

# **Racing Queensland Limited**

## **HANDICAPPING/GRADING POLICY**

### **DATE THE POLICY WAS MADE**

This policy was made on 1 July 2010

### **COMMENCEMENT DATE**

This policy comes into effect on 1 July 2010.

### **PURPOSE**

The *Racing Act 2002* (Act) authorises Racing Queensland Limited (Racing Queensland) to make policies for the sound management of the industry. Section 81(r) of the Act requires Racing Queensland to make a policy for handicapping for thoroughbred and harness racing and grading for greyhound racing.

Racing Queensland is committed to providing the racing industry with a handicapping/grading system that is transparent, fair and consistent, whilst at the same time making racing competitive and interesting.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all interested parties can understand the rationale and economics of handicapping/grading. This should result in handicapping/grading within the segments of the industry being understood, accepted and supported and should result in races that are more competitive.

### **POLICY STATEMENT**

Racing Queensland will devise and implement a system of handicapping (in the case of thoroughbred and harness racing) and grading (in the case of greyhounds) that makes handicapping races and graded races in Queensland fair and competitive. The handicapping and the grading system will both be logical and consistent and the handicapping decision-making process and the grading decision-making process will be transparent.

### **Handicappers' and graders' qualifications**

Racing Queensland's senior handicappers and graders will closely supervise new members of the handicapping and grading panels to ensure a handicapping service and a grading service are both of a high standard. New handicapping panel members and grading panel members will work with and under the supervision of senior handicappers and senior graders to learn the basic skills they need. They will then graduate to handicapping/grading lower class races and the senior Racing Queensland handicappers and graders checking their work (as the case may be). Once these handicappers/ graders have demonstrated their competence, undertaken an accreditation process and received approval from the Director of Product Development, they may handicap/grade races without direct supervision.

### **Handicapping system**

The system of handicapping in Queensland is broken into thoroughbred and harness and is contained in individual handicapping procedures documents.

## **Grading system**

Racing Queensland Limited has established procedures for grading contained in the grading procedures.

### **APPLICATION**

This policy applies to all registered race meetings, to all thoroughbred race horses, harness racing horses and greyhound dogs racing in races in Queensland.

### **DEFINITIONS**

'Handicapping' includes, and in the case of greyhound racing, means grading.

### **REVIEW**

Review date will be July 2012.

### **REVISION HISTORY**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
1.01	July 2010	Board adopted under exceptional circumstances
1.02	September 2010	Board confirmed this policy continued to have effect