

August 2022

OFFICIAL NOTICE

AMENDMENTS TO HANDICAPPING REGULATIONS AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND DRIVERS FEES REGULATION

At its meeting on 20th July 2022, the Board of Harness Racing New Zealand approved the following amendments to the Handicapping Regulations and associated Guiding Principles. These changes take effect on 1st August 2022.

These changes were recommended following work undertaken by a working group of industry participants and HRNZ staff, followed by further consultation with the NZ Trainers & Drivers' Association representatives on the driving fee.

Drivers Fee Regulation

With the driving fee not having been reviewed since 2018, and the significant increase in the cost of living over this time, it was recommended and the Board agreed to increase the driving fee to \$100.00 (plus GST if applicable), effective from 1 August 2022.

"4.1 A driver shall be paid \$100.00 for each drive in a betting race from 1 August 2022."

Handicapping Regulations

The following are the minor alterations made to the Ratings Handicapping System that will take effect from 1 August 2022:

- *That the rating bands for re-rating unplaced horses be moved to the following: R61 to R80 becomes R55 to R70 (for 3 unplaced starts), R81 to R99 becomes R71-R89 (for 2 unplaced starts), R100 or greater becomes R90 or greater (1 unplaced start).*
- *That for non-Group or Listed races with six starters or less, the fourth placed horse will drop a point; and for Group or Listed races with six starters or less, the fifth placed horse will drop a point.*
- *The Race Winners' Matrix will be altered as follows:*
 - *Bracket 1 - Up to \$9,000 becomes up to \$10,000.*
 - *Bracket 2 - \$9,001 - \$15,000 becomes \$10,001 - \$17,500.*
- *On 1 August & 1 January each year horses identified by the Handicappers as being rated uncompetitively or considered to be disadvantaged in relation to other horses may be subject to re-rating.*

The full amended Drivers Fee Regulation and Handicapping Regulations, together with Guiding Principles and Race Winners' Matrix are available on the HRNZ website.



Gary Woodham
Chief Executive