



AMENDMENT TO AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING

Amendment to Minimum Weight

Summary:

A number of handicap races have a 7kg spread: 54kg-61kg (previously 54-59kg).

However, Racing Australia believes that the Principal Racing Authorities in each jurisdiction should have the discretion to lower the topweight to 60kg with a minimum of 53kg to maintain the optimum spread of weights.

1. Amend AR.103 as follows:

“**AR.103.** (1) The top weight allocated for handicap flat races must not be less than 59 kilograms, except for Group 1 handicap races and races in which 2yos only can run, for which the allocated top weight must not be less than 58 kilograms.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subrule (1), if at the declaration of acceptances for a handicap flat race the weight allocated to the highest-weighted acceptor (including any extra weight by way of re-handicap or penalty) is less than 58 kilograms (57 kilograms for Group 1 handicap races), or less than a higher weight determined by a Principal Racing Authority, then allocated weights for the race must be increased until the highest-weighted acceptor is weighted at not less than 58 kilograms (57 kilograms for Group 1 handicap races).

(3) The minimum weight allocated for handicap flat races must not be less than –

- (a) 50 kilograms for the Melbourne Cup and Caulfield Cup;
- (b) 52 kilograms for Group 1 handicap races other than the Melbourne Cup and Caulfield Cup;
- (c) 53 kilograms for Group 2 handicap flat races;
- (d) 54 kilograms for all other handicap flat races (provided that a Principal Racing Authority may in its discretion approve a minimum of 53 kilograms for the purposes of this subrule).

Provided further that the Principal Racing Authority concerned may approve applications made by racing clubs for a minimum weight of 50 kilograms for Group 1 handicap races other than the Melbourne Cup and Caulfield Cup (paragraph (b) of this subrule) and also for 2-year-old and/or 3-year old horses in open-age handicap races to be allocated lower minimum weights than those prescribed by paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) of this subrule.”

Date of Effect: 1 October, 2016