

1. OBJECTIVE:

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

2. Races for 3 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. Preference will be given to the eligible horses already balloted from the relevant meeting from the lowest Field Selection Points (FSP) upwards.
- 2.4 When a 3YO race is extended with altered conditions allowing nominations from older horses the barrier draw up until 31 January shall be 3YO's drawn first on the advertised barrier draw. From 1 February the barrier draw will remain as advertised.
- 2.5 Races with two (2) or less eligible acceptors will be deleted.
- 2.6 If a race with stake money of \$15,000 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 the following acceptors:
 - i. 1 Sept – 31 Mar – Four (4) or more eligible acceptors
 - ii. 1 Apr - 31 Aug - Six (6) 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. Preference will be given to the eligible horses already balloted from the relevant meeting from the lowest FSP upwards
- 3.4 Races with two (2) or less eligible acceptors will be deleted.

4. 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.

5. 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

6. Non-Sky Meetings

6.1 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.

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

7. Nomination for Races with changed conditions

7.1 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.

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

8. Race Order

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

9. Tasracing Discretion

Notwithstanding any of the above, Tasracing may, in exceptional circumstances, consider any race funding application on its merit.

10. Exemption races

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