

4. NSW BREEDERS CHALLENGE MAJOR RACE SERIES

4.1 RIGHT TO COMPETE

The NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series is restricted to horses that have paid the series fee or the annual sustaining fee for the applicable racing season in accordance with overarching NSW Breeders Challenge Eligibility Conditions at www.nswbred.com.au

4.2 NOMINATIONS & ACCEPTANCES

- a) Closing dates for nomination and acceptance for NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series events are the same as normal nomination and acceptance dates for meetings programmed by conducting clubs.
- b) Nomination and acceptance dates and times are published by HRNSW at www.harness.org.au
- c) Nomination is required for every horse in respect of every event, excepting the Major Race Series Final.
- d) Events must have a minimum of eight (8) final acceptors except with the sole approval of HRNSW.

4.3 HANDICAPPING CONDITIONS

2YO and 3YO Major Series

- a) The NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series 2YO and 3YO events will comprise of Heats, Semi Finals and Finals where nominations provide for each age group and gender.
- b) All races in the Series are to be conducted at the distance which is closest to 1609 metres.
- c) The Barrier Draw for the 2YO and 3YO Heats, Semi-Finals and Finals will be Random Barrier Draw (RBD).
- d) The maximum field size for each race in the Series shall be dependent on the maximum field size allowable for each age group at the track where the event is conducted.
- e) Field selection for all NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series events (excluding Finals) is determined at acceptance time based on dollars won this season. If two or more horses have equal dollars won this season, they will be drawn by lot by HRNSW to determine the maximum field size and emergencies where so required.

4YO Major Series

- a) The 4YO NSW Breeders Challenge Major Series events will comprise of Qualifying Heats and a Final for each Gender.
- b) All races in the Series are to be conducted at the distance which is closest to 1609 metres.
- c) The Barrier Draw for 4YO Qualifying Heats will be Random Barrier Draw (RBD).
- d) The field size for Qualifying Heats and Finals will be twelve (12) plus two (2) emergencies.
- e) The starting configuration will be eight (8) front row and four (4) second row.
- f) Field selection for all NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series events (excluding Finals) is determined at acceptance time based on dollars won this season. If two or more horses have equal dollars won this season, they will be drawn by lot by HRNSW to determine the maximum field size and emergencies where so required.

- g) Qualification for the Final will be based on the fastest 12 individual mile rates, not finishing position.
- h) The Barrier Draw for the Finals will be by choice of connections in descending order from fastest qualified individual mile rate to the slowest qualified individual mile rate. Emergencies will be drawn in Barriers 13 and 14 and will be allotted the barrier draw of the withdrawn horse (if any).

4.4 NSW BREEDERS CHALLENGE MAJOR RACE SERIES EVENTS & SELECTION CRITERIA

- a) 2YO and 3YO NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series Heats:
 - i. All Heats are open to NSW Breeders Challenge eligible horses.
 - ii. A horse's Region is determined by its stable return at nomination and acceptance time and will remain eligible only in that Region for the entire 2022 NSW Breeders Challenge Major Series and Regional Race Series.
 - iii. Eligible horses will not be drawn in more than one Heat in each round of Heats other than as an emergency.
 - iv. Race field selection and the number of races to be conducted in the Major Race Series Heats in each Region (Metropolitan, Hunter, Western and Riverina) will to be based on the following conditions:

First Round Heats

- a) Horses trained in the Region are to be selected on dollars won this season.
- b) There shall be two (2) emergencies drawn in each NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series Heats.

Second Round Heats

- a) Horses trained in the Region are to be selected first on dollars won this season however horses which have won a first round Heat will not be eligible to nominate for a second round Heat.
- b) Horses that received a ballot from their Region may nominate for a heat in another Region but will not be drawn into heats before horses trained in the host Region are drawn.
- c) If there are 8 to 15 Final acceptors there may be one Heat conducted, except with the approval of HRNSW, pursuant to clause 1.2 d).
- d) If there are 16 or more Final acceptors, with the approval of HRNSW there will be two (2) Heats conducted.
- e) HRNSW has the sole discretion to conduct additional Heats.
- f) In the event of any Heat being abandoned, HRNSW will use best endeavours to reschedule the Heat not necessarily at the same track.
- v. In the circumstance where nominations are extended the original nominations will not be subject to ballot. Additional nominations will be accepted into the fields in accordance with the race field selection criteria of Condition 1.4.

- b) 2YO and 3YO Major Race Series Semi-Finals

- i. Semi-Finals are open to NSW Breeders Challenge eligible horses.
- ii. All horses that contested Heats must re-nominate for the Semi-Finals.
- iii. Major Race Series Semi-Final fields will be selected in accordance with the conditions below:
 - 1) The number of horses which will qualify from each Heat shall depend upon the number of Heats conducted, using the following example:

The 2YO & 3YO Semi-Finals are to comprise twenty (20) horses. Where there are eleven (11) Heats conducted, the first placegetters from each Heat would progress to the Semi-Finals. The nine (9) remaining positions would be selected on:

- i. Placings in Heats;
 - ii. Dollars won this season;
 - iii. If two or more horses have equal dollars won this season a ballot will be conducted by HRNSW to determine the maximum field size and emergencies where so required.
 - iv. There shall be two (2) emergencies drawn in each NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series Semi-Final.
- c) 4YO Major Race Series Qualifying Heats
 - i. All Qualifying Heats are open to NSW Breeders Challenge eligible horses.
 - ii. There will be two (2) Qualifying Heats per gender conducted.
 - iii. Where balloting of Final acceptors is necessary, race field selection will be based on dollars won this season. If two or more horses have equal dollars won this season, they will be drawn by lot by HRNSW to determine the maximum field size and emergencies where so required.
 - iv. The field size will be 12 for Qualifying Heats. There shall be two (2) emergencies drawn in each NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series Qualifying Heat. Emergencies will be drawn in Barriers 13 and 14 and will be allotted the barrier draw of the withdrawn horse (if any).
- d) 2YO, 3YO Major Race Series Finals
 - i. Major Race Series Final fields will be selected in accordance with the HRNSW Heats, Semi-Final and Final/Consolation Policy.
 - ii. There shall be two (2) emergencies drawn in each NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series Final.
- e) 4YO Major Race Series Finals
 - i. Major Race Series Final fields will be based on the twelve (12) fastest individual mile rate horses not finishing position.
 - ii. There shall be two (2) emergencies drawn in the NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series Final. Emergencies will be drawn in Barriers 13 and 14 and will be allotted the barrier draw of the withdrawn horse (if any).

4.5 CANCELLATION OR ALTERATION OF NSW BREEDERS CHALLENGE MAJOR RACE SERIES EVENTS

- a) Details of the NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series events to be conducted each season are published www.nswbred.com.au
- b) Where a NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series event is cancelled or postponed for whatever reason, HRNSW may reprogram the cancelled event at a different date and/or venue at its sole discretion.
- c) HRNSW may call for fresh nominations, depending on the circumstances of such cancellations or postponements at its sole discretion.
- d) HRNSW may, during a season, increase or reduce the number of NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series events after considering the number of horses likely to compete at its sole discretion.

4.6 PRIZEMONEY & DISTRIBUTION

The following table outlines the prizemoney for the 2022 NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series:

	2YO	3YO	4YO
Heats	\$9,999	\$9,999	N/A
Semi-Finals / Qualifying Heats	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
Finals	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$51,000

Prizemoney is to be distributed according to the table below:

Placing	Total	Owner	Foal Nominator	Stallion Nominator	Trainer	Driver
1 st	60%	80%	5%	5%	5%	5%
2 nd	15%	80%	5%	5%	5%	5%
3 rd	10%	80%	5%	5%	5%	5%
4 th	6%	80%	5%	5%	5%	5%
5 th	4%	80%	5%	5%	5%	5%
6 th to 12 th	1%	80%	5%	5%	5%	5%

4.7 ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS

- a) HRNSW has the right, in its absolute discretion, to impose additional conditions and restrictions for the NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series and to alter, vary, divide or cancel any event(s) and/or conditions in the NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series programme.
- b) HRNSW may, at any time, terminate the NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series without notice or consultation.

4.8 DISPUTES

Any matter that is in dispute regarding the NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series (including, but not limited to, the application and interpretation of the terms and conditions or any matter not covered by the terms and conditions) will be determined solely by HRNSW.

4.9 RACE DATES & TRACKS

The 2022 NSW Breeders Challenge Major Race Series will commence from Friday September 2 through to the Finals on Saturday October 29.

Tracks at which first round Heats may be conducted are Dubbo, Albury, Penrith and Tamworth.

Tracks at which second round Heats will be conducted are Wagga, Bathurst, Newcastle and Menangle.

Semi Finals / Qualifying Heats and Finals are to be conducted at Menangle.

4.10 INTERSTATE TRAINED HORSES

The first horse entered by an interstate licensed trainer may compete in any Region however all other horses entered to race thereafter in the NSW Breeders Challenge by that trainer will be classified by the Region of that first entry. For the avoidance of doubt a trainer cannot initially enter horses in two different Regions.

4.11 HARNESS RACING NSW SOLE DISCRETION

Harness Racing NSW will have sole discretion with respect to the eligibility of horses if the spirit of these conditions are not abided by.