

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN THOROUGHBRED RACING  
HANDICAPPING GUIDE

VERSION 11 – 1 MARCH 2022



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The aim of this document is to provide industry participants with a guide as to the weight horses will receive by virtue of their performances as they move through the class system, or for that matter remain within the same grade. It is contended that Handicappers must attempt to provide consistent handicapping, and enable the connections of horses to have a greater understanding of the methods used.

Western Australia adopts a mostly class based system. Ratings based races as well as special conditions races will be programmed at most venues.

It is important to note that the following template is to be used as a guide, as there are instances where the quality of the field can affect scales used in the handicapping of races. This especially applies in feature handicap races, where the Handicapper may have the scope to be flexible as a consequence of a very strong nomination and taking into consideration the objective of attempting to attract the best possible field.

Handicappers are bound by the requirements of the minimum top weight policy which requires the Handicapper to issue a set of weights for all handicap races, other than group one races and races restricted to two-years-old horses only, with a minimum top weight of 60kg. In satisfying the requirements of the policy it may be necessary for the Handicapper to raise weights from that disclosed on the handicapping template.

It is an objective of all Western Australian Handicappers to provide industry participants with a greater understanding of the procedures involved in the handicapping of all races, both in the metropolitan and provincial/country areas of the state.

## HANDICAPPING AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Chief Handicapper	Vinny Meens	Metropolitan races.
Handicapper	James Ryan	Provincial and country meetings.
Handicapper	Ross Starling	Provincial and country meetings.
Handicapper	Tom Bell	Provincial and country meetings.

## OVERVIEW OF HANDICAPPING

The Handicapping system in Western Australia adopts a numeric based ratings system designed to provide greater transparency to industry participants. Ratings are used universally throughout the world as a method for Handicappers to measure the relative assessment of each horse in their jurisdiction.

Horses receive a numeric rating directly following each racecourse performance in Western Australia. Stakeholders may then apply the published rating to the handicapping template to identify the weight the horse will receive in each race type, subject to any race scaling required to satisfy the minimum top weight policy.

It is important to note that the template is to be used as a guide, as there will be instances where the quality of the field will impact scales used in the handicapping of races. In Group, Listed and other feature races the Handicapper has the scope to be flexible in framing the weights, allowing for the consequence of a very strong nomination and taking into consideration the objective of attempting to attract the best possible field. However, published ratings can be used as a guide by stakeholders to actual weights.

The user cannot expect that all horses having a weight adjustment after any particular race will necessarily be in a manner that allows each horse to be meeting every other runner that finishes in front of him or her on better weight terms. Horses that are better suited in staying events can not automatically expect a reduction in weight when contesting sprint events. Horses that have a history of performing well within the provincial and country areas and do not carry this level of competitiveness across when contesting metropolitan class events, should also not expect to necessarily have a reduction when returning to their normal place of competition. Horses racing materially 'out of the handicap' will also not be assessed for a reduction in weight.

Recognising the difference in quality of events between metropolitan/inner provincial venues and outer provincial/country venues, a separate metropolitan (m) and country (c) rating may be held for the same horse. This allows the Handicapper to address the situation where a horse accumulates a high rating by winning only against the same isolated pool of horses. It is important to note that while horses transitioning from the outer provincial/country area to metropolitan and inner provincial venues are likely to receive a reduction in rating, horses moving in the reverse direction will generally increase in rating reflecting their move into a weaker depth of competition.

Under Merit Based Handicapping the exposed ability of the horse is the primary basis for determining each horse's handicap rating. Accordingly, the more dominant the Handicapper assesses a horse's performance the greater the penalty.

As an example, a horse winning by 4 lengths is likely to receive a much greater penalty than a horse winning by a head. A horse finishing a close second or third, with a large margin to the horses finishing further behind, will also be allocated a greater rating increase than if the majority of the field crossed the line within a couple of lengths.

The Handicapper must consider many variables in analysing the race, including strength of field, tempo, interference, suitability of the race etc.

## HANDICAPPING METHODOLOGY

- ❖ The ratings for Western Australian horses will be available on the RWWA website within two working days of the last start. Horses racing outside WA will have a rating assigned upon request to the Handicapping panel or when re-nominating within this state. All published ratings are subject to review by the Handicapper when the horse is next nominated for a race.
- ❖ Other interstate horses will be allocated a rating on request or when first nominated in WA.
- ❖ In handicap events, with the exception of Group, Listed or other feature races, horses will be balloted in order of published ratings, lowest first. Maiden horses not placed within their last three starts will be relegated to the bottom of the ballot. Horses with the same rating will be separated at the Handicapper's discretion. The Handicapper maintains the ability to elevate any horse in the ballot, irrespective of that horse's rating, to correct an obvious anomaly in the ballot. Fillies and mares have 4 points (equivalent to 2kg) added to their published rating for ballot purposes.
- ❖ Ratings are not used for balloting in set-weight maiden races as different balloting conditions apply, as detailed later in this document.
- ❖ Horses may be allocated more weight in a particular race than the template dictates. In these instances the race will have been 'scaled' by the Handicapper to satisfy the minimum top-weight policy, so as to ensure maximum competitiveness throughout the nominations and to attain a minimum 5kg spread of weights.
- ❖ The 2kg allowance for fillies and mares is included within each horse's published rating, i.e. the rating published can be directly applied to the template.
- ❖ Handicappers do not factor in apprentice claims, such weight allowances are given to equate the relative inexperience of the junior rider to his more senior counterpart. However, all overweight carried may be accounted for in the reassessment of ratings.
- ❖ Horses will not be allocated a rating until after their third race start unless placed at their first or second race start.

## HANDICAPPING TEMPLATES

METROPOLITAN PRIME HANDICAPPING TEMPLATE											
3YO GRADUATION HANDICAP (56+)		3YO OPEN HANDICAP (62+)		GRADUATION HANDICAP (60+)		RATING 66+ HANDICAP		RATING 72+ HANDICAP		RATING 78+ HANDICAP	
For 3YO's that have won one (1) or less metropolitan races.		No win restrictions apply to this race.		For horses that have won one (1) or less metropolitan races.		No win restrictions apply to this race.		No win restrictions apply to this race.		No win restrictions apply to this race.	
<b>Unraced Rating: C&amp;G 60, F&amp;M 56</b>		<b>Unraced Rating: C&amp;G 60, F&amp;M 56</b>		<b>Unraced Rating: C&amp;G 60, F&amp;M 56</b>		<b>Unraced Rating: C&amp;G 60, F&amp;M 56</b>		<b>Unraced Rating: C&amp;G 60, F&amp;M 56</b>		<b>Unraced Rating: C&amp;G 60, F&amp;M 56</b>	
Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
70	61.0	76	61.0	74	61.0	80	61.0	86	61.0	92	61.0
69	60.5	75	60.5	73	60.5	79	60.5	85	60.5	91	60.5
68	60.0	74	60.0	72	60.0	78	60.0	84	60.0	90	60.0
67	59.5	73	59.5	71	59.5	77	59.5	83	59.5	89	59.5
66	59.0	72	59.0	70	59.0	76	59.0	82	59.0	88	59.0
65	58.5	71	58.5	69	58.5	75	58.5	81	58.5	87	58.5
64	58.0	70	58.0	68	58.0	74	58.0	80	58.0	86	58.0
63	57.5	69	57.5	67	57.5	73	57.5	79	57.5	85	57.5
62	57.0	68	57.0	66	57.0	72	57.0	78	57.0	84	57.0
61	56.5	67	56.5	65	56.5	71	56.5	77	56.5	83	56.5
60	56.0	66	56.0	64	56.0	70	56.0	76	56.0	82	56.0
59	55.5	65	55.5	63	55.5	69	55.5	75	55.5	81	55.5
58	55.0	64	55.0	62	55.0	68	55.0	74	55.0	80	55.0
57	54.5	63	54.5	61	54.5	67	54.5	73	54.5	79	54.5
56	54.0	62	54.0	60	54.0	66	54.0	72	54.0	78	54.0

**METROPOLITAN MIDWEEK AND PROVINCIAL A HANDICAPPING TEMPLATE**  
*This includes Ascot midweek, Belmont midweek, Bunbury, Northam & Pinjarra Park*

<b>3YO 0MWLY HANDICAP (54+)</b>		<b>CLASS ONE HANDICAP (50+)</b>		<b>CLASS THREE HANDICAP (54+)</b>		<b>CLASS FIVE HANDICAP (60+)</b>		<b>NO-METRO-WIN-LAST-YEAR HANDICAP (60+)</b>	
For 3YO's who have not won a metropolitan race in the last 12 months.								Open. For horses who have not won a metropolitan race in the last 12 months.	
<b>Unraced Rating: C&amp;G 60, F&amp;M 56</b>		<b>Unraced Rating: C&amp;G 60, F&amp;M 56</b>		<b>Unraced Rating: C&amp;G 60, F&amp;M 56</b>		<b>Unraced Rating: C&amp;G 60, F&amp;M 56</b>		<b>Unraced Rating: C&amp;G 60, F&amp;M 56</b>	
Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
68	61.0	64	61.0	68	61.0	74	61.0	74	61.0
67	60.5	63	60.5	67	60.5	73	60.5	73	60.5
66	60.0	62	60.0	66	60.0	72	60.0	72	60.0
65	59.5	61	59.5	65	59.5	71	59.5	71	59.5
64	59.0	60	59.0	64	59.0	70	59.0	70	59.0
63	58.5	59	58.5	63	58.5	69	58.5	69	58.5
62	58.0	58	58.0	62	58.0	68	58.0	68	58.0
61	57.5	57	57.5	61	57.5	67	57.5	67	57.5
60	57.0	56	57.0	60	57.0	66	57.0	66	57.0
59	56.5	55	56.5	59	56.5	65	56.5	65	56.5
58	56.0	54	56.0	58	56.0	64	56.0	64	56.0
57	55.5	53	55.5	57	55.5	63	55.5	63	55.5
56	55.0	52	55.0	56	55.0	62	55.0	62	55.0
55	54.5	51	54.5	55	54.5	61	54.5	61	54.5
54	54.0	50	54.0	54	54.0	60	54.0	60	54.0

## PROVINCIAL B HANDICAPPING TEMPLATE

*This includes Albany, Broome, Esperance, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Mt. Barker, Narrogin & York*

CLASS ONE HANDICAP (48+)		CLASS TWO HANDICAP (50+)		CLASS FIVE HANDICAP (58+)		RATING 58+ HANDICAP (58+)		OPEN SPRINT/HANDICAP (70+)	
						No win restrictions apply to this race.		No win restrictions apply to this race.	
Unraced Rating: C&G 58, F&M 54		Unraced Rating: C&G 58, F&M 54		Unraced Rating: C&G 58, F&M 54		Unraced Rating: C&G 58, F&M 54		Unraced Rating: C&G 58, F&M 54	
Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)	Rtg	Weight (kg)
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
62	61.0	64	61.0	72	61.0	72	61.0	84	61.0
61	60.5	63	60.5	71	60.5	71	60.5	83	60.5
60	60.0	62	60.0	70	60.0	70	60.0	82	60.0
59	59.5	61	59.5	69	59.5	69	59.5	81	59.5
58	59.0	60	59.0	68	59.0	68	59.0	80	59.0
57	58.5	59	58.5	67	58.5	67	58.5	79	58.5
56	58.0	58	58.0	66	58.0	66	58.0	78	58.0
55	57.5	57	57.5	65	57.5	65	57.5	77	57.5
54	57.0	56	57.0	64	57.0	64	57.0	76	57.0
53	56.5	55	56.5	63	56.5	63	56.5	75	56.5
52	56.0	54	56.0	62	56.0	62	56.0	74	56.0
51	55.5	53	55.5	61	55.5	61	55.5	73	55.5
50	55.0	52	55.0	60	55.0	60	55.0	72	55.0
49	54.5	51	54.5	59	54.5	59	54.5	71	54.5
48	54.0	50	54.0	58	54.0	58	54.0	70	54.0

## COUNTRY HANDICAPPING TEMPLATE

CLASS B HANDICAP (48+)		CLASS ONE HANDICAP (48+)		CLASS THREE HANDICAP (50+)		RATING 56+ HANDICAP (56+)		OPEN SPRINT/HANDICAP (68+)	
Unraced Rating: C&G 56, F&M 52									
Rtg	Weight (kg)								
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
60	61.0	60	61.0	62	61.0	68	61.0	80	61.0
59	60.5	59	60.5	61	60.5	67	60.5	79	60.5
58	60.0	58	60.0	60	60.0	66	60.0	78	60.0
57	59.5	57	59.5	59	59.5	65	59.5	77	59.5
56	59.0	56	59.0	58	59.0	64	59.0	76	59.0
55	58.5	55	58.5	57	58.5	63	58.5	75	58.5
54	58.0	54	58.0	56	58.0	62	58.0	74	58.0
53	57.5	53	57.5	55	57.5	61	57.5	73	57.5
52	57.0	52	57.0	54	57.0	60	57.0	72	57.0
51	56.5	51	56.5	53	56.5	59	56.5	71	56.5
50	56.0	50	56.0	52	56.0	58	56.0	70	56.0
49	55.5	49	55.5	51	55.5	57	55.5	69	55.5
48	55.0	48	55.0	50	55.0	56	55.0	68	55.0

## MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM WEIGHTS

### MINIMUM WEIGHTS

Metropolitan	54kg	Ascot and Belmont Park
Metropolitan	53kg	Group One and Two races
Provincial A	54kg	Bunbury, Northam and Pinjarra Park
Provincial B	54kg	Albany, Broome, Coolgardie, Esperance, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Mt Barker, Narrogin & York
Country	55kg	All other Country Clubs, other than picnic meetings
Picnic	65kg	Kojonup and Landor

### MINIMUM TOP-WEIGHT AT DECLARATION OF WEIGHTS (AR. 103)

Metropolitan, Provincial and Country	60kg
Two-Years-Old Only Races	58kg
Listed, Group 2 and 3 Races	59kg
Group 1 Races	58kg

Where it is necessary to raise the weight of all runners to achieve the minimum top-weight, the Handicapper will attempt to maintain a minimum spread of weights of 5kg in the metropolitan and provincial areas and 4kg at country venues. In certain circumstances, the handicapper may elect to maintain the minimum weight in order to maintain a 6kg spread as advertised.

### MINIMUM TOP-WEIGHT AT ACCEPTANCES (AR.103 & LR103)

Metropolitan, Provincial and Country	59kg
Two-Years-Old Only Races	58kg
Listed, Group 2 and 3 Races	58kg
Group 1 Races	57kg

Where a horse is weighted on the declared minimum weight but would otherwise be allotted a lesser weight in the absence of a required minimum weight, the increase in weight shall be applied to the lesser weight.

## AGE ALLOWANCES

3YO's												
Provincial & Metro Midweek	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
All-Aged-Maiden Races & All Handicaps	2.5	2.5	2	2	1.5	1.5	1	1	0.5	0.5	0	0

3YO's												
Metropolitan PRIME Handicaps	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
Prime Handicaps to 1450m	2.5	2.5	2	2	1.5	1.5	1	1	1	0.5	0.5	0.5
Prime Handicaps 1451m – 1750m	3.5	3.5	3	3	2.5	2.5	2	2	1.5	1.5	1	1
Prime Handicaps 1751m +	4	4	4	4	3.5	3.5	3	3	2.5	2.5	2	2

2YO's												
	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL
1000m-1450m	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3
1451m+	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

\*\*Where a 2YO or 3YO wins or places in an all-aged race, the handicapper may absorb the age allowance within the horse's rating to avoid an excessive rating penalty. In this situation the horse may not receive an age allowance at subsequent starts

# PENALTIES

## PENALTIES UNDER MERIT BASED HANDICAPPING

Merit based handicapping is the method of allocating weight impediments to equalise the chances of horses, based on measurable facts in conjunction with the interpretation of race results.

Under merit based handicapping a horse's rating is adjusted based on performance. There is no arbitrary or standard penalty.

Horses racing out of the handicap are likely to receive a greater rating penalty, to reflect the actual weight penalty in the same grade of race. Horses running well in races substantially out of their grade may be penalised for placings back to fifth.

## WEIGHT RELIEF

Horses running unplaced are eligible for weight relief. In many instances horses finishing fourth and fifth will remain neutral, depending on the margin from the winner.

In the following circumstances horses may not receive weight relief:

- If the horse is racing out of the handicap; i.e. the horses rating is materially below the minimum rating for the race;
- If the horse is racing at an unsuitable distance, such as staying performers contesting sprint events;
- If the horse is the recipient of interference in running;
- If the horse had noticeably missed the start;
- If the horse raced wide throughout;
- If the horse is racing at their first or second start back from a spell.

It is the aim of the Handicapper to review the rating of an unplaced horse to a level he feels will allow that horse to become competitive while being conscious that there are many external factors to the weight carried that may impact a horses performance.

## SET WEIGHT RACES

### 2YO/3YO & UPWARDS MAIDEN RACES

Age	Aug-Sept	Oct-Nov	Dec-Jan	Feb-Mar	Apr-May	June-July
2yo	-	-	55.0kg	55.0kg	55.0kg	55.5kg
3yo	55.5kg	56.0kg	56.5kg	57.0kg	57.5kg	58.0kg
4yo +	58.0kg	58.0kg	58.0kg	58.0kg	58.0kg	58.0kg

3YO MAIDEN RACE		2YO MAIDEN RACE		2YO & 3YO MAIDEN RACE	
Age	Weight	Age	Weight	Age	Weight
3yo	57.0kg	2yo	57.0kg	2yo	54.5kg
				3yo	57.0kg

In all set weight races open to both sexes, fillies and mares shall receive a 2kg allowance.

Two-years-old horses are not permitted to start in any race in the state for which horses over the age of two years are eligible to run before the first day of January.

## STANDARD SET WEIGHTS & PENALTIES CONDITIONS FOR 2YO PLATES

Colts & Geldings 56.0kg; Fillies 54.0kg

### **Penalties for 2YO Open Races:**

For wins in a race run prior to April 6 2020 & on or after August 1, 2020

- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$12,000 or over to carry 1kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$18,000 or over to carry 2kg extra; of two such races 3.5kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$45,000 or over to carry 3kg extra; of two or more such races 5kg extra.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$100,000 or over to carry 4kg extra; of two or more such races 6kg extra.

For wins in a race run between April 6 2020 & July 31, 2020

- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$11,000 or over to carry 1kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$18,000 or over to carry 2kg extra; of two such races 3.5kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$45,000 or over to carry 3kg extra; of two or more such races 5kg extra.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$90,000 or over to carry 4kg extra; of two or more such races 6kg extra.

### **Penalties for 2YO No Metropolitan Win Races:**

For wins in a race run prior to April 6 2020 & on or after August 1, 2020

- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of less than \$12,000 to carry 1kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$12,000 or over to carry 2kg extra; of two such races 3.5kg extra; of three or more such races 5kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies.

For wins in a race run between April 6 2020 & July 31, 2020

- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of less than \$11,000 to carry 1kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$11,000 or over to carry 2kg extra; of two such races 3.5kg extra; of three or more such races 5kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies.

Penalties not to be cumulative.

If the highest weighted horse at close of nominations will be allocated less than 57.0kg, the weight of all horses in the race will be increased to reach a minimum top-weight of 57.0kg. For races restricted to colts and geldings or fillies only, all horses shall carry 56.0kg plus the applicable penalties.

## STANDARD SET WEIGHTS & PENALTIES CONDITIONS FOR 3YO PLATES

Colts & Geldings 56.0kg; Fillies 54.0kg

### **Penalties for 3YO Open Races:**

For wins in a race run prior to April 6 2020 & on or after August 1, 2020

- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$12,000 or over to carry 1kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$18,000 or over to carry 2kg extra; of two such races 3.5kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$45,000 or over to carry 3kg extra; of two such races 5kg extra; of three or more such races 6kg extra.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$100,000 or over to carry 4kg extra; of two such races 6kg extra; of three or more such races 7kg extra.

For wins in a race run between April 6 2020 & July 31, 2020

- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$11,000 or over to carry 1kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$18,000 or over to carry 2kg extra; of two such races 3.5kg extra; for each additional such race thereafter a further 1kg penalty applies.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$45,000 or over to carry 3kg extra; of two such races 5kg extra; of three or more such races 6kg extra.
- Horses which have won a race of the advertised value to the winner of \$90,000 or over to carry 4kg extra; of two such races 6kg extra; of three or more such races 7kg extra.

Penalties not to be cumulative.

If the highest weighted horse at close of nominations will be allocated less than 57.0kg, the weight of all horses in the race will be increased to reach a minimum top-weight of 57.0kg.

## BENCHMARK RACES

'Benchmark races' are those races open to all horses with a defined handicapping scale. For example, a race advertised as a metropolitan 70+ race indicates that a horse rated 70 will be allocated the minimum weight of 54kg and for each rating point above 70 a horse will carry a further 0.5kg.

## QUALITY HANDICAPS

When a race has a maximum top-weight advertised in the race programme, the maximum weight will be applied to horses who based on the handicap scale allocated by the Handicapper would otherwise be allocated a weight exceeding that maximum top-weight. For example, in a race with a handicap scale of 90+ with a maximum top-weight of 62kg, if Horse A is the highest rated horse at 110 and Horse B is the next highest rated horse at 100, Horse A will be allocated 62kg and Horse B 59kg.

## BUSINESS RULES

- Weight penalties or changes in ballot order may be issued subsequent to any wins after nomination.
- Only ratings issued by the RWWA Thoroughbred Handicapping Panel will be recognised. The rating of any horses having last started interstate or overseas will have their rating reviewed by the RWWA Thoroughbred Handicapping Panel on its first nomination in Western Australia.

## RACE TYPES AND CONDITIONS

### 2YO OMW - SPECIAL CONDITIONS RACE

For horses two-years-old which at the time of starting have not won a race on the flat in a metropolitan area in Australia or anywhere outside Australia other than:

- (i) a race on the flat in a metropolitan area in Australia where the prize to the winner is less than \$24,000; OR
- (ii) a race on the flat anywhere outside Australia where the prize to the winner is less than \$A24,000.

### 3YO OMW-LAST-YEAR HANDICAP - SPECIAL CONDITIONS RACE

For horses three-years-old which at the time of starting have not won a race on the flat in a metropolitan area in Australia or anywhere outside Australia within the last year other than:

- (i) a race on the flat in a metropolitan area in Australia where the prize to the winner is less than \$24,000; OR
- (ii) a race on the flat anywhere outside Australia where the prize to the winner is less than \$A24,000.

### 3YO GRADUATION HANDICAP - SPECIAL CONDITIONS RACE

For horses three-years-old which at the time of starting have not won more than one race on the flat in a metropolitan area in Australia or anywhere outside Australia other than:

- (i) a race on the flat in a metropolitan area in Australia where the prize to the winner is less than \$24,000; OR
- (ii) a race on the flat anywhere outside Australia where the prize to the winner is less than \$A24,000.

\* In determining the eligibility of any horse to compete in "Special Conditions" races in Western Australia, any wins in a group or listed race in any area shall be deemed to be a metropolitan win.

## 3UP OMW-LAST-YEAR HANDICAP - SPECIAL CONDITIONS RACE

For any horse/s which at the time of starting have not won a race on the flat in a metropolitan area in Australia or anywhere outside Australia within the last year other than:

- (i) a race on the flat in a metropolitan area in Australia where the prize to the winner is less than \$24,000; OR
- (ii) a race on the flat anywhere outside Australia where the prize to the winner is less than \$A24,000.

## 3UP GRADUATION HANDICAP - SPECIAL CONDITIONS RACE

For any horse/s which at the time of starting have not won more than one race on the flat in a metropolitan area in Australia or anywhere outside Australia other than:

- (i) a race on the flat in a metropolitan area in Australia where the prize to the winner is less than \$24,000; OR
- (ii) a race on the flat anywhere outside Australia where the prize to the winner is less than \$A24,000.

\* In determining the eligibility of any horse to compete in "Special Conditions" races in Western Australia, any wins in a group or listed race in any area shall be deemed to be a metropolitan win.

## CONDITIONS FOR RESTRICTED RACES

AR.1A.A Maiden Race is one restricted to horses which at the time of starting have never won on the flat a race at a registered meeting or any advertised race in any country.

A TROPHY RACE is a race in which the prizemoney and/or value of any trophy to the winner does not exceed \$5,000.

A CLASS A RACE is one restricted to horses which, at the time of starting, have not generated prizes in the aggregate worth more than \$6,000 for wins in races on the flat and have never won a race on the flat outside Australia.

A CLASS B RACE is one restricted to horses which, at the time of starting, have not generated prizes in the aggregate worth more than \$12,500 for wins in races on the flat and have never won a race on the flat outside Australia.

\* The value of the prize to the winner shall not exceed:

in a Class A Race -\$6,000

in a Class B Race - \$12,500

**A CLASS ONE RACE** is one restricted to horses which, at the time of starting, have not won more than one race on the flat, provided that in determining the eligibility of any horse no account shall be taken of any wins in Class A, Class B or Trophy races, other than a win as a Maiden horse. Further provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the winner of any Group or Listed race shall be ineligible.

**A CLASS TWO RACE** is one restricted to horses which, at the time of starting, have not won more than two races on the flat, provided that in determining the eligibility of any horse no account shall be taken of any wins in Class A, Class B or Trophy races, other than a win as a Maiden horse. Further provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the winner of any Group or Listed race shall be ineligible.

**A CLASS THREE RACE** is one restricted to horses which, at the time of starting, have not won more than three races on the flat, provided that in determining the eligibility of any horse no account shall be taken of any wins in Class A, Class B or Trophy races, other than a win as a Maiden horse. Further provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the winner of any Group or Listed race shall be ineligible.

**A CLASS FOUR RACE** is one restricted to horses which, at the time of starting, have not won more than four races on the flat, provided that in determining the eligibility of any horse no account shall be taken of any wins in Class A, Class B or Trophy races, other than a win as a Maiden horse. Further provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the winner of any Group or Listed race shall be ineligible.

**A CLASS FIVE RACE** is one restricted to horses which, at the time of starting, have not won more than five races on the flat, provided that in determining the eligibility of any horse no account shall be taken of any wins in Class A, Class B or Trophy races, other than a win as a Maiden horse. Further provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the winner of either of the following races shall be ineligible:

- (a) Any Group Race; or
- (b) Any Listed Race in which horses older than 2yo could run.

**A CLASS SIX RACE** is one restricted to horses which, at the time of starting, have not won more than six races on the flat, provided that in determining the eligibility of any horse no account shall be taken of any wins in Class A, Class B or Trophy races, other than a win as a Maiden horse. Further provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the winner of the following races shall be ineligible:

- (a) Any Group Race; or
- (b) Any Listed Race in which horses older than 2yo could run; or
- (c) More than one Listed Race in which 2yos only could run."

## STANDARD WEIGHT-FOR-AGE SCALE

MONTH		AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JULY
1000m to 1200m	2						45	46	47	48	49	50	51
	3	51.5	52	53	53.5	54.5	55	55.5	56	56.5	57	57.5	58
	4	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5
	5+	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5	58.5
Over 1200m to 1400m	2						44	45	46	47	48	49	50
	3	50.5	51	52	53	54	54.5	55.5	56	56.5	57	57.5	58
	4	58.5	58.5	58.5	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
	5+	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
Over 1400m to 1600m	2						43.5	44.5	45.5	46.5	47.5	48.5	49.5
	3	50	50.5	51	52	53	54	55	56	56.5	57	57.5	58
	4	58.5	58.5	58.5	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
	5+	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
Over 1600m to 2000m	2						42.5	43.5	44.5	45.5	46.5	47.5	48.5
	3	49	49.5	50	51	52	53	54	54.5	55.5	56.5	57	57.5
	4	58	58	58	58.5	58.5	58.5	59	59	59	59	59	59
	5+	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
Over 2000m to 2400m	3	48.5	49	49.5	50.5	51	52	53	54	54.5	55.5	56	57
	4	57.5	57.5	57.5	58	58	58	58.5	58.5	58.5	59	59	59
	5 +	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
Over 2400m to 3200m	3	48	48.5	49	50	50.5	51.5	52.5	53.5	54	55	55.5	56
	4	57.5	57.5	57.5	58	58	58	58.5	58.5	58.5	59	59	59
	5+	59.5	59.5	59.5	59.5	59.5	59.5	59.5	59.5	59.5	59.5	59.5	59.5

Fillies and Mares allowed 2.0kg

## BALLOTING CONDITIONS

Where the number of horses in any race exceeds the number set down by the Stewards or Committee of the Club RWWA may, except where special balloting conditions apply, implement any or all of the following conditions to eliminate horses to meet the limits.

- (a) Subject to the provisions of LR51A (1) any horse considered a final acceptor for more than one race at the same meeting shall be withdrawn from the race with the higher number of acceptors. Provided that horses will always be withdrawn from a non-feature race and not be withdrawn from a Group, Listed or other race advertised as Discretionary Balloting. A horse declared an emergency runner in any race may be engaged as an acceptor for another race at the same meeting.
- (b) Any horse engaged to run at a meeting that has already accepted will be relegated to the lowest emergency position in any subsequent race that horse is entered for. Provided that horses will be exempt from this clause if the subsequent race is a Group, Listed or other race advertised as Discretionary Balloting.
- (c) In the event of the time for nominations being extended because of insufficient entries (or some other reason), any horse which had been nominated by the inaugural nomination time shall be given preference for a start over any horse which was nominated after the time for extending entries was announced, except when the horse is engaged to run at a meeting that has already accepted.
- (d) Any horse classified by the Handicapper below the declared minimum weight shall be eliminated in order of the Handicappers rating. Horses with the same rating will be separated at the Handicapper's discretion. The Handicapper may, at his discretion, elevate any horse in the ballot, irrespective of that horse's rating, to correct an obvious anomaly in the ballot. For ballot purposes, the rating of all fillies and mares is increased by 4 points to recognize the 2kg sex allowance
- (e) Any maiden horse nominated to run in a handicap race will be relegated in the ballot below horses that have already won a race, unless the maiden horse was placed second or third within its last three starts where it will be balloted by the Handicappers rating. Maiden horses relegated under this clause will be balloted in accordance with the standard maiden balloting conditions listed below under section (l).
- (f) Notwithstanding the foregoing conditions RWWA and the Committee of the Club may, in its absolute discretion, eliminate any horse or horses from a race, and/or exclude any horse or horses from the operation of any or all of the preceding elimination conditions, irrespective of the age, allotted weight or Handicappers rating of the horse concerned.
- (g) RWWA reserves the power to make provision for the naming of horses as Emergency Runners subsequent to any ballot; provided that when it is determined that a race shall be run in two or more divisions at close of nominations, the Emergency Runners named in any division may be placed in any other division to take the place of horses withdrawn at time of final acceptances.

- (h) RWWA and the Committee of the Club reserves to itself the power to transfer the nomination of any horse balloted or withdrawn from the race in which it was entered to a suitable race on the same day, or another meeting where entries close on the same day. Provided that where a horse has not been withdrawn from the race prior to the time appointed for final acceptances the acceptance of the horse so transferred shall be taken as the nominator's approval of such transfer and for the purpose of eligibility, qualification or race conditions shall be deemed to have been nominated in the race to which it was transferred. Further provided that where the other horses in such race have not been withdrawn prior to the time appointed for final acceptances, the acceptance of such horses shall be taken as confirmation of the nominator's approval of the transfer of the horses concerned.
- (i) RWWA reserves to itself the power to re-open nominations for any race at a meeting to allow horses accepted for a race deleted at acceptance time or abandoned after acceptance time to nominate. Provided that any horse which had been nominated by the inaugural nomination time shall be given preference for a start over any horse which was nominated after the time nominations were re-opened.
- (j) No liability shall be incurred to the nominator of any horse or to any other person in consequence of or by reason of any departure whether intentional or otherwise from these conditions.
- (k) In any case not provided for under the Rules, the decision of RWWA shall be final.

(l) **SET-WEIGHT MAIDEN RACES**

- i. Horses which have not received prize money within their last 5 starts to be placed in order of total number of starts.
- ii. Horses which have received the lowest aggregate prize money within their last five starts. Horses with equal aggregate prize money to be placed in order at the Handicappers discretion.
- iii. Horses which have had two unplaced race starts.
- iv. Horses which have had one unplaced race start.
- v. Unraced horses. (Horses placed first in trials will take preference over trial placegetters. Trial placegetters will take preference over unplaced trial runners. Horses which need to be separated within trial categories shall be done so at the discretion of the Handicapper i.e.: Trial winner category, trial placegetter category etc.)
- vi. Horses which have earned prizemoney by placing 2nd – 5th in a prime metropolitan race within their last 3 starts; or have earned prizemoney by placing 2nd – 4th in a provincial or midweek metropolitan race within their last 3 starts; or have earned prizemoney by placing 2nd – 3rd in a country race within their last 3 starts. Horses to be placed in descending order of prizemoney earned in last 3 starts.

## SPECIAL NOTICES

### GROUP, LISTED & PRIME METROPOLITAN RACES

In Group, Listed or Prime Metropolitan races in which horses older than three years old can compete, entries are accepted on the condition that the nomination of any horse may be rejected by the Handicapper.

### NO ALLOWANCE FOR APPRENTICES

Apprentices are not permitted to claim their allowance in any open class race run outside the metropolitan area where the total prize money of the race is \$30,000 or more, unless specified otherwise in the race programme advertised in the Racing Calendar.

AR92. provides that no apprentice jockey may claim a weight allowance in any Group or Listed race.