



RACING AND WAGERING
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MEDIA RELEASE

Premier harness races divide and conquer

The greatest harness races in Western Australia are claiming a wider span of the racing calendar to attract the best horses and highlight each event.

Racing and Wagering Western Australia Chief Racing Officer David Hunter said the WA Pacing Cup and the Fremantle Cup would move out of the summer season and run from spring to autumn.

“The success of the first million-dollar harness slot race in Western Australia, The Nullarbor, has prompted a shift in scheduling for the traditional summer favourites to give each one a prime timeslot,” David said.

“The WA Pacing Cup is moving to November to match up with the popular Italian fireworks night at Gloucester Park and capitalise on traditional increased wagering opportunities at this time.

“The Fremantle Cup is shifting to April 2024 and will be scheduled a week after The Nullarbor.

“We expect the top harness horses across Oceania to be attracted to The Nullarbor so we’re aligning the Fremantle Cup as a follow-up chance for race fans to see the best of the best racing at Gloucester Park.

“By widening the timeframe between the top-tier WA harness races we can avoid competition with other racing events, amplify the spotlight on each feature race and enable more diverse fields.”

The \$450,000 Group 1 TABtouch WA Pacing Cup will be held on 10 November 2023. It will revert to being run over 2536m.

In the lead up to the WA Pacing Cup, the \$100,000 JP Stratton Cup will be held on 13 October 2023 and the \$100,000 James Brennan Memorial on 27 October 2023.

The \$300,000 Group 1 Retravisio Fremantle Cup will now be run over 2936m in April 2024 a week after the \$1million slot race The Nullarbor, with dates to be confirmed.

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