

## **OFFICIAL NOTICE**

### **Ratings Handicapping System Approved Changes**

The following are the approved Handicapping System changes to take effect from 1 August 2018. These changes were recommended by the Handicapping Sub-Committee and ratified by the HRNZ Board on Tuesday 10 July.

**1. Winners to receive a standard eight points**

Race winners will receive eight points as standard, regardless of the stake of the race. Handicappers' discretion is available to award less than eight points for a win, while other concessions may also apply. The condition of 10 points for races over \$10,000 has been removed.

**2. Removal of minimum rating for race winners**

The minimum Rating of R52 for race winners has been removed for both non-win (MR) horses and previous race winners (R).

**3. Maiden winners' rating**

Any horse having its first win cannot be rated higher than R55 for any win up to and including an advertised stake of \$20,000. Any horse winning its first race with an advertised stake of \$20,001 or greater can be rated up to a maximum of R58.

**4. Threshold increase for 2YO and 3YO concessions**

Concession thresholds for 2YO & 3YO horses have been lifted to \$20,000 from the previous \$14,999.

**5. Higher Winners Rating Matrix**

A 'Higher Rating Winners Matrix' will form the basis of Rating horses rated R70 and above. This Matrix is designed to give connections more certainty as to the points their successful horses will receive.

**6. Re-rating of returning or out-of-form racehorses**

Horses returning from an elongated break (four months or more) may be eligible for re-rating by the Handicappers, upon application from connections, along with horses identified by the Handicappers as being Rated as uncompetitive or unfairly (relative to others) at season's end. The Handicappers' recommendations will then be considered by the Ratings Review Committee.

*Note: The updated Guiding Principles of the Ratings System, along with the Higher Rated Winners Matrix, are available online at [hrnz.co.nz](http://hrnz.co.nz) in the "Industry Information" section under "Official Documents". There will be no retrospective handicapping, excepting those instances covered by the Guiding Principles.*



**E Rennell**  
**Chief Executive**