Harness Racing NSW Racing Data

July – September 2023

Contents

1.0 Executive Summary

The statistics contained within this report represent the July to September timeframe within NSW. The same statistics from the period April to July 2023 are also presented to compare both quarterly timeframes.

When looking at these statistics, the following must be considered;

a. The 2YO Guaranteed Policy was in effect until July 31 2023
b. The application of Female Concessions, 2YO and 3YO Concessions, and Driver Concessions was initiated from July 1 2023

In respect to the 2YO Guaranteed Policy, it must be considered that 2YO Statistics until July 31 (and indeed for some time after), will be skewed. This is due to the fact that 2YO horses were unable to run against older horses unless the 2YO for which they initially nominated was deleted, or they had two (2) or more wins as a 2YO horse.

Harness Racing NSW (HRNSW) implemented dual Concessions on **ALL** races from 1 July 2023. That is, when nominated for a race a horse could claim two (2) Concessions off their current National Rating (NR). These are:

i.   Female (Mares) Concession – five (5) NR points
ii.   Concession Driver – five (5) or three (3) NR points (based driver experience)
iii.   Three-Year-Old (3YO) – eight (8); and Two-Year-Old (2YO) – sixteen (16) NR points.

Which, as an example, could be 21 concession points for a 2YO Filly (16 for a 2YO, and 5 as a female).

Previously, only a single age (2YO or 3YO) concession was permitted on any race with an NR under 55.

Statistics will show an overview for NSW as a whole, and then be divided into each of the four regions. The non-TAB meeting at Broken Hill on 1 April, has been included into overall Statistics, but not applied to any region.

As with any statistical analysis, the scientific principle must be applied and an error margin of +/- 5% based on either systematic or random error is agreed.

2.0 Overview

Overall statistics for NSW during April to June 2023, are as follows.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Staters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	323	46	3.37%	4.39%	7.02
3	1249	230	13.05%	21.97%	5.43
4	1849	204	19.31%	19.48%	9.06
5	1867	222	19.50%	21.20%	8.41
6	1564	137	16.34%	13.09%	11.42
7	1103	104	11.52%	9.93%	10.61
8	812	58	8.48%	5.54%	14.00
9	383	27	4.00%	2.58%	14.19
10	202	11	2.11%	1.05%	18.36
11	104	6	1.09%	0.57%	17.33
12	95	1	0.99%	0.10%	95.00
13	11	0	0.11%	0.00%	0.00
14	10	1	0.10%	0.10%	10.00
Total	**9573**	**1047**	100.00%	100.00%	9.14
Average Age	**5.51**				

Table 1 – All starters April to June 2023

During the period April to June 2023 (**Table 1**), we can see that the majority of starters were aged three to seven during this period. These age bands represented 79.72% of starters.

The three, four and five-year old horses won a disproportionate number of races during this time, with a winning percentage of 62.65% of all races, based off 51.86% of all starters during this period.

Looking at the Start to Win Ratio (The number of starts required for horses of that age to win a race), it appear that 3YO horses are an outlier in this regard, winning a race every for 5.43 starts, just over 3.5 starts less than the average.

Looking at these 3YO figures (**Table 2**) we can see that 70.21% of these runs were against older horses, with a strike rate of a win every 4.87 starts.

Age	Starters	Wins	Start to Win
3	877	180	4.87

Table 2 – 3YO Starters against older horses (4YO+) April to June 2023

2YO Statistics have not been considered during this time, due to the implementation of the 2YO Guarantee.

Female horses followed roughly along the same lines as their Male counterparts (**Table 3**), particularly as 3YO Fillies. Only 3YO Fillies and 9YO Mares win at a greater percentile than that of the percentage of starters at that age.

As would be expected, the number of Female horses of a percentage of each age population decrease rapidly after the 4YO peak, to represent only 9.9% of the 10yo population.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	144	15	44.58%	32.61%	9.60
3	570	112	45.64%	48.70%	5.09
4	866	76	46.84%	37.25%	11.39
5	728	79	38.99%	35.59%	9.22
6	548	36	35.04%	26.28%	15.22
7	313	27	28.38%	25.96%	11.59
8	184	11	22.66%	18.97%	16.73
9	29	3	7.57%	11.11%	9.67
10	20	1	9.90%	9.09%	20.00
Total	**3402**	**360**	**35.54%**	**31.30%**	**9.45**

Table 3 – Female horse statistics April to June 2023

The statistics for July to September (**Table 4**) are interesting, in a number of factors. As would be expected, the number of 2YO starters and winners has increased by a considerable margin. This is due to the removal of the 2YO Guarantee from 31 July, which allowed 2YO horses to run in any race, against older horses.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	640	92	6.95%	9.26%	6.96
3	1541	219	16.73%	22.05%	7.04
4	1830	192	19.87%	19.34%	9.53
5	1629	172	17.69%	17.32%	9.47
6	1337	154	14.52%	15.51%	8.68
7	985	74	10.69%	7.45%	13.31
8	653	40	7.09%	4.03%	16.33
9	325	24	3.53%	2.42%	13.54
10	156	10	1.69%	1.01%	15.60
11	101	14	1.10%	1.41%	7.21
12	3	0	0.03%	0.00%	0.00
13	10	2	0.11%	0.20%	5.00
Total	**9210**	**993**	**100.00%**	**100.00%**	**9.27**
Average Age	**5.13**				

Table 4 – All Starters July to September 2023

Of great interest is the statistics for 3YO horses. It could be assumed that with increased concessions on all races, that 3YO horses would be given an advantage from the figures in April to June 2023. The opposite appear to have occurred. Despite a 3.68% increase in 3YO horses starting during this period, the number of 3YO winners increased by a negligible figure (0.08%), and the number of starts to wins increased from 5.43 to 7.04 (1.61 additional starts).

Along with 2YO starters, increased start to win ratio appear to have occurred in the older horse categories (6YO+).

The 2YO horse population, even without the 2YO Guarantee Policy, look to have been reasonable homogenous, with only 141 horses racing against the older population (**Table 5**). These horses have

been more successful than any other category, with a start to win ratio of 4.23, although it must be acknowledged that the 31 wins by 2YO horses only represent 3.12% of winners during this period.

Age	Starters	Wins	Start to Win
2	131	31	4.23
3	1184	177	6.69

Table 5 – 2YO and 3YO Starters against older horses (4YO+) July to September 2023

When looking at the figures for 2YO Horses against Older horses (**Table 6**), it can be noted that these will stabilize as more 2YO horses enter the system. Further study in the next quarter will look to reaffirm these statistics.

Month	Age	Starts	Wins	Start to Win
July	2	14	3	4.67
August	2	45	12	3.75
September	2	70	16	4.38

Table 6 – 2YO Starters Against older horses July to September 2023

Again the statistics for female horses (**Table 7**) are different from what could have been expected.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	233	39	36.41%	42.39%	5.97
3	600	66	38.94%	30.14%	9.09
4	761	67	41.58%	34.90%	11.36
5	564	60	34.62%	34.88%	9.40
6	431	48	32.24%	31.17%	8.98
7	240	19	24.37%	25.68%	12.63
8	126	8	19.30%	20.00%	15.75
9	22	2	6.77%	8.33%	11.00
10	15	2	9.62%	20.00%	7.50
Total	**2992**	**311**	**32.49%**	**29.09%**	**9.62**

Table 7 - Female horse statistics July to September 2023

Acknowledging again, the impact of the 2YO population having free access to all races where 2YO Fillies rose nearly 10% to be 42.39% of all 2YO winners. This lowered the start to win ratio by 3.63 starts.

Where there was an expected increase in 3YO Fillies winning, due to a thirteen point concession allowable for all those horses (Mares and 3YO Allowance), the percentage of 3YO wins from Fillies decreased by a mammoth 18.56% and the Start to win ratio increased from 5.09 to 9.09 (an extra 4 starts required for a filly to win a race).

The statistics for 4YO and 5YO Mares remained relatively static, with only 6YO mares showing any positive movement due to the introduction of a Mares Allowance for all races.
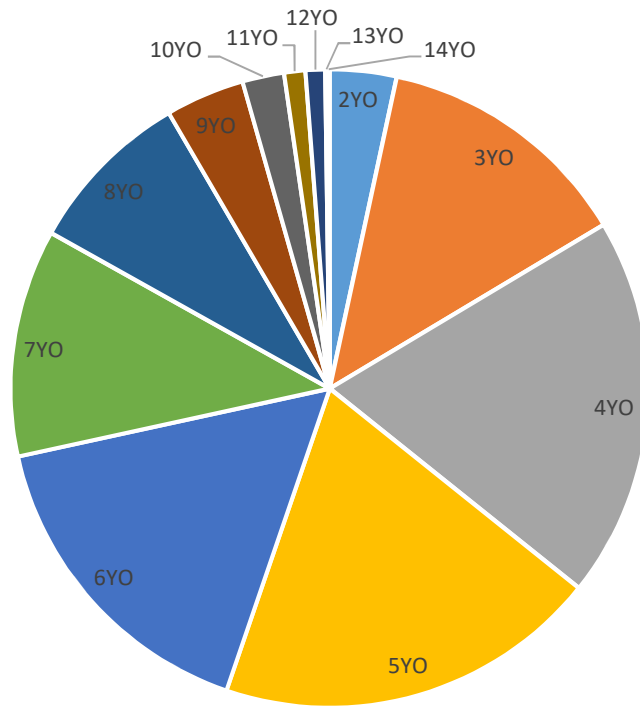
3.0   Graphic Representation

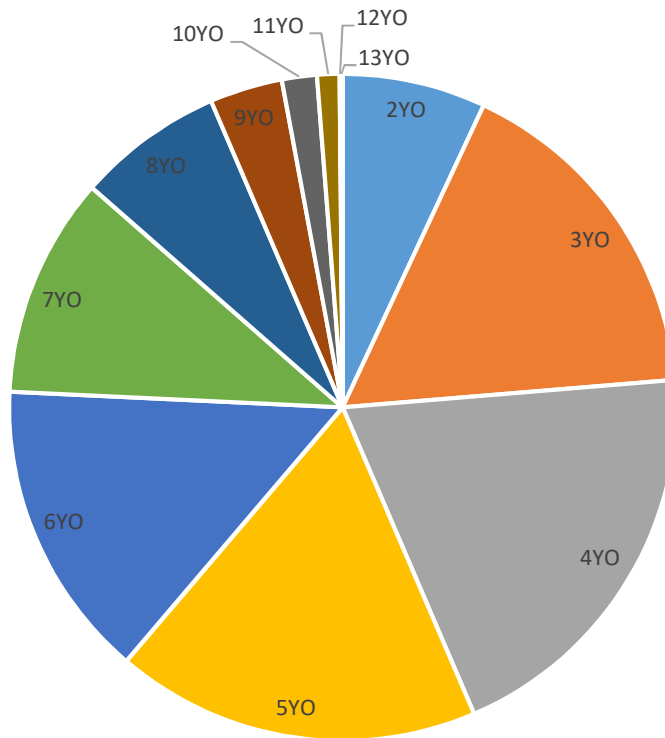**Figure 1 – Percentage of Starters in NSW by Age. April to June 2023**

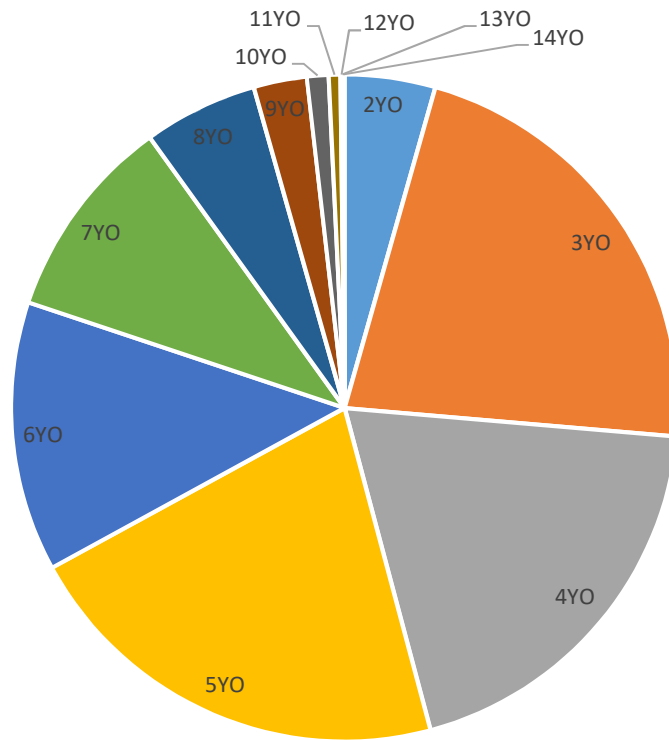**Figure 2 – Percentage of Starters in NSW by Age. July to September 2023**

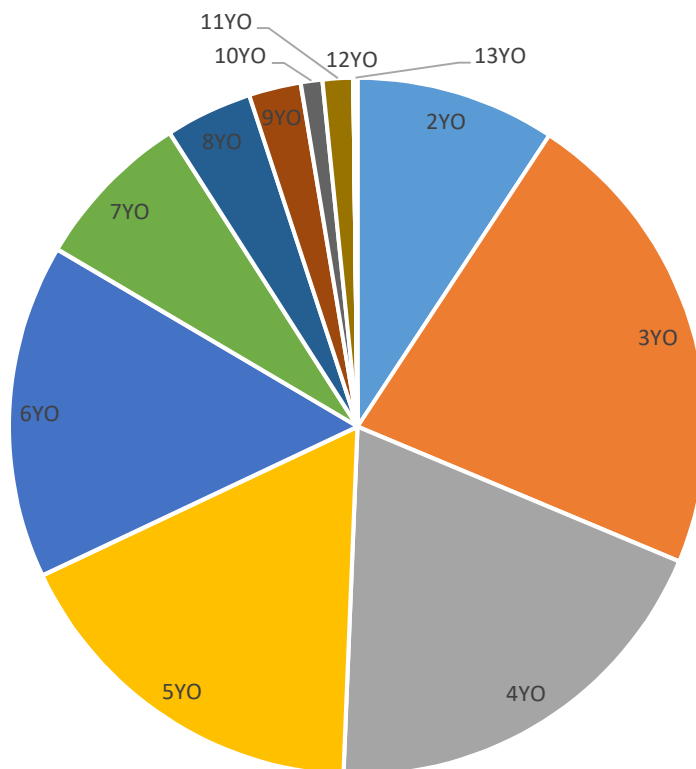**Figure 3 – Percentage of Winner in NSW by Age. April to June 2023**

Figure 4 – Percentage of Winners in NSW by Age. July to September 2023

4.0   Metropolitan Region

As expected, the amount of horses in the 2YO to 5YO age range was larger in the Metropolitan Region, with the majority of trainers, and increased prize money in the region (**Table 8**). The Metropolitan Region was responsible for approximately on third of starters in the state across these ages. The 4YO and 5YO Start to Win ratios are both more than one start less than the State Average.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Staters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	149	21	4.57%	5.83%	7.10
3	390	73	11.95%	20.28%	5.34
4	615	77	18.85%	21.39%	7.99
5	627	87	19.22%	24.17%	7.21
6	541	46	16.58%	12.78%	11.76
7	332	23	10.17%	6.39%	14.43
8	270	16	8.27%	4.44%	16.88
9	144	8	4.41%	2.22%	18.00
10	93	6	2.85%	1.67%	15.50
11	46	3	1.41%	0.83%	15.33
12	51	0	1.56%	0.00%	0.00
13	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00
14	5	0	0.15%	0.00%	0.00
Total	**3263**	**360**	**100.00%**	**100.00%**	**9.06**
Average Age	**5.58**				

Table 8 - All Metropolitan starters April to June 2023

This has resulted in the 3YO horses through April to June having a start to win ratio better than the State Average, but only slightly so (**Table 9**).

Age	Starters	Wins	Start to Win
3	250	55	4.55

Table 9 – 3YO Metropolitan Starters against older horses (4YO+) April to June 2023

Given the small number of 2YO Fillies winning races during April to June 2023, the figures for these horses must be treated with some hesitation (**Table 10**).

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	70	5	46.98%	23.81%	14.00
3	176	32	45.13%	43.84%	5.50
4	297	33	48.29%	42.86%	9.00
5	175	23	27.91%	26.44%	7.61
6	211	16	39.00%	34.78%	13.19
7	129	10	38.86%	43.48%	12.90
8	20	2	7.41%	12.50%	10.00
9	1	0	0.69%	0.00%	0.00
10	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00
Total	**1079**	**121**	**33.07%**	**27.84%**	**8.92**

Table 10 – Female Metropolitan horse statistics April to June 2023

The figures for 3YO Fillies is approximately those of the State average (although the win average is 5% down), with 4YO and 5YO figures mirroring those across both sexes.

When comparing to the figures for July to September (**Table 11**), as with the figures for all of NSW, the impact of the 2YO horses is noticeable, although the figures against older horses (**Table 12**), would suggest this is from more 2YO races programmed.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	219	32	6.99%	9.30%	6.84
3	440	63	14.05%	18.31%	6.98
4	594	64	18.97%	18.60%	9.28
5	569	68	18.17%	19.77%	8.37
6	501	64	16.00%	18.60%	7.83
7	318	30	10.16%	8.72%	10.60
8	233	8	7.44%	2.33%	29.13
9	126	7	4.02%	2.03%	18.00
10	78	4	2.49%	1.16%	19.50
11	47	4	1.50%	1.16%	11.75
12	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00
13	6	0	0.19%	0.00%	0.00
Total	**3131**	**344**	**100.00%**	**100.00%**	**9.10**
Average Age	**5.30**				

Table 11 – All Metropolitan Starters July to September 2023

Age	Starters	Wins	Start to Win
2	26	8	3.25
3	294	46	6.39

Table 12 – 2YO Starters Against older horses July to September 2023

Again 3YO horses have actually reduced their Start to Win ration, with the 1.97% increase in 3YO wins matched by the increase of 2.10% in 3YO starters.

Older horses (6YO and 7YO), have shown the most remarkable change in winning percentage, with an almost 6% increase in wins for 6YO horses (despite a 0.58% decrease in runners) and almost 2.5% increase in 7YO winners (with the same percentage of runners). Both groups saw the Start to Win ratio drop by almost four starts across this period (when compared to April to June).

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	62	13	28.31%	40.63%	4.77
3	174	22	39.55%	34.92%	7.91
4	226	20	38.05%	31.25%	11.30
5	167	29	29.35%	42.65%	5.76
6	152	15	30.34%	23.44%	10.13
7	82	8	25.79%	26.67%	10.25
8	21	0	9.01%	0.00%	0.00
9	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00
10	2	0	2.56%	0.00%	0.00
Total	**886**	**107**	**28.30%**	**24.48%**	**8.28**

Table 13 - Female Metropolitan horse statistics July to September 2023

Again, when looking at the Female population for the Metropolitan region (**Table 13**), there is an almost universal drop in both starters and winners. This is despite the introduction of a Mares Allowance across the majority of races.

The number for 2YO Fillies, although a good indicator, can be skewed due to the small population size.

The 5YO mares have increased both in percentage of starters, although only 1.44%, and in the percentage of winners in the 5YO Metropolitan population, which is up by a large 16.21%. This has decreased the start to Win ration by almost two races, and is considerably "off-trend" when compared to other females racing in the Metropolitan Region.
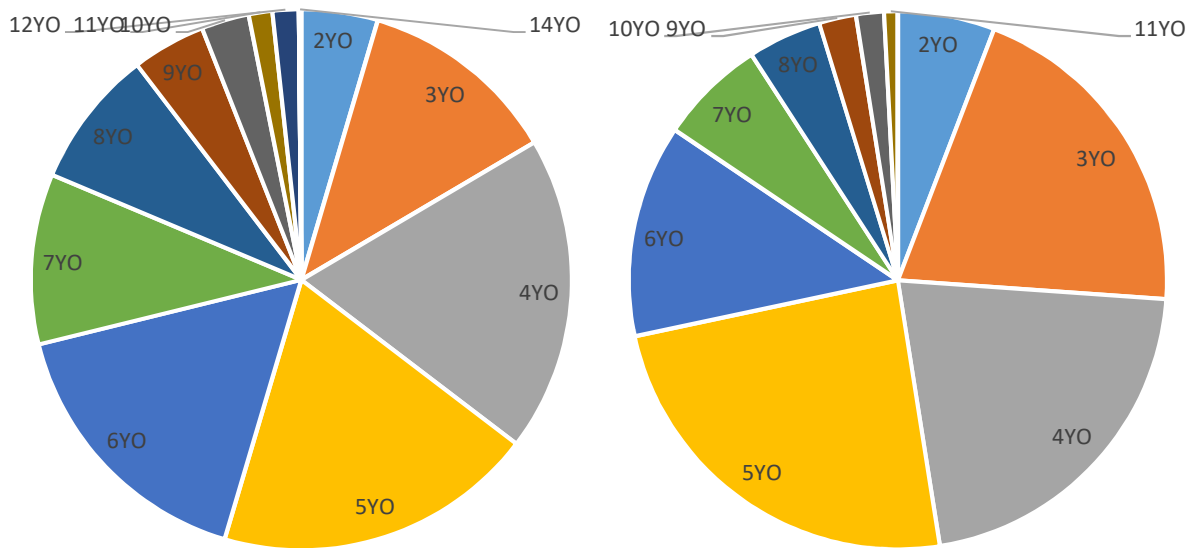

Figure 5 –Starters in Metropolitan by Age. April to June 2023

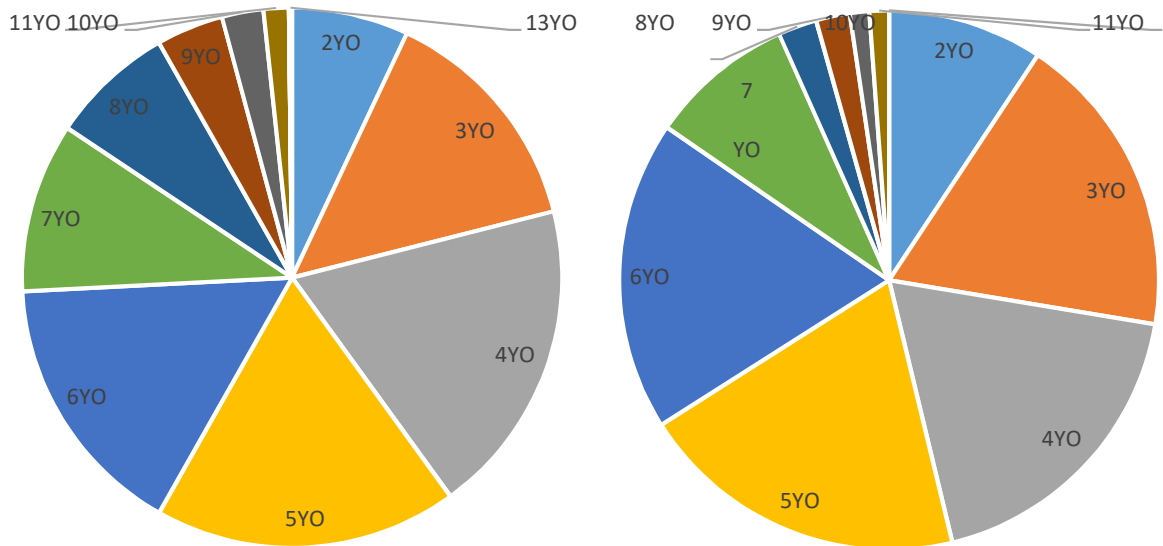Figure 6 –Winners in Metropolitan by Age. April to June 2023

Figure 7 –Starters in Metropolitan by Age. July to September 2023

Figure 8 –Winners in Metropolitan by Age. July to September 2023

5.0   Riverina

The most noticeable aspect of the Riverina statistics from April to July (Table 14) is the impact of the 8YO and 9YO horses, with both populations winning, on average, more than 4 races quicker than the State average during April to June.

Whilst the 3YO population may seem to have a large differential to the State average. The percentage of starters is only slightly above the State average (1.83%) and winning percentage is only 6.27% above average and horses in the region won just above a half race quicker than the State average.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Staters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	80	10	4.05%	4.63%	8.00
3	293	61	14.83%	28.24%	4.80
4	391	40	19.79%	18.52%	9.78
5	376	40	19.03%	18.52%	9.40
6	327	25	16.55%	11.57%	13.08
7	217	17	10.98%	7.87%	12.76
8	171	16	8.65%	7.41%	10.69
9	50	5	2.53%	2.31%	10.00
10	28	1	1.42%	0.46%	28.00
11	30	1	1.52%	0.46%	30.00
12	11	0	0.56%	0.00%	0.00
13	2	0	0.10%	0.00%	0.00
14	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00
Total	**1976**	**216**	**100.00%**	**100.00%**	**9.15**
Average Age	**5.34**				

Table 14 - All Riverina starters April to June 2023

As is the typical trend throughout all regions, 3YO horses tended to win at a slightly better average when racing against older horses from April to June (**Table 15**).

Age	Starters	Wins	Start to Win
3	201	46	4.37

Table 15 – 3YO Riverina Starters against older horses (4YO+) April to June 2023

The trend of Female horses during April to June (**Table 16**), also mirrored that of the wider State average. The notable exception here is the performance of 6YO Mares who only had a strike rate of two wins from 81 starts, accounting for only 8.00% of all 6YO winners in the Riverina during April to June.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	29	4	36.25%	40.00%	7.25
3	142	34	48.46%	55.74%	4.18
4	187	15	47.83%	37.50%	12.47
5	147	19	39.10%	47.50%	7.74
6	81	2	24.77%	8.00%	40.50
7	68	5	31.34%	29.41%	13.60
8	47	3	27.49%	18.75%	15.67
9	11	1	22.00%	20.00%	11.00
10	10	0	35.71%	0.00%	0.00
Total	**722**	**83**	**36.54%**	**33.21%**	**8.70**

Table 16 – Female Riverina horse statistics April to June 2023

There are a number of interesting points for the Riverina figures for July to September (**Table 17**). Despite much angst in the Riverina regarding the implementation of a Concession for 3YO horses in all races, the percentage of 3YO winners has actually decreased post this, by 2.09%. This is despite an increase in 3YO runners by 6.56%. This has increased the Start to Win ratio by 2.85 races.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	141	19	7.73%	9.74%	7.42
3	390	51	21.39%	26.15%	7.65
4	338	41	18.54%	21.03%	8.24
5	290	28	15.91%	14.36%	10.36
6	249	26	13.66%	13.33%	9.58
7	165	12	9.05%	6.15%	13.75
8	142	8	7.79%	4.10%	17.75
9	45	4	2.47%	2.05%	11.25
10	32	2	1.76%	1.03%	16.00
11	27	3	1.48%	1.54%	9.00
12	1	0	0.05%	0.00%	0.00
13	3	1	0.16%	0.51%	3.00
Total	**1823**	**195**	**100.00%**	**100.00%**	**9.35**
Average Age	**5.00**				

Table 17 - All Riverina starters July to September 2023

Significant gains have been made by the 4YO and 6YO groups, which both had drops in the percentage of starters during this period, but increased winning percentage of 2.51% and 1.76% respectively.

Age	Starters	Wins	Start to Win
2	37	7	5.29
3	336	44	7.64

Table 18 – 2YO and 3YO Starters against older horses July to September 2023

Again, with the small sample size for 2YO horses, it is difficult to make a determination of the impact that they have on the Riverina (**Table 18**). 3YO horses racing against older horses have seen the amount of races required to win increase by 3.27.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	64	11	45.39%	57.89%	5.82
3	138	17	35.38%	33.33%	8.12
4	148	20	43.79%	48.78%	7.40
5	105	7	36.21%	25.00%	15.00
6	81	14	32.53%	53.85%	5.79
7	62	3	37.58%	25.00%	20.67
8	36	3	25.35%	37.50%	12.00
9	13	1	28.89%	25.00%	13.00
10	5	2	15.63%	100.00%	2.50
Total	**652**	**78**	**35.77%**	**40.00%**	**8.36**

Table 19 - Female Riverina horse statistics July to September 2023

Again, the implementation of Concessions across all NR races has had little impact on younger Female horses in the region (**Table 13**). With the "double concession" available for 3YO Fillies during July to September, the Percentage of Fillies winning dropped from 55.74% of all 3YO runners in April to June to 33.33%. The Start to win ratio increased from 4.80 to 8.24. There were increases for 4YO Mares winning, despite a decrease in starters percentage. There was a massive increase in 6YO mares winning from the poor performance in April to June, improving the start to win ratio from 40.5 to 5.79.
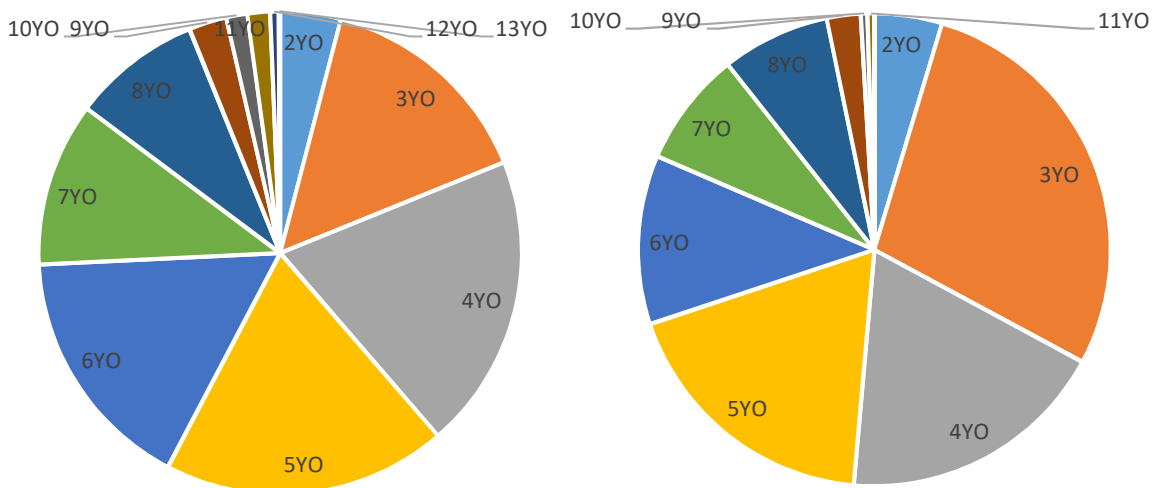

Figure 9 –Starters in Riverina by Age. April to June 2023

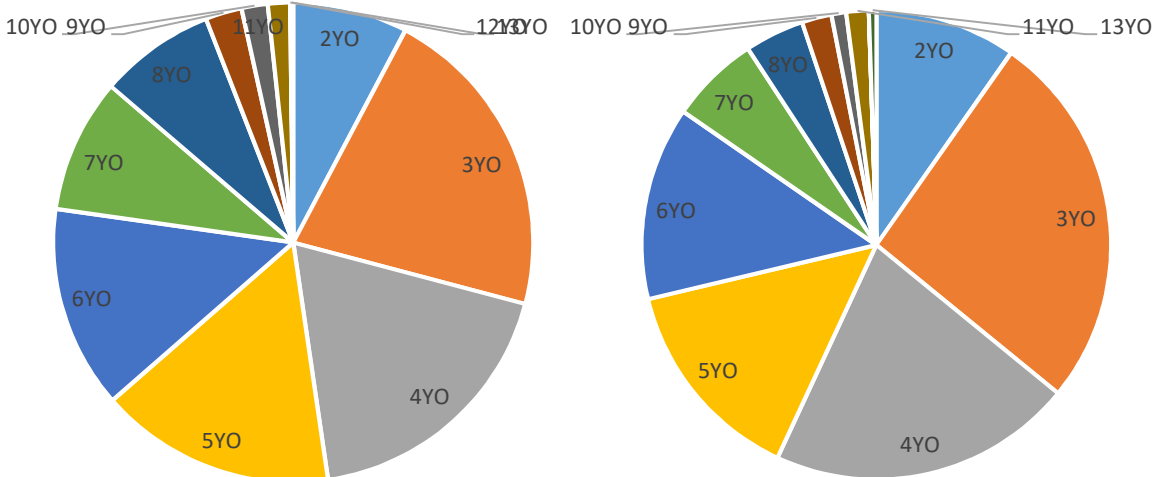**Figure 10 –Winners in Riverina by Age. April to June 2023**

Figure 11 –Starters in Riverina by Age. July to September 2023

Figure 12 –Winners in Riverina by Age. July to September 2023

6.0 Hunter

Most notably for the Hunter Region, the Average Age for horses is above that for State (5.91 vs 5.51), with those horses aged 4YO and 5YO winning at a level above that of the State average (**Table 20**). 3YO figures represent much less of the percentage of starters in the Hunter region (4.78% less than average) and far less winners (8.26% less than the State average).

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Staters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	30	6	1.31%	2.42%	5.00
3	190	34	8.27%	13.71%	5.59
4	414	50	18.02%	20.16%	8.28
5	427	46	18.58%	18.55%	9.28
6	398	40	17.32%	16.13%	9.95
7	383	47	16.67%	18.95%	8.15
8	225	10	9.79%	4.03%	22.50
9	133	12	5.79%	4.84%	11.08
10	43	2	1.87%	0.81%	21.50
11	16	0	0.70%	0.00%	0.00
12	27	1	1.17%	0.40%	27.00
13	9	0	0.39%	0.00%	0.00
14	3	0	0.13%	0.00%	0.00
Total	**2298**	**248**	**100.00%**	**100.00%**	**9.27**
Average Age	**5.91**				

Table 20 - All Hunter starters April to June 2023

The majority of 3YO starters during April to July started against older horses (**Table 21**). As has been the trend through this period, the start to win ration is slightly below average. The 3YO horses in the Hunter during this period required slightly more races than average to win against older opposition.

Age	Starters	Wins	Start to Win
3	167	31	5.39

Table 21 – 3YO Hunter Starters against older horses (4YO+) April to June 2023

3YO Fillies were more successful than their male contemporaries during this period (**Table 22**). Despite only representing 50% of 3YO starters during this time, Fillies represented 61.76% of 3YO wins during this time, and had a start to win ratio of 4.52.

Again, the small sample size (only 2 wins) makes it difficult to assess 2YO figures. Across most other age groups, female horses trended around the average, with the exception of 4YO and 6YO Mares.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	15	2	50.00%	33.33%	7.50
3	95	21	50.00%	61.76%	4.52
4	187	16	45.17%	32.00%	11.69
5	208	19	48.71%	41.30%	10.95
6	146	8	36.68%	20.00%	18.25
7	95	11	24.80%	23.40%	8.64
8	78	4	34.67%	40.00%	19.50
9	14	2	10.53%	16.67%	7.00
10	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00
Total	**838**	**83**	**36.47%**	**32.37%**	**10.10**

Table 22 - Female Hunter horse statistics April to June 2023

When comparing both time frames, it is notable that there has been a big increase in the number of 2YO horses into the system, moving from 1.31% of the population in April to June, to 5.79% of the population in July to September (**Table 23**). Interestingly these horses have, for the most part, raced against their own age (**Table 24**). It must be noted that when 2YO horses have raced against those older horses, they do have a small start to win ratio of 3.29.

Across most age ranges, trends have remained similar to the previous periods, with the exception of 7YO horses dropping their win percentage by over 8%.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	128	19	5.79%	8.09%	6.74
3	248	40	11.21%	17.02%	6.20
4	408	44	18.44%	18.72%	9.27
5	394	30	17.81%	12.77%	13.13
6	373	44	16.86%	18.72%	8.48
7	352	25	15.91%	10.64%	14.08
8	155	16	7.01%	6.81%	9.69
9	111	10	5.02%	4.26%	11.10
10	23	4	1.04%	1.70%	5.75
11	18	3	0.81%	1.28%	6.00
12	2	0	0.09%	0.00%	0.00
13	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00
Total	**2212**	**235**	**100.00%**	**100.00%**	**9.41**
Average Age	**5.42**				

Table 23 - All Hunter starters July to September 2023

Age	Starters	Wins	Start to Win
2	23	7	3.29
3	191	33	5.79

Table 24 – 2YO and 3YO Starters against older horses July to September 2023

The introduction of 2YO horses to the main population is shown by the amount of 2YO Fillies in the system growing by over 300% from April/June to July/September (Table 25).

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	49	6	38.28%	31.58%	8.17
3	107	12	43.15%	30.00%	8.92
4	167	12	40.93%	27.27%	13.92
5	152	9	38.58%	30.00%	16.89
6	119	11	31.90%	25.00%	10.82
7	78	7	22.16%	28.00%	11.14
8	50	4	32.26%	25.00%	12.50
9	8	1	7.21%	10.00%	8.00
10	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00
Total	**730**	**62**	**33.00%**	**26.38%**	**11.77**

Table 25 - Female Hunter horse statistics July to September 2023

Again, despite the introduction of a Female Concession across all NR races, the trend for female winners was down in the 3YO, 4YO and 5YO age groups.
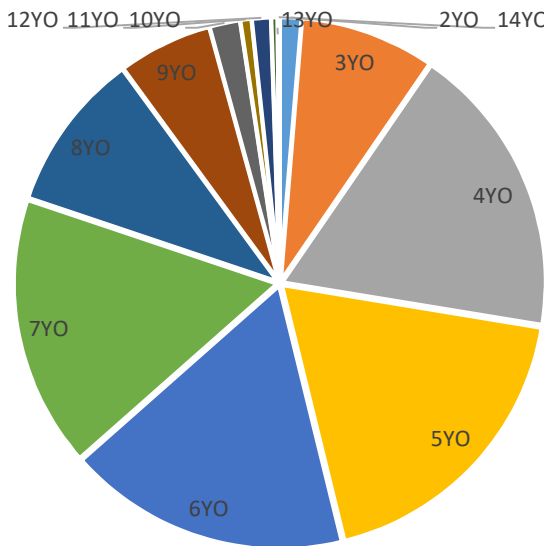
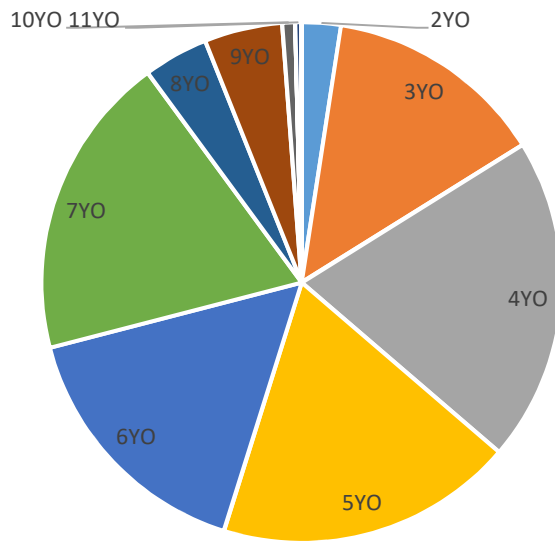**Figure 13 –Starters in Hunter by Age. April to June 2023**

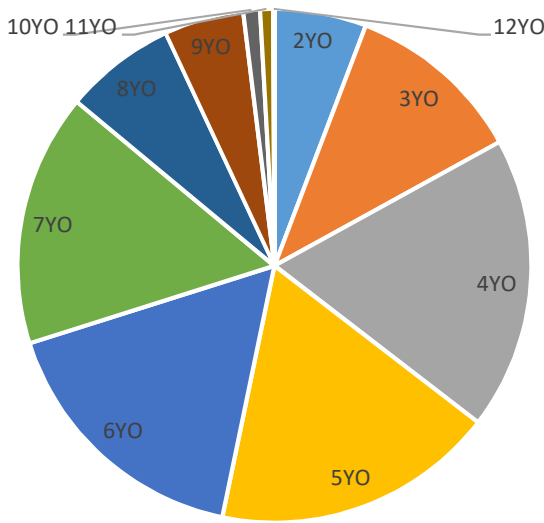**Figure 14 –Winners in Hunter by Age. April to June 2023**

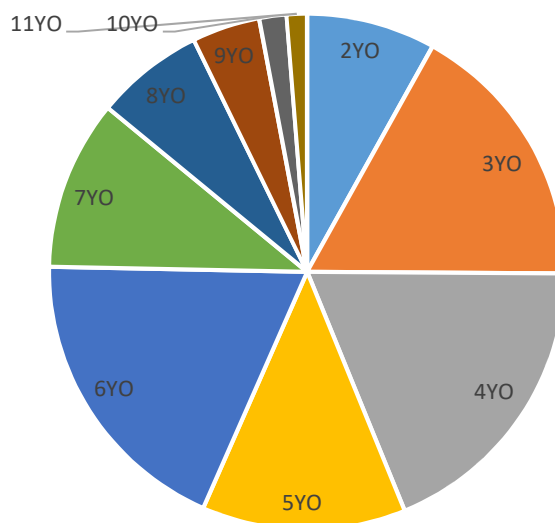**Figure 15 –Starters in Hunter by Age. July to September 2023**

Figure 16 –Winners in Hunter by Age. July to September 2023

7.0   Western

The figures for the Western region show both an increase in starters and winning percentage for 3YO horses from April to June (**Table 26**). This is counter by the fact that the start to win ratio of 6.05 is slightly above that of the average. This points towards the large number of 3YO starts during this time, which at 18.71% is much greater than any other region.

The start to win ratio for horses aged 4YO, 5YO and 6YO show these as higher than the State average, with the winning percentage relatively stable. This points towards multiple starts, above the State average, for these horses before winning.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Staters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	64	9	3.19%	4.15%	7.11
3	375	62	18.71%	28.57%	6.05
4	426	37	21.26%	17.05%	11.51
5	433	47	21.61%	21.66%	9.21
6	289	24	14.42%	11.06%	12.04
7	164	16	8.18%	7.37%	10.25
8	144	16	7.19%	7.37%	9.00
9	53	2	2.64%	0.92%	26.50
10	37	2	1.85%	0.92%	18.50
11	11	1	0.55%	0.46%	11.00
12	6	0	0.30%	0.00%	0.00
13	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00
14	2	1	0.10%	0.46%	2.00
Total	**2004**	**217**	100.00%	100.00%	9.24
Average Age	**5.10**				

Table 26 - All Western starters April to June 2023

Slightly less horses (as a percentage of population) started against older horses, compared to other regions, and when they did so, were less likely to win more than a half extra race required to win, above the State average (**Table 27**)

Age	Starters	Wins	Start to Win
3	259	48	5.40

Table 27 – 3YO Western Starters against older horses (4YO+) April to June 2023

3YO Fillies during this time have trended down by approximately 8% on the State average. 4YO Mares and 5YO Mares also trended well below the start to win ratio, despite the 4YO percentage of female winners being below that of the State average.

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	30	4	46.88%	44.44%	7.50
3	157	25	41.87%	40.32%	6.28
4	194	12	45.54%	32.43%	16.17
5	187	18	43.19%	38.30%	10.39
6	105	9	36.33%	37.50%	11.67
7	20	1	12.20%	6.25%	20.00
8	39	2	27.08%	12.50%	19.50
9	3	0	5.66%	0.00%	0.00
10	10	1	27.03%	50.00%	10.00
Total	**745**	**72**	**37.18%**	**33.75%**	**10.35**

Table 28 - Female Western horse statistics April to June 2023

As would be expected, given the historical precedence for 3YO horses in the Western Region, the high number of 3YO starters (6.80% above the State average), and winners (8.76%) are not unsurprising. The large number of 3YO starters in the Western region is highlighted by the number of starters (463), which is more than any other region, and is the only region with an average of starters below 5YO (**Table 29**).

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	152	22	7.72%	10.43%	6.91
3	463	65	23.53%	30.81%	7.12
4	472	41	23.98%	19.43%	11.51
5	354	42	17.99%	19.91%	8.43
6	196	18	9.96%	8.53%	10.89
7	139	7	7.06%	3.32%	19.86
8	120	8	6.10%	3.79%	15.00
9	41	3	2.08%	1.42%	13.67
10	22	0	1.12%	0.00%	0.00
11	8	4	0.41%	1.90%	2.00
12	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00
13	1	1	0.05%	0.47%	1.00
Total	**1968**	**211**	**100.00%**	**100.00%**	**9.33**
Average Age	**4.65**				

Table 29 - All Western starters July to September 2023

It is surprising to note that the start to win ratio for 3YO horses has increased by one extra start in this period compared to April/June. This is exacerbated further when comparing these 3YO in starts against older horses, where the start to win ratio has increased by 1.32 across both periods (**Table 30**).

There has been a steep decline in the percentage of winners for horses aged 7YO and older. These horses represented 16.82% of runners during July to September, but only accounted for 10.90% of winners, with this figure highly influenced by the four wins from 11YO horses.

Age	Starters	Wins	Start to Win
2	40	8	5.00
3	363	54	6.72

Table 30 – 2YO and 3YO Starters against older horses July to September 2023

As with all other regions, the application of a Female Concession across all NR races has had an immaterial effect. 3YO Fillies accounted for 9.51% less winners during this period (as compared to April/June), although there was a slight improvement to 4YO Mares, and a larger improvement to 6YO mares (6.94%).

Age	Starters	Wins	Percentage of Starters	Percentage of Wins	Start to Win
2	48	9	31.58%	40.91%	5.33
3	181	15	39.09%	23.08%	12.07
4	220	15	46.61%	36.59%	14.67
5	140	15	39.55%	35.71%	9.33
6	79	8	40.31%	44.44%	9.88
7	18	1	12.95%	14.29%	18.00
8	19	1	15.83%	12.50%	19.00
9	1	0	2.44%	0.00%	0.00
10	8	0	36.36%	0.00%	0.00
Total	**714**	**64**	**36.28%**	**30.33%**	**11.16**

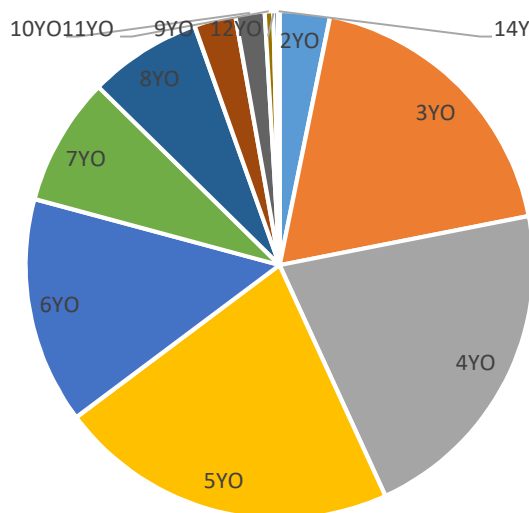**Table 31 - Female Hunter horse statistics July to September 2023**

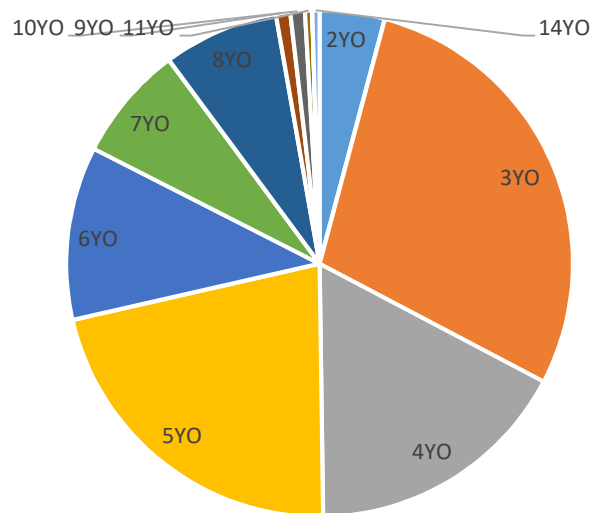**Figure 17 –Starters in Western by Age. April to June 2023**

Figure 18 –Winners in Western by Age. April to June 2023
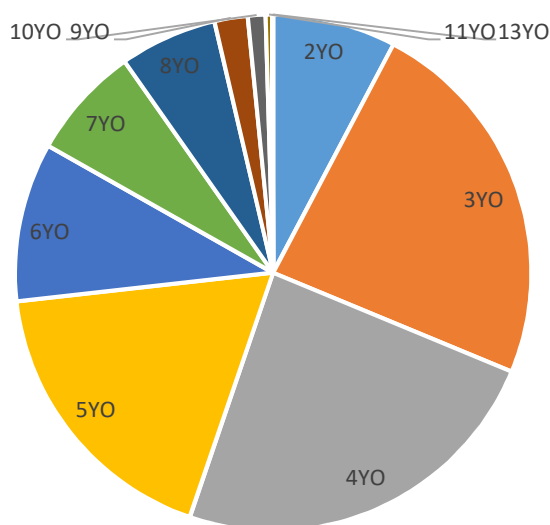

Figure 19 –Starters in Hunter by Age. July to September 2023
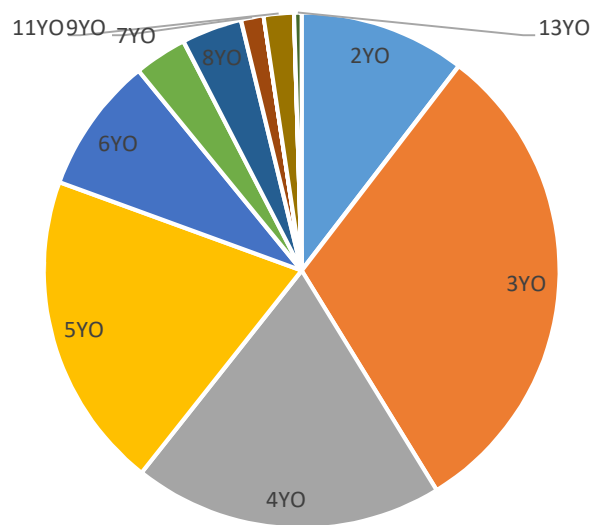

Figure 20 –Winners in Hunter by Age. July to September 2023

8.0   Conclusion

It is reasonable to draw the conclusion that the National Rating system, as it has been applied in NSW, has not change dramatically through the introduction of Concessions to all NR races.

The percentage of 3YO or female horses winning has not increased, but has in fact decreased across the regions, and as a whole.

Given the small number of 2YO starters, and with only two of the six months in this data set that have 2YO's freely entering against older horses, it is too early to make determination on their results.

It can be determined, and it would be of no surprise, that peak performance occurs during the 3YO, 4YO and 5YO seasons. There is a decline from the 6YO season onwards.