

HARNESS RACE PROGRAMMING GUIDELINES (updated March 2022)

Please note the below are GUIDELINES ONLY and whilst every endeavour is made to program in line with these due to Feature Events and Stand-alone meetings this is not always possible.

METHOD

The method for achieving the revenue aim is:

- a. At least eight races will be programmed for the major meeting and seven races for the minor meeting when two race meetings are scheduled during a week.
- b. At least nine races will be programmed at a major race meeting featuring an open age feature race worth \$25,000 or more.
- c. At least nine races will be programmed when only one race meeting is scheduled for a week.
- d. Based on historic data on wagering and field sizes for two-year-olds (2YO's) an additional race (refer above to a), b) and c)) may be programmed when a 2YO race is scheduled at a major meeting.

The method for achieving attractive racing options for all classes and abilities of horses is:

- **2YO's.**

No 2YO races will be programmed in January and February.

At least three races each month will be programmed from March to June. At

least four races each month will be programmed from July to December.

A minimum of one maiden race each month will be programmed from April to December.

- **3YO's.**

At least two maiden races will be programmed each month. These races may include 4YO and older maidens.

The A/E 4YO & Older clause will only be utilised from 1 January – 30 June. At

least two 3YO age restricted races will be programmed every month.

- **Maiden Races**

A maiden race is a race for horses that have not previously won a race.

Details of 2YO and 3YO maiden races are listed above.

4YO and older maidens are likely to be programmed to race with 3YO maidens (minimum of two races programmed each month).

If there are insufficient nominations received Maiden races will be extended with the addition of the following race condition – A/E horses with 1 lifetime win. Draw will be amended to PDLTW.

NB: When the above races are programmed at the secondary meeting, they will carry the Premier meeting prizemoney level. To remain within budget requirements when this is done a lower prizemoney race will be programmed at the Premier meeting.

- **4YO and Older Restricted Wins**

A minimum of four races will be programmed each month for 4YO and older horses with no more than two lifetime wins.

A minimum of two races will be programmed each month for 4YO and older horses with no more than four lifetime wins.

A minimum of two races will be programmed each month for 4YO and older horses with up to six lifetime wins

The above races may be programmed as 3YO and Older.

NB: When the above races are programmed at the secondary meeting, they will carry the Premier meeting prizemoney level. To remain within budget requirements when this is done a lower prizemoney race will be programmed at the Premier meeting.

- **Fillies and Mares**

A minimum of three races will be programmed each month for fillies and mares.

One of the three races will be for 3YO and older fillies and mares. Preference in field selection will be given to horses with the least number of LTW's and the barrier draw will be based on LTW's with 3YO's drawing first in each win category. These races will have LTW restrictions. An example is 3YO and older fillies and mares with NMT2LTW's.

- **Claimers**

A minimum of two races per month will be programmed for Claimers with a mix of SS and MS start types.

The front for SS Claimers will be \$5,000.

The range for MS Claimers will be \$1,000 to \$12,000.

If Claimers are required to be extended due to lack of nominations the following race condition may be added – A/E balloted horses. NR50 will be equivalent to a \$5,000 Claimer, with each 5 points equal to \$1,000.

- **Open Class Races**

Open class races will be scheduled around open class feature races.

Every major race meeting each week will include a minimum of one open class race.

A minimum of one SS and one MS open class race (includes feature races) will be programmed each month. At least one SS each month will be programmed as a discretionary handicap.

Excluding feature races, the barrier draw for MS races will be on NR or LTW's.

- **Trainers Encouragement Races**

A minimum of four races per month will be scheduled across both Premier and Secondary meetings.

The prizemoney level will be amended to \$7,500 for any programmed TER

Trainer eligibility will be based on the previous year's results of 10 or less winners with the requirement of the nominated horse to have been in that stable for no less than 3 months.

In addition to these the following race conditions may be included:

- Claiming Novice Drivers only
- Selection based on number of wins: 1st – 0 wins, 2nd – 1 win, 3rd – 2 wins, etc.

- **Standing Starts**

A minimum of two standing start races (includes feature races) will be programmed each month. The front for these races will be in the NR range of 50 - 65 (excludes feature races).

- **Mobile Start Racing Options at Premier Meetings**

At all major meetings, every endeavour will be made to achieve MS racing opportunities for all horses in the NR range of 50 - 79.

A maximum of 15 NR points will apply when framing races for horses in the NR range of 60 - 80. For example, a range could be 60 - 74 or 65 - 79.

A maximum of 10 NR points will apply framing races for horses in the NR range of 50 - 59.

All races under NR45 will be programmed as an up to NR45 and will carry the following preferential barrier draws:

- LTW
- LT\$

- **Mare and Novice Driver Concessions**

Mare and Novice Driver Concessions will not apply to any race with a front of NR54 or lower.

- **Claiming Novice Driver Races**

A minimum of two races each month will be programmed for Claiming Novice Drivers.

- **Tasbred Selected First**

All rating-based races with a National Rating front from 30-59 at Premier meetings will carry the 'Tasbred Selected First' race condition.

Exclusions will be:

- Aged based race
- NMT LTW races
- Trainer Encouragement Pace races
- Feature or Special races