1.   **OBJECTIVE:**

The objective of this policy is to define the minimum acceptors for the conduct of harness races.

2.   **Races for 4 Year Old's and Older**

2.1   Races with ten (10) or more eligible acceptors may not have nominations extended.

2.2   Races with six (6) or more eligible acceptors will be conducted.

2.3   When extending nominations for a race with less than the minimum number of nominations required for the race to be programmed, the conditions of the race may be altered in an attempt to attract sufficient nominations for the race to be conducted. If the conditions are amended to Also Eligible (A/E), preference will be given to horses already balloted from the relevant meeting that meet those conditions selected from the lowest Field Selection Points (FSP) upwards.

2.4   Additional nominations will also be selected from lowest FSP upwards.

2.5   Races with two (2) or less eligible acceptors will be deleted.

2.6   If a race with stake money of $20,000 or more is deleted due to a lack of acceptors, it **_may_** be rescheduled at a later date.

3.   **Races for 2 Year Old's**

3.1   Races with eight (8) or more eligible acceptors may not have nominations extended.

3.2   Races will be conducted with four (4) or more eligible acceptors.

3.3   When extending nominations for a race with less than the minimum number of nominations required for the race to be programmed, the conditions of the race may be altered in an attempt to attract sufficient nominations for the race to be programmed. If the conditions are amended to A/E, preference will be given to horses already balloted from the relevant meeting that meet those conditions selected from the lowest FSP upwards.

NB: Additional nominations will also be selected from lowest FSP upwards.

3.4   When a 2YO race is extended with altered conditions allowing nominations for older horses the barrier draw shall be amended to 2YO's drawn and selected first on the advertised barrier draw, unless otherwise specified.

3.5   Races with two (2) or less eligible acceptors will be deleted.

3.6   A field limit of ten (10) shall apply to all 2YO races programmed from 1 Jan to 31 May, excluding Feature Events.

4.   **Races for 3 Year Old's**

4.1   Races with ten (10) or more eligible acceptors may not have nominations extended.

4.2   Races held between 1 January and 31 May will be conducted with four (4) or more eligible acceptors.

     i.   When extending nominations for a race with less than the minimum number of nominations required for the race to be programmed, race conditions will remain unaltered.

4.3   Races held between 1 June and 31 December will be conducted with four (4) or more eligible acceptors.

     i.   When extending nominations for a race with between three (3) and five (5) nominations, the conditions of a race **_may_** be altered in an attempt to attract sufficient nominations to achieve a minimum field size of six (6). If the conditions are amended to A/E, preference will be given to horses already balloted from the relevant meeting that meet those conditions selected from lowest FSP upwards.

    ii.   Additional nominations will be selected from lowest FSP upwards.

    iii.   When a 3YO race is extended with altered conditions allowing nominations from older horses the barrier draw shall be amended to 3YO's drawn and selected first on the advertised barrier draw, unless otherwise specified.

4.4   Races with two (2) or less eligible acceptors will be deleted.

5.   Division of Races

Tasracing may determine to divide a race should there be sufficient eligible acceptors after taking into account:

     i.   The number of races already programmed.

    ii.   Opportunities for horses in other races during that week ending period.

    iii.   The number of horses that are already engaged during that week ending period.

    iv.   Races programmed for 2 year olds, 3 year olds or Maiden horses that received sixteen (16) or more nominations will take priority when determining divided races.

6.   Combined Race

When two races have less than the minimum number of nominations required for the race to be programmed, they may be combined and extended to give all nominations the opportunity to race.

7.   Ballot Races

Where ORI identifies eight (8) or more ballots within a National Rating range of 15 points from programmed races, a ballot race may be programmed with the approval of Tasracing and subject to:

     i.   The number of races already programmed.

    ii.   Opportunities for horses in other races during that week ending period.

    iii.   The number of horses that are already engaged during that week ending period.

8. Non-Sky Meetings

8.1 No additional races shall be scheduled at a non-Sky meeting unless the number of scheduled races at the Sky meetings during that week ending period have been programmed.

8.2 A minimum of eight (8) ballot horses are required for an additional race to be programmed.

9. Nomination for Races with changed conditions

9.1 If any changes and/or additions are made to the original race program for any race, trainers will be advised via SMS and have an opportunity to nominate for that race in the extended nomination period.

9.2 As per clause 8.3 in the Handicapping Schedule if a race condition is altered trainers of acceptors may withdraw without penalty.

10. Race Order

Tasracing will determine the race order for each Harness race meeting, taking into account any requests put forward by the Club.

11. Tasracing Discretion

Notwithstanding any of the above, Tasracing may, amend race conditions or approve to run races with less than the minimum number of nominations required if deemed the right approach to provide the maximum number of nominees a start.

12. Exemption races

The Sires Stakes and the 2YO TTC Sweepstakes Series are all exempt from this policy.

GOVERNANCE

1.1   RESPONSIBILITY

Policy Owner	Tasracing

VERSION CONTROL AND CHANGE HISTORY

Vs	Action	Approval Date	Effective Date	Approved by	Amendment
1	Created	19/12/2019	01/01/2020	RR&PC	
2	Amended	17/12/2020	01/01/2021	RR&PC	2.3, 2.4, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4
3	Added	17/12/2020	01/01/2021	RR&PC	3.4 to 3.5, 3.6, 5, 5.1
4	Amended	17/07/2023	01/08/2023	RR&PC	2, 3.2, Added 4, renumbered 5-12
5	Amended	17/10/2023	24/10/2023	RR&PC	11

DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

CATEGORY	
Original	R:\Racing 2016\All Codes_Current_ Racing Code MASTER Library\Code - Harness\Manual - Policies\Current
Pdf Copy	R:\Racing 2016\All Codes_Current_ Racing Code MASTER Library\Code - Harness\Manual - Policies\Current

POLICY UPDATE REQUIREMENTS

ACTION		
Refer Harness Procedure Manual	Policy Creation and Amendment Procedure	HPRO0001

I hereby certify that the above information has been check and is correct.
Signed: …………………………………………………………..   Date: ….......…/……..…./20……..