

## **RACING GUIDELINES**

### **NOMINATIONS**

1. A Trainer must not nominate a horse unless its identity has been verified by an HRD licensed Veterinary Surgeon and confirmed by the Stipendiary Stewards.
2. In order to be eligible to be nominated, a horse must:
  - 2.1 be under the care of the Trainer nominating the horse for at least 8 days prior to the race meeting for which the Trainer proposes to nominate it, unless permission to the contrary is granted by the Stipendiary Stewards; and
  - 2.2 perform at least one (1) barrier trial to the satisfaction of the Stipendiary Stewards (although the Stipendiary Stewards may waive this requirement in exceptional circumstances, e.g., weather conditions which do not allow barrier trials to be held) before being nominated.
3. A Trainer must nominate a horse by at the latest 8.30 am on the preceding Tuesday when races are to be held on Saturday or both Saturday and Sunday and by 8.30 am on the preceding Wednesday when races are to be run on Sunday only.
4. Nominations should be made by submitting the duly filled nomination form in the designated box or by any other means (including emails) as the Horse Racing Division may designate from time to time.
5. No horse shall be nominated in more than 2 races at a race meeting. However, when there are races on both Saturday and Sunday, a horse may be nominated in a maximum of 3 races.

6. No horse shall be declared to race on two consecutive race days when racing is scheduled on both Saturday and Sunday of the same weekend.
7. In a race other than a Protected Race, if there are fewer than 6 horses nominated by less than 3 Trainers, nominations may be re-opened. In this case, each Trainer or his assistant will be informed by email or by SMS or by any electronic communication and will be allowed at least 30 minutes (or such longer period as shall be deemed reasonable) to make additional nominations for that race.
8. In a Protected Race, if there are fewer than 6 horses nominated by less than 2 Trainers, nominations may be re-opened. In this case, each Trainer or his assistant will be informed by email or by SMS or by any electronic communication and will be allowed at least 30 minutes (or such longer period as shall be deemed reasonable) to make additional nominations for that race.
9. Any horse that is nominated must be declared unless, a Trainer:
  - 9.1 submits to the Stipendiary Stewards a veterinary certificate that the horse is unfit to race; or
  - 9.2 is granted permission by the Stipendiary Stewards upon showing good cause.
10. If a horse is scratched pursuant to 9.1 above, a Trainer cannot nominate such horse to run again until he submits a veterinary certificate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Stipendiary Stewards or obtains the special authorisation of the Stipendiary Stewards to do so.
11. A Trainer should submit to the Horse Racing Division on the designated form:
  - 11.1 the code of colours of the owners of a nominated horse; and

11.2 the gear which he is requesting the horse to race with by the latest at noon on the day prior to declarations,

failure to comply with this paragraph may result in the Trainer's request being rejected.

12. The barrier draws will be conducted after declarations, except if otherwise notified by the Stipendiary Stewards.

### **DECLARATIONS**

13. A Trainer must declare a horse by 8.30 am on Thursday when races are to be held on Saturday or both Saturday and Sunday and by 8.30 am on Friday when races are to be conducted on Sunday only.
14. Declarations should be made by submitting the duly completed declaration form in the designated box or by any other means (including emails) as the Horse Racing Division may designate from time to time.
15. In the event that a horse is entered in more than one race, the Trainer must indicate his race priority on the declaration form.
16. A Trainer shall be permitted one runner per race unless the field capacity has not been reached in which case, the Trainer shall be permitted a maximum of two runners per race. Normal balloting procedures shall apply where there is capacity remaining in a race and there is more than one eligible runner.
17. In the case that a Jockey has been declared on more than one (1) horse, his earlier commitment will take precedence.
18. The Stipendiary Stewards will process declarations in a secured room in which only authorised persons can be present while the declarations are being processed.

19. In the event that a Trainer has more than one runner in a race, he must declare his runner priority in writing. Where a Trainer has failed to indicate his priority, his declared horse with the highest merit rating shall be deemed to be his first choice and his declared horses with a lower merit rating shall be deemed, in descending order of merit rating, to be his second and subsequent choices consecutively. However, where a Trainer has a runner which falls outside the benchmark for the race, this horse cannot be designated by a Trainer as his priority over his other runner/s which falls within the benchmark of the race.
20. If a Trainer has more than one runner in a race and elects to prioritise his horse of a lower merit rating, he shall forfeit any automatic right to balloting in relation to his other runner/s.
21. The order of priority for horses in a race will be as follows:
  - 21.1 a horse that was balloted out when last declared and is within the Benchmark rating of the race or the conditions of the race;
  - 21.2 a horse which is declared to run its first race in Mauritius and is within the Benchmark rating of the race or the conditions of the races;
  - 21.3 the merit rating of the horse and is within the benchmark rating for the race;
  - 21.4 last start winner racing within the benchmark rating of the race;
  - 21.5 a horse that was balloted out when last declared and falls within the outer limits of the Benchmark rating of the race;
  - 21.6 a horse which is declared to run its first race in Mauritius and falls within the outer limits Benchmark rating of the race; and
  - 21.7 a last start winner whose rating falls within the outer limits Benchmark rating of the race.

22. In the event of a tie in the balloting out process, a random draw shall be done by the Stipendiary Stewards to determine the eligible runner.
23. In the event that a race is cancelled at Nominations or Declarations stage or the Stipendiary Stewards authorise so, a race may be split.
24. While splitting a race, the following conditions should be applied:
  - 24.1 The Benchmark and Distances and Prize monies for both split races should remain the same.
  - 24.2 The odds and evens system that is, from the list of weights, declared runners with an odd number will be allocated to the first division; declared runners with an even number will be allocated to the second division.
  - 24.3 In case of a Trainer having two horses in one division and none in the other, after the split, his lower weighted runner will be moved to the other division.
  - 24.4 In the event that a division has two (2) or more runners more than the other division, a ballot will take place to move one or more runners from the division which has more runners, to the division which has fewer runners so that both divisions have the same number of runners or there is a difference of only 1 runner between the divisions.
  - 24.5 In the event of the same ownership having two (2) or more runners in one division, the lower weighted runner will be placed in the other division.
  - 24.6 Normal balloting processing shall apply for split races.

## 25. Graded Races

- 25.1 Without derogating from the contents of the above, a Trainer shall have no limit to the number of runners he declares in Graded races and the priority for such runners shall be determined on merit rating (highest to lowest), subject to the conditions of the race.

## 26. Runners in a Race

- 26.1 Subject to the above conditions, at declarations stage, the minimum number of runners in a race shall be 5 unless the race is a Protected Race in which case it shall be 3. Should there be a fewer number of declarations than the aforementioned minimum, such race shall be voided.
- 26.2 The minimum number of Trainers required for a race to remain valid shall be 3 in a race other than a protected race and 2 in a protected race.
- 26.3 Should a horse be scratched after declarations, from a race where there is only the minimum number of runners at declarations the race shall not be voided unless, prior to the Jockeys weighing out, the number of runners is reduced below 3, or 2 in the case of a Protected Race.
- 26.4 If the number of runners in a race is reduced below 3, or 2 in the case of a Protected Race, after the Jockeys weigh out, the race shall remain valid and the horse/s even if reduced to one, shall race under normal conditions.

## 27. Ownership

- 27.1 An Owner shall have horses in a maximum of 3 stables.

## 28. General

- 28.1 Notwithstanding the contents of this document, the Stewards shall maintain the power to determine any dispute or clarify any matter in respect of racing procedures.