

Supplementary Report of the

GRADED STAKES COMMITTEE

Following November Meeting

12 DECEMBER 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This Supplementary Report should be read in conjunction with the Annual Report of the Graded Stakes Committee, issued on 15 August 2011.
2. The 2011 Graded Stakes Committee (GSC) has held its November meeting to review the Prestige Jumps Races (PJR) for 2011 and the juvenile late season (post March) black-type races.
3. There is no change to the schedule of PJRs, which again numbers twelve.
4. As noted in the Annual Report, the schedule of Two-Year-Old black-type races has lost one event from last year, as the Whangarei Breeders' Stakes transitions from being a late 2YO to an early 3YO race.
5. The Asian Pattern Committee is pressing for the World Thoroughbred Rankings (incorporating the ANZ Classifications) to be the criterion by which gradings are determined and for the same benchmarks to be applied as in the European jurisdictions. New Zealand will not sign off on this proposal until satisfied that the true merit of NZ-based gallopers is being recognised in the ANZ Classifications.

COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** The GSC once again draws the attention of industry participants to the correct use of the term "Prestige Jumps Races". This correctly applies to the list of jumps races reviewed by the GSC and published in the International Cataloguing Standards booklet ("Blue Book") as qualifying for black-type in National Hunt catalogues world-wide. In recent years some confusion occurred when the premier jumping races identified by NZ Jumps Inc. as qualifying for additional NZTR funding also got mistakenly referred to as PJRs. New Zealand currently has twelve actual PJRs and the GSC feels that is about as high a number as could reasonably be justified at international level. Those races below PJR level, but on the NZJI schedule of premier events, will be kept on a "watch list" by the GSC for consideration should it be deemed that there is room for a new or replacement race on the PJR list.
- 2.2** The GSC re-reviews the late season (post-March) juvenile black-type races at its November meeting each year, even though the ANZ Classifications' race ratings are available in August. This year the most notable difference was with the CJC Champagne Stakes, where the first two home, Kasumi and Duckworth Lewis, had recorded significant

successes in the opening months of their 3YO season. In spite of this the race still attracted a first warning due to the extremely low (81) race rating it was assigned at the end of July. That was a massive eight points below any other juvenile event.

- 2.3** It is the responsibility of the club to notify the GSC where a significant change in conditions is contemplated. Changes in one or more of the distance, timing and conditions can in fact result in an entirely different race being conducted. Although the Committee is sympathetic to programming and other issues, the integrity of the system is paramount.
- 2.4** The GSC endorsed an initiative by Taranaki Racing to change the registered racename of the Evergreen Stakes to Taranaki Breeders' Stakes. NZTR has been advised of the change.
- 2.5** The Asian Pattern Committee (APC) of the Asian Racing Federation (ARF) is the body through which New Zealand submits its annual schedule of black-type races to IRPAC, the graded stakes arm of the world governing body. Over the past six months or so the APC has been strenuously pressing for all ARF member countries to adopt a new set of strict Ground Rules based on the European model of benchmark race ratings drawn from the World Thoroughbred Rankings. Those benchmark figures for each grade are to be the same for all countries worldwide.

The GSC expressed its concerns about this proposal in its Annual Report (section 4.10) of August 2011 on the basis that it appeared that many NZ-based horses seemed not to have their true merit reflected in the ANZ Classifications, especially if they did not compete in Australia. Steps are being pursued to by NZTR to ensure that those concerns are allayed and New Zealand will not sign off on the APC proposals until it is clear that our domestic racing product is not disadvantaged by the new proposed system. The APC has also clarified no race can be downgraded under the new Ground Rules until four years' time at the earliest.

SUMMARY

3.1 As a result of the review, the number of black type races for 2011-12 compared with previous seasons is as follows:

Status	11-12	10-11	09-10	08-09	07-08	06-07
Group 1	22	22	22	22	24	24
Group 2	23	23	23	23	23	23
Group 3	33	33	33	33	29	31
Listed	68	66	68	68	70	69
Total	146	144	146	146	146	147
PJR	12	12	12	12	12	11

3.2 Promotions/Relegations

There is no further change to the 2011-12 List detailed in the Annual report.

3.3 Summary of warnings

Status	2nd Warnings Maintained	2nd Warnings Issued	Reverted to 1st Warnings	1st Warnings Maintained	1st Warnings Issued	1st Warnings Removed
Group 1	1	1	0	0	4	1
Group 2	2	2	0	2	4	0
Group 3	1	1	0	7	3	0
Listed	11	0	3	17	8	0
PJR	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	15	5	3	26	19	2

3.4 2nd Warnings Issued

PJR	Lion Red Inter-Island S/chase	<i>Inter-Island S/chase</i>	Paeroa RC
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3.5 1st Warnings Maintained

LR	Brancott Estate Ryder S.	<i>Ryder S.</i>	Levin RC
LR	Castletown S.	<i>Triton S.</i>	Foxton RC
LR	Novotel Auckland Ellerslie Great Northern Foal S.	<i>Great Northern Foal S.</i>	Auckland RC

3.6 1st Warnings Issued

LR	Berkley Stud Champagne S.	<i>Champagne S.</i>	Canterbury RC
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3.7 1st Warning Removed

PJR	EIF International McGregor Grant S/chase	<i>McGregor Grant S/chase</i>	Auckland RC
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