conclusion of The Murray Cup on 12 February 2027
- 5.3 The monies paid from the Carnival of Cups Bonus are not considered as prizemoney.
- 5.4 Bonus payments will be subject to the clearance of any samples taken from the horse

6.0 HARNESS RACING NSW SOLE DISCRETION

- 6.1 In the case of any dispute, and for the sake of clarity, HRNSW shall have sole discretion in regard to application of this policy.