

20 May 2018

## CIRCULAR No: 1805

**TO:** THE SECRETARY/RACING MGR OF ALL TOTALISATOR CLUBS & SIRES STAKES BOARD

**FROM:** ANDREW MORRIS, HANDICAPPER

**SUBJECT:** 2018/19 GROUP RACE SUBMISSIONS

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1. With the Dates process nearing completion it is now time for clubs (also NZ Sires Stakes Board via clubs) to make submissions for Group Races in the 2018/19 racing season. HRNZ asks that any club seeking renewal of current classifications make submissions also. We ask that clubs base their submissions on the same parameters and criteria as 2017/18 (see General Criteria attached).
2. Please advise all relevant race details within submissions. We require clubs to submit a proposed stake, date, sponsor (if possible) and race (also series if applicable) conditions. Also; if clubs are seeking an upgrade in status please include any relevant background information.
3. Please note that the Group Race Sub-Committee gave notice last year of the intention that minimum stakes for Group Races in 2018/19 will be as follows:  
**Group 1 \$100,000, Group 2 \$50,000, Group 3 \$30,000.**
4. The Group Race Sub-Committee will also be conducting a review of the balance and placement of Group races.
5. The current Group Race Schedule is also attached for your reference. **Submissions should be received at HRNZ by noon Friday 08 June 2018.** The Group Race Sub-Committee meeting will be held at HRNZ on Thursday 14 June.
6. Please send submissions to: Andrew Morris email: [andrewm@hrnz.co.nz](mailto:andrewm@hrnz.co.nz).
7. Should clubs have any queries or require any assistance or additional information in preparing submissions please do not hesitate to contact Edward Rennell or the writer.

**Andrew Morris**  
**HANDICAPPER**

## GROUP AND LISTED RACES 2017/18 – GENERAL CRITERIA

At the time when applications for Group Race Status are considered, the following guidelines are adopted by the Review committee in assessing what is an appropriate feature event that qualifies for group status.

Group races or “black type” events as they are also known, were initially devised to sort out and distinguish for the purpose of sale catalogues, the difference in quality of races. The black type system was and still is primarily intended to produce a listing of superior races which reflect the best product that harness racing provides.

The Group Race List defines those races, which have most reliably provided a measure of the merit of horses competing, and to rate the races accordingly. The end users of this information include breeders and purchasers of standardbreds, auctioneer, bloodstock agents, owners, trainers, the media and the racing public at large.

It is essential that a structured feature race programme is established encompassing the various age group sectors. The aim is to provide a sensible sequence of major events that cater for the better-performed horses and in turn also provides the ideal platform for promotional purposes and maximises benefits to the industry.

1. The object is to produce a listing of superior races, which reflect the present day character of New Zealand racing with regard to providing for horses of different ages and sexes.
2. Primary considerations in assessing the standing of races include:
  - (a) Class of horse racing
  - (b) Historical importance and place on the calendar.
  - (c) Prize money
  - (d) Conducted where possible at “Premier” and feature meetings.
  - (e) Totalisator and Fixed Odds turnover
3. In respect of historical importance, a race must have no fewer than two previous editions before consideration is given to inclusion as a Group Race.
4. Maintaining continuity of races on the Group Schedule is regarded as desirable so long as the continuity is credible.
5. Sales series races are not eligible for Group status due to the restricted nature of their entry.

In principle Group races should attract the very best horses available therefore the winner of the event has to be a cut above the average to earn “black type” recognition.

## **THE FOLLOWING GENERAL CRITERIA APPLY FOR EACH RESPECTIVE GROUP RACE CATEGORY:**

### **Group I – Minimum Stake \$100,000**

A Group I race shall be a Handicap (Special or Discretionary), Free-For-All or Classic Race being a race of national importance, with a superior stake and that has consistently attracted the best eligible horses from all parts of New Zealand

### **Group II – Minimum Stake \$40,000 (increase to \$50,000 2018/19)**

A Group II race shall be a Handicap (Special or Discretionary), Free-For-All or Classic Race being a race of national importance that consistently attracts the better-performed horses in the appropriate class or age group. Group II races may be run as Preferential Barrier Draws, subject to the approval of HRNZ.

### **Group III – Minimum Stake \$25,000 (increase to \$30,000 2018/19)**

A Group III race shall be a Handicap (Special or Discretionary), Free-For-All, Discretionary or Classic Race being a race of national and/or regional importance, which consistently attracts the better performed horses in the appropriate class or age group. Group III races may be run as Preferential Barrier Draws.

### **Listed**

A Listed race will be either a PGG Wrightson Yearling Sales Series or NZ Sires Stakes race that offers a superior stake and is a race of national importance, attracting horses from various regions of New Zealand.

## **GROUP RACE STRUCTURE FOR 2017/18 SEASON**

Group I events = 36

Group II events = 22

Group III events = 31

Listed events = 15

Total Group & Listed Races = 104 (4% of approximately 2,600 races to be run this season)

# Group Race List 2017/2018

Name of Race	Date	Club	Status	Group	Gait	Est Stake
Allied Security Maurice Holmes Vase	01-Sep	NZ Metro	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$30,000
Avon City Ford (New Brighton) Cup	16-Sep	NZ Metro	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$30,000
PGG Wrightson Hannon Memorial	24-Sep	Oamaru	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$30,000
Country Feasts D G Jones Trotting Cup	01-Oct	Banks Pen	Group 3	Open	Trot	\$30,000
Christian Cullen Canterbury Classic	06-Oct	NZ Metro	Group 2	Open	Pace	\$50,000
Yaldhurst Hotel Canterbury Park Trotting Cup	06-Oct	NZ Metro	Group 3	Open	Trot	\$30,000
Terror To Love Methven Cup	15-Oct	Methven	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$35,000
Ashburton Flying Stakes	23-Oct	Ashburton	Group 2	Open	Pace	\$50,000
Ashburton Trotters Flying Mile	23-Oct	Ashburton	Group 3	Open	Trot	\$30,000
Alabar Kaikoura Cup	30-Oct	Kaikoura	Group 2	Open	Pace	\$50,000
PGG Wrightson Yearling Sales Aged Pace	30-Oct	Kaikoura	Listed	Open	Pace	\$50,000
South Bay Trotters Cup	30-Oct	Kaikoura	Group 3	Open	Trot	\$30,000
NRM NZ Sires Stakes 3YO Final	14-Nov	NZ Metro	Group 1	3YO C & G	Pace	\$170,000
Christchurch Casino NZ Cup	14-Nov	NZ Metro	Group 1	Open	Pace	\$800,000
Fahey Fence Hire Free-For-All	14-Nov	NZ Metro	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$35,000
Granite Benchtop Co. NZ Trotting FFA	14-Nov	NZ Metro	Group 1	Open	Trot	\$100,000
Nevele R Sires Stakes Mares Classic	17-Nov	NZ Metro	Listed	4YO+ Mares	Pace	\$40,000
Woodlands NZ Pacing FFA	17-Nov	NZ Metro	Group 1	Open	Pace	\$260,000
Haras des Trotteurs Dominion Trot	17-Nov	NZ Metro	Group 1	Open	Trot	\$300,000
Caduceus Club Northern Breeders Stakes	08-Dec	Auckland	Group 3	F & M	Pace	\$30,000
LBG Builders Summer Cup	08-Dec	Auckland	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$30,000
Alabar Classic	15-Dec	Auckland	Group 2	3YO	Pace	\$50,000
Peter Breckon Memorial Ladyship Stakes	15-Dec	Auckland	Group 2	3YO Fillies	Pace	\$75,000
Rosslands Queen Of Hearts	15-Dec	Auckland	Group 1	F & M	Pace	\$100,000
Franklin Cup	15-Dec	Auckland	Group 2	Open	Pace	\$50,000
Rosslands Lyell Creek Stakes	15-Dec	Auckland	Group 2	Open	Trot	\$50,000
Jardine Bloodstock Futurity Stakes	24-Dec	HR Waikato	Group 2	4 & 5YO	Pace	\$50,000
The Group One Turf Bar Trotters Flying Mile	24-Dec	HR Waikato	Group 2	Open	Trot	\$50,000
PGG Wrightson Yearling Sales 3YO Open	31-Dec	Auckland	Listed	3YO	Pace	\$200,000
Alabar Sires Stakes Fillies Final	31-Dec	Auckland	Group 1	3YO Fillies	Pace	\$150,000
Trillian Trust Auckland Cup	31-Dec	Auckland	Group 1	Open	Pace	\$250,000
Jen Campin National Trot	31-Dec	Auckland	Group 1	Open	Trot	\$100,000
Central Otago FFA	02-Jan	Central Otago	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$30,000
Sky City Flying Mile	05-Jan	HR Waikato	Group 2	Open	Pace	\$60,000
Cambridge Trotters Flying Stakes	05-Jan	HR Waikato	Group 3	Open	Trot	\$30,000
Ascot Park Hotel Invercargill Cup	27-Jan	Invercargill	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$32,000
Garrards Premier Mares Championship	02-Feb	NZ Metro	Group 2	Mares	Pace	\$50,000
PGG Wrightson Sires Stakes Harness 5000	16-Feb	NZ Metro	Listed	3YO	Pace	\$40,000
PGG Wrightson NZ Yearling Sales 3YO Fillies Final	16-Feb	NZ Metro	Listed	3YO Fillies	Pace	\$150,000
PGG Wrightson NZ Breeders Stakes	16-Feb	NZ Metro	Group 1	F & M	Pace	\$100,000
United Steel/Metalcraft Roofing Summer Cup	16-Feb	NZ Metro	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$30,000
Teltrac Communications Summer Trotting FFA	16-Feb	NZ Metro	Group 3	Open	Trot	\$30,000
Teltrac Communications NZ Sapling Stakes	25-Feb	Ashburton	Group 3	2YO	Pace	\$27,500
Neumanns Bandag Hambletonian Classic	25-Feb	Ashburton	Group 3	3YO	Trot	\$27,500
Pascoes The Jewellers Northern Oaks	02-Mar	Auckland	Group 1	3YO Fillies	Pace	\$125,000
Lincoln Farms The Founders Cup (1700)	02-Mar	Auckland	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$30,000
Northern Trotting Breeders Stakes	02-Mar	Auckland	Group 3	F & M	Trot	\$30,000
Sweet Lou Leonard Memorial Stakes	04-Mar	Cheviot	Group 3	2YO Fillies	Pace	\$30,000
Breckon Bloodstock Young Gun Cardigan Bay Stakes	09-Mar	Auckland	Group 1	2YO	Pace	\$100,000
Crombie Lockwood Bloodstock Delightful Lady Class	09-Mar	Auckland	Group 2	2YO Fillies	Pace	\$80,000
Woodlands Stud Northern Derby	09-Mar	Auckland	Group 1	3YO	Pace	\$250,000

Magness Benrow Northern Mares Classic	09-Mar	Auckland	Listed	4YO + Mares	Pace	\$40,000
Auckland Co-op Taxis City Of Auckland FFA	09-Mar	Auckland	Group 2	Open	Pace	\$50,000
Majestic Horsefloats Greenlane Cup	09-Mar	Auckland	Group 3	Open	Trot	\$30,000
Caduceus Club Southland/Nevele R Fillies Classic	10-Mar	North South	Group 3	2YO Fillies	Pace	\$25,000
Yaldhurst Hotel Northern Southland Cup	10-Mar	North South	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$40,000
Bmac Sheetmetal Southern Lights Trot	10-Mar	North South	Group 3	Open	Trot	\$25,000
Alabar NZ Kindergarten Stakes	17-Mar	Wyndham	Group 3	2YO	Pace	\$25,000
Vero Flying Stakes	23-Mar	NZ Metro	Group 2	3YO	Pace	\$50,000
Gordon Roxburgh Free-For-All	23-Mar	NZ Metro	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$30,000
Storer Motors NZ Trotting Oaks	23-Mar	NZ Metro	Group 2	3YO Fillies	Trot	\$50,000
Breckon Farms/ All Stars Racing Easter Cup	31-Mar	NZ Metro	Group 1	Open	Pace	\$100,000
Fahey Fence Hire NZ 2YO Trotting Stakes	31-Mar	NZ Metro	Group 3	2YO	Trot	\$30,000
Lamb & Hayward 4&5YO Trotting Championship	31-Mar	NZ Metro	Group 3	4 & 5YO	Trot	\$30,000
Avon City Ford NZ Welcome Stakes	06-Apr	NZ Metro	Group 2	2YO	Pace	\$50,000
Diamond Creek Farm NZ Derby	06-Apr	NZ Metro	Group 1	3YO	Pace	\$200,000
Resource Recycling Superstars Championship	06-Apr	NZ Metro	Group 2	4 & 5YO	Pace	\$50,000
Paintlab NZ Trotting Derby	06-Apr	NZ Metro	Group 1	3YO	Trot	\$100,000
Fred Shaw Memorial NZ Trotting Champs	06-Apr	NZ Metro	Group 1	Open	Trot	\$100,000
Woodlands Stud Caduceus Club Fillies Classic	20-Apr	Auckland	Group 1	2YO Fillies	Pace	\$110,000
Waste Management Taylor Mile	20-Apr	Auckland	Group 1	4YO	Pace	\$100,000
Lone Star Riccarton Sires Stakes Trotting Champs	20-Apr	Auckland	Group 2	3YO	Trot	\$60,000
H R Fiskens & Sons Anzac Cup	20-Apr	Auckland	Group 1	Open	Trot	\$100,000
Rangiora Classic	22-Apr	Rangiora	Group 3	Open	Pace	\$30,000
Magness Benrow NZ Sires Stakes Fillies Champs	27-Apr	Auckland	Group 1	2YO Fillies	Pace	\$150,000
Dawson Harford & Partners NZ Messenger	27-Apr	Auckland	Group 1	4YO	Pace	\$100,000
Breckon Farms Northern Trotting Derby	27-Apr	Auckland	Group 1	3YO	Trot	\$100,000
Canam Rowe Cup	27-Apr	Auckland	Group 1	Open	Trot	\$150,000
Diamond Creek Classic	29-Apr	Invercargill	Group 2	2YO	Pace	\$45,000
Alabar Southern Supremacy Stakes	29-Apr	Invercargill	Group 2	3YO C & G	Pace	\$45,000
Macca Lodge/Nevele R Southland Oaks	29-Apr	Invercargill	Group 2	3YO Fillies	Pace	\$45,000
PGG Wrightson NZ Yearling Sales 2YO Open	04-May	NZ Metro	Listed	2YO	Pace	\$175,000
Nevele R Fillies Series Final	11-May	NZ Metro	Group 1	3YO Fillies	Pace	\$140,000
PGG Wrightson NZ Yearling Sales 2YO Trot	11-May	NZ Metro	Listed	2YO	Trot	\$65,000
Lone Star Riccarton S.S. Aged Trotters Classic	11-May	NZ Metro	Listed	4YO & Older	Trot	\$40,000
PGG Wrightson NZ Yearling Sales 2YO Fillies	11-May	Auckland	Listed	2YO Fillies	Pace	\$150,000
Haras des Trotteurs Northern Trotting Oaks	11-May	Auckland	Group 3	3YO Fillies	Trot	\$30,000
Garrards NZ Sires Stakes 2YO Final	18-May	NZ Metro	Group 1	2YO C & G	Pace	\$170,000
Garrards NZ Sires Stakes Sophomore Classic	18-May	NZ Metro	Listed	3YO C & G	Pace	\$40,000
The Breeders NZ Oaks	18-May	NZ Metro	Group 1	3YO Fillies	Pace	\$150,000
Lone Star Riccarton Sires Stakes Trotting Champs	18-May	NZ Metro	Group 2	2YO	Trot	\$60,000
PGG Wrightson NZ Yearling Sales 3YO Trot	18-May	NZ Metro	Listed	3YO	Trot	\$70,000
Harness Jewels 2YO Emerald	02-Jun	Cambridge	Group 1	2YO C & G	Pace	\$150,000
Harness Jewels 2YO Diamond	02-Jun	Cambridge	Group 1	2YO Fillies	Pace	\$150,000
Harness Jewels 3YO Emerald	02-Jun	Cambridge	Group 1	3YO C & G	Pace	\$150,000
Harness Jewels 3YO Diamond	02-Jun	Cambridge	Group 1	3YO Fillies	Pace	\$150,000
Harness Jewels 4YO Emerald	02-Jun	Cambridge	Group 1	4YO E & G	Pace	\$150,000
Harness Jewels 4YO Diamond	02-Jun	Cambridge	Group 1	4YO Mares	Pace	\$150,000
Harness Jewels 2YO Ruby	02-Jun	Cambridge	Group 1	2YO	Trot	\$125,000
Harness Jewels 3YO Ruby	02-Jun	Cambridge	Group 1	3YO	Trot	\$125,000
Harness Jewels 4YO Ruby	02-Jun	Cambridge	Group 1	4YO	Trot	\$125,000
Uncut Gems 4YO & Older Mares	15-Jun	Auckland	Listed	4YO+	Pace	\$40,000
Uncut Gems 4YO & Older Entire & Geldings	15-Jun	Auckland	Listed	4YO+	Pace	\$40,000
Uncut Gems 4YO & Older Trotters	15-Jun	Auckland	Listed	4YO+	Trot	\$40,000