

# RACE CONDITIONS – THE 2023 2YO ACES

The 2YO Aces to be raced at Addington Raceway, on Sunday, 10 December 2023 by the NZ Metropolitan TC.

1.	“Ace of Diamonds” for 2YO Pacing Fillies (Group 1)	\$110,000
2.	“Ace of Spades” for 2YO Pacing Colts & Geldings (Group 1)	\$110,000
3.	“Ace of Hearts” for 2YO Trotting fillies (Group 1)	\$110,000
4.	“Ace of Clubs” for 2YO Trotting Colts & Geldings (Group 1)	\$110,000

## ELIGIBILITY

- These are not pre-payment races. There are no Nomination or Acceptance fees payable to be eligible.
- Open to all 2YO Pacers and Trotters that have started in at least one Official Race that counts towards 2YO Aces Race Selection, as set out in these conditions.

## DISTANCE

- Races to be despatched from a Mobile Start over 1980 metres.

## NUMBER OF STARTERS

- A maximum of 13 starters will contest these races – plus up to one emergency. The maximum number of starters on the front line shall be eight (8).

## BARRIER DRAW

- All 2YO Aces races will have a random barrier draw.

**STAKES DISTRIBUTION** - Races will be for run for advertised stakes of \$100,000 & distributed as follows:

First	\$55,000 (50%)
Second	\$16,500 (15%)
Third	\$8,800 (8%)
Fourth	\$4,400 (4%)
Fifth	\$3,300 (3%)
Sixth to 13 <sup>th</sup>	\$2,750 (2.50% x 8 = 20%)

- In the event there are fewer than 13 starters for a 2YO Aces race, any residual stakes shall be added to the prize money for the first five placegetters based on the following pro-rata split: first 62.5%, second 20%, third 10%, fourth 5%, fifth 2.5 %.

## FIELD SELECTION

- Order of entry for the four Aces fields will be determined in the following order at the conclusion of racing at the Methven TC meeting on Sunday 03 December 2023.
  1. In order of the highest stake earnings based on the following criteria:
    - (a) All earnings (including handicapping exempt or Rating Penalty Free earnings) for the 2023 season, 1 January 2023 up to and including 03 December 2023 in New Zealand only for placings 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th only.
    - (b) All Sales Series stake earnings are excluded.
    - (c) All other Series stakes, e.g. Sires Stakes are included.
    - (d) All stake bonuses (e.g. incentive bonuses) are excluded.

2. In the event of two or more horses having equal earnings, the following criteria shall apply:  
Firstly (a) Most number of wins in the 2023 season up to and including 03 December 2023 in New Zealand only.  
Then (b) Most number of second placings in the 2023 season up to and including 03 December 2023 in New Zealand only.  
Then (c) Most number of third placings in the 2023 season up to and including 03 December 2023 in New Zealand only.  
Then (d) Most number of fourth placings in the 2023 season up to and including 03 December 2023 in New Zealand only.  
Then (e) In the event that two or more horses are still on equal selection criteria, the Harness Racing New Zealand Handicapper shall select one by ballot under the supervision of a RIB Steward or Inspector.
3. It is intended that 13 horses be included in the field, plus one additional emergency.

#### **NOMINATION & ACCEPTANCE PROCESS**

- **A Nomination must be made to the host club**, in the normal manner prior to the prescribed Close of Nomination time, per the Official Programme (by 12:00pm Monday 04 December). There will be no automatic nomination for horses in the top 20 for these races, as was the case for the Harness Jewels.
- Any horse that is withdrawn at any stage over the season cannot re-enter its respective field.
- In the event there are fewer than a full field of 13 horses Nominated for any of The Aces Races, the club reserves the right to extend the close of Nomination time.
- Horses selected to start in any of the 2YO Aces races (including emergencies that gain a place in the field) will not be permitted to start in any other race on at the NZ Metropolitan TC meeting, on Sunday 10 December.

#### **TIMELINE**

**7:00pm - Sunday 03 December 2023:** Order of Entry qualification closes at the conclusion of the day's racing.

**12:00pm – Monday 04 December 2023:** Nominations close for the four Aces Races.

**3:00pm - Tuesday 05 December 2023:** Withdrawals close.

**1:00pm - Thursday 07 December 2023:** Driver Confirmation deadline

**5:00pm - Saturday 09 December 2023:** Right of Re-Entry closes.

**12:00pm - Sunday 10 December 2023:** Harness Grand Prix meeting commences.

#### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 2YO ACES**

- Should any matter arise not covered by the above race conditions or any dispute occur regarding the interpretation of said conditions, the Chairman of Harness Racing New Zealand Inc shall act as sole judge.
- The NZ Metropolitan TC is the host club of the 2YO Aces races. Racing Secretary, Brian Rabbitt, is the primary contact (Phone: 03 339 9094 or 0274-077-234).
- The Barrier Draws for 2YO Aces races will be conducted in the normal manner, by the Handicapper.
- The four 2YO Aces races are part of the Harness Grand Prix Raceday.