

*INTER DOMINION
TROTTING CHAMPIONSHIP*

TERMS & CONDITIONS

2024

**CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF THE
2024 INTER DOMINION TROTTING CHAMPIONSHIP
HOSTED BY HARNESS RACING NEW SOUTH WALES (HRNSW)**

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THE 2024 INTER DOMINION TROTTING CHAMPIONSHIP

1. THE SERIES

The Inter Dominion Trotting Championship “the Trotting Championship” will comprise three (3) rounds of two (2) Qualifying Heats and a Grand Final.

2. DEFINITIONS

Host Controlling Body means Harness Racing New South Wales.

Rules of Harness Racing means the Rules of Harness Racing which apply in the jurisdiction of the Host Controlling Body.

OPERATIVE PROVISIONS

3. CURRENCY

All values are expressed in the currency of the Host Controlling Body (AUD).

4. TIME OF DAY

All times and dates listed are expressed in the Host Controlling Body’s times/days and all times refer to Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) or Australian Eastern Daylight Savings Time (AEDST).

5. TRAVEL SUBSIDY

There is no travel subsidy for the Trotting Championship.

6. INTEGRITY

The Host Controlling Body reserve the absolute right to undertake security, surveillance and swabbing of any horse engaged in the Trotting Championship. Horses will be required to be presented to the HRNSW Retention facility at a time and date to be specified

7. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

The Host Controlling Body and the Inter Dominion Event Committee (IDEC) may by agreement amend the Trotting Championship terms and conditions.

8. AGREEMENT

By nominating for the Trotting Championship an Owner, Trainer or their Authorised Agent agrees to abide by the Rules of Harness Racing.

THE NOMINATION AND ACCEPTANCE TIMETABLE

9. THE TROTTING CHAMPIONSHIP TIMETABLE

Item	Date	Time
Nominations close	Monday, 30 September 2024	12:00PM AEST
First Rankings Released	Wednesday, 2 October 2024	10:00AM AEST
Second Rankings Released	Wednesday, 16 October 2024	10:00AM AEDST
First Acceptance/Continuation Fee Due	Monday, 28 October 2024	12:00PM AEDST
Third Rankings Released	Wednesday, 30 October 2024	10:00AM AEDST
Fourth and Final Rankings Released	Wednesday, 20 November 2024	10:00AM AEDST
Second Acceptance/Continuation Fee Due	Friday, 22 November 2024	12:00PM AEDST
First Qualifying Heat Acceptance Time	Monday, 25 November 2024	12:00PM AEDST
Declaration of Final Acceptors/Emergencies	Monday, 25 November 2024	4:00PM AEDST

ELIGIBILITY, NOMINATING & ACCEPTING

10. ELIGIBILITY OF HORSES

- a) The Trotting Championship is restricted to registered Standardbred horses and will be conducted under the Rules of Harness Racing.
- b) Any horse which has been balloted out or otherwise omitted from the list of horses to compete in the Qualifying Heats shall not be eligible to compete in any Qualifying Heat or the Grand Final unless reinstated before the commencement of the first Qualifying Heats.
- c) To be eligible to compete in the Grand Final of the Trotting Championship, horses shall start in all Qualifying Heats, unless exemption is granted by the Host Controlling Body which shall decide upon each case according to its merits.

11. NOMINATIONS

- a) Nominations shall close at the time listed in Clause 9, as determined by the Host Controlling Body.
- b) All Nominations must be submitted in accordance with Clause 14 by either the Owner, Trainer or their Authorised Agent.

12. SCHEDULE OF FEES AND DEADLINES

The Trotting Championship:

Fee	Amount	Deadline	Refund Conditions *		
			Scratched	Withdrawn	Balloted
	\$	Host Controlling Body time			
Nomination	\$0 (NIL)	30 September 2024	X	X	X
First Acceptance	\$200 (incl. GST)	28 October 2024	X	X	✓
Second Acceptance	\$200 (incl. GST)	22 November 2024	X	X	✓
Final Acceptance	\$200 (incl. GST)	Deducted from Stakes earned in Grand Final	✓	✓	N/A

* Refund policy conditions: X = No refund, ✓ = Fee fully refundable

13. LATE NOMINATION FEE

Horses which are not nominated for the Trotting Championship by the time stated in Clause 9 per 30 September 2024, can be made eligible for the Series by paying a Late Nomination Fee of \$8,000 (incl. GST). Any late nomination and continuation payments must be made prior to 4:00pm (AEDST) on 20 November 2024.

The Late Nomination Fee is non-refundable and is inclusive of the First and Second Acceptance fees. If a horse gains a start the Final Acceptance fee will be offset against stakes in the Final as per other runners.

Payment of this Fee does not guarantee the horse a start in the Qualifying Heats and the horse will be assessed in accordance with the Inter Dominion Ranking System.

14. WHERE TO LODGE NOMINATIONS, WITHDRAWALS AND SCRATCHINGS

All nominations and acceptances for the Trotting Championship must be submitted as per below, and subject to Clause 13 must be received at the offices of the Host Controlling Body by the due date, listed in Clause 9.

Nominations, Withdrawals & Scratchings are to be submitted:

- Online via HarnessWeb;
- E-mail: racing@hrnsw.com.au;
- Phone: 1300 712612 (and confirmed in writing)

RANKINGS

15. RANKING SYSTEM

The Ranking system shall determine those horses which shall participate in the Qualifying Heats of the Trotting Championship.

Horses shall be ranked in the following descending order:

- a) Current Trotting Inter Dominion Champion
- b) Winner of any 2024 Trotting Masters Race
- c) Golden Ticket holders as the winner of any of the following races in the 2024 Racing Season:
 - i. Tony McGrath Cup (Tabcorp Cup Menangle) – 26 October 2024;
 - ii. Elitlopett (Sweden) – 26 May 2024.
 - iii. Kilmore Trotting Cup (Kilmore) 27 September 2024;
 - iv. Kaikoura Trotting FFA (New Zealand) – 4 November 2024;
 - v. Spring Sprint (Albion Park) – 9 November 2024;
 - vi. Australian Trotting Grand Prix (Melton) – 16 November 2024;

A Golden Ticket Holder not previously nominated for ID24 may be accepted as a late entry if a late entry fee of \$4,000 is paid (50% of the full late payment fee).

- d) Current form of other horses, giving priority to:
 - i) Winners of open age Australian and New Zealand Group 1 races from 1 January 2024.
 - ii) Other winners at the discretion of the Host Controlling Body's Handicapping Panel, giving consideration to Performances and Prizemoney from 1 January 2024 and lifetime wins and stakemoney
- e) Horses other than those domiciled in Australia or New Zealand shall be allocated a ranking at the discretion of the Host Controlling Body's Handicapping Panel.
- f) The ranking order shall not be adjusted after the date fixed for the declaration of Final Acceptors, as listed in Clause 9.

SCRATCHING & ACCEPTANCE RULES

16. HORSES SCRATCHED AFTER FINAL ACCEPTANCES

- a) It shall be a condition of Nomination that horses scratched from the Trotting Championship after Second Acceptances shall not be eligible to compete in any other race at any meeting for the period commencing the First Night of the Trotting Championship until completion of the Trotting Championship, unless permission is granted by the Host Controlling Body.
- b) Where an unacceptable reason is given for the scratching of a horse after Second Acceptance, such horse shall not be permitted to race for a period of eight (8) weeks at any track in Australia or New Zealand from the First Night of the Trotting Championship.

17. HORSES REMAIN ACCEPTORS UNLESS WITHDRAWN

- a) A horse nominated for the Trotting Championship is automatically an acceptor unless withdrawn prior to the time fixed for the First Acceptance or the Second Acceptance.
- b) Connections of horses not withdrawn by the due dates, as listed in Clause 9, will be liable for the First Acceptance Fee and/or the Second Acceptance Fee.

18. DECLARATION OF FINAL ACCEPTORS

- a) A list of final acceptors and emergencies shall be declared in line with Clause 9.
- b) The emergencies shall remain eligible to be declared starters (in the event of withdrawals) up until the close of acceptances for First Qualifying Heats, as listed in Clause 9.
- c) Emergencies will remain in the race fields until 8.30am on the day of the First Qualifying Heats, or other such time as determined and published by the Host Controlling Body.

TROTTING CHAMPIONSHIP - RACING CONDITIONS & STAKEMONEY DISTRIBUTION

19. RACE DISTANCES AND BARRIER DRAWS

Race	Date	Track	Distance	Barrier Draw
First Qualifying Heats	29 November 2024	Newcastle	2030m	Random
Second Qualifying Heats	4 December 2024	Bathurst	1730m	Random
Third Qualifying Heats	7 December 2024	Tabcorp Park Menangle	2300m	Random
Grand Final	14 December 2024	Tabcorp Park Menangle	2300m	Random

20. REGISTRATION OF RUNNERS

All horses running in the Trotting Championship will be required to produce a Racing Assessment Certificate (RAC) from their respective State or Country prior to starting.

21. MODE OF START

All races shall be mobile barrier starts.

22. HANDICAPPING PENALTIES

Winners of Qualifying Heats and the Grand Final shall be penalised in accordance with the Handicapping Regulations of the Host Controlling Body of the Trotting Championship.

23. FIELD SIZES

- a) The field for the Qualifying Heats of the Trotting Championship shall consist of a maximum as set by the Host Controlling Body, plus two (2) common emergencies (in the First Round of Qualifying Heats only). The field for all remaining Qualifying Heats of the Trotting Championship shall consist of a maximum as set by the Host Controlling Body.
- b) Emergencies that are declared in the First Round of Qualifying Heats (only) will be allocated the outside barrier positions. Any emergency gaining a start will take the barrier position of the first scratched horse but retain its allocated saddlecloth number, unless the emergency gaining a start is declared by the Stewards ODM, RODM, EOD.
- c) The field for the Grand Final shall consist of a maximum as set by the Host Controlling Body plus two (2) emergencies. The emergencies being the next highest ranked on the Trotting Championship point score.
- d) The starting configuration from the mobile barrier for all races shall be determined by the Host Controlling Body.
- e) Where there are no emergencies drawn in any event, the barrier positions shall be determined at acceptance time. In the event of a scratching or scratchings, horses will remain on the same row, though will move next to the horse drawn to its inside.

24. MODIFICATION OF THE FIELD SIZE AND NUMBER OF QUALIFYING HEATS

- a) At the close of acceptances on the day the First Qualifying Heats are drawn the Host Controlling body will declare final acceptors and emergencies.
- b) There will be two (2) Qualifying Heats of the Trotting Championship on each of the three (3) nights of Qualifying Heats.

25. POINTS SYSTEM

- a) Points shall be awarded to each horse actually starting and finishing a Qualifying Heat on the basis that the winner of each Qualifying Heat will receive in points the equivalent of the number of horses previously selected by the Host Controlling Body as the maximum number of horses to compete in each Qualifying Heat.
- b) The second horse in each Qualifying Heat will receive the next lower number of points with each horse finishing thereafter receiving in order one lower number in points than the preceding horse until the last horse finishing in a maximum field will receive one (1) point.
- c) The winner of each Qualifying Heat will receive four (4) bonus points to be added to the points already earned for the race. Second and third horses in each Qualifying Heat will receive two (2) and one (1) bonus points respectively to be added to the points already earned for that Qualifying Heat.
- d) In the event of a scratching or a horse not completing the course, points will be allocated as before with the winner and other horses finishing the race entitled to receive their maximum number of points as if a full field had competed and finished in that particular race.
- e) In the event of a horse being disqualified or failing to finish a Qualifying Heat it shall not receive any points, but will remain eligible for the remaining Qualifying Heat/s.
- f) In the event that a horse is declared a non-runner by the Stewards, such horse shall receive points relative to its original finishing position. All remaining runners shall receive points relative to their adjusted finishing position, which may result in a higher total number of points allocated for such heat.
- g) In the event of a dead-heat, all points of the horses dead-heating shall be added together and equally divided.

Position	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Max. 9 Horse Field Points	13	10	8	6	5	4	3	2	1			
Max. 10 Horse Field Points	14	11	9	7	6	5	4	3	2	1		
Max. 12 Horse Field Points	16	13	11	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

26. STAND DOWNS

Any horse that is stood down from racing for breaking gait, wayward behaviour or performing poorly in a heat of the Trotting Championship must trial to the satisfaction of the Stewards before being able to compete in the next race of the Trotting Championship.

27. GRAND FINAL SELECTION

- a) The horses with the highest number of points scored throughout the Qualifying Heats shall gain a start in the Trotting Championship Grand Final.
- b) In the event of two or more horses each scoring equally on the minimum number of points entitling them to be eligible for the Trotting Championship Grand Final and thereby producing a field exceeding the number designated by the Host Controlling Body, then the Host Controlling Body shall determine, by the following criteria, the horse(s) to start in the Trotting Championship Grand Final. (i) Best finishing position throughout series; (ii) if still tied, Second best finishing position throughout series; (iii) if still tied, Third best finishing position throughout series; and (iv) if still tied, Final Inter Dominion Ranking (as per Clause 9).

28. STAKEMONEY DISTRIBUTION

Race	Total Stakes - \$	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6 th to last
Percentage of Total Stakes - Trotting Championship	100%	52%	18%	12%	6%	4%	2%
Grand Final	150,000	78,000	27,000	18,000	9,000	6,000	3,000
Heats	20,000	10,400	3,600	2,400	1,200	800	400

NB: The Final Acceptance fee of \$200 (inc GST) will apply for the Trotting Championship and will be deducted from stakes for all finalists' payouts listed above.