

INTER DOMINION PACING CHAMPIONSHIP TERMS & CONDITIONS 2023



CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF THE 2023 INTER DOMINION PACING CHAMPIONSHIP HOSTED BY RACING QUEENSLAND (RQ) AND THE ALBION PARK HARNESS RACING CLUB (APHRC).

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THE 2023 INTER DOMINION PACING CHAMPIONSHIP

1. THE SERIES

The Inter Dominion Pacing Championship “the Pacing Championship” will comprise three (3) rounds of Qualifying Heats (subject to Clause 23), a Grand Final and a Consolation.

2. DEFINITIONS

Host Controlling Body means Racing Queensland (RQ).

PM means prize money.

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

3. CURRENCY

All values are expressed in the currency of the Host Controlling Body. (AU\$)

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).

5. TRAVEL SUBSIDY

There is not a travel subsidy for the Pacing Championship.

However, a guaranteed minimum of \$5,000 in prize money will apply to each competitor. Should a competitor earn less than \$5,000 throughout the series the difference will be paid solely to the owner. In calculating a horses prize money won throughout the series the following will be considered, prize money won in each heat plus any money won on Grand Final night, December 16 (be that in the Final or other race on the program). To be eligible for the minimum prize money the horse must compete in all three rounds of heats.



6. INTEGRITY

The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) reserve the absolute right to undertake security, surveillance and swabbing of any horse engaged in the Pacing Championship.

7. SPECIAL CONDITIONS

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

8. AGREEMENT

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

9. THE PACING CHAMPIONSHIP TIMETABLE

Nominations / Acceptance

Closing Type	Day	Date	Time
Nomination Close	Monday	25/09/2023	12:00PM AEST
First Acceptance	Monday	23/10/2023	12:00PM AEST
Second Acceptance	Monday	20/11/2023	12:00PM AEST
Final Acceptance	Monday	27/11/2023	10:00AM AEST

Rankings

Rankings Released	Day	Date	Time
First Rankings	Wednesday	27/09/2023	4:00PM AEST
Second Rankings	Wednesday	11/10/2023	4:00PM AEST
Third Rankings	Wednesday	25/10/2023	4:00PM AEST
Fourth Rankings	Wednesday	8/11/2023	4:00PM AEST
Final Rankings	Wednesday	22/11/2023	4:00PM AEST

Race Series

Race Type	Races held	Day	Date	Venue
First Round Qualifying Heat	4	Friday	1/12/2023	Albion Park
Second Round Qualifying Heat	3	Tuesday	5/12/2023	Albion Park
Third Round Qualifying Heat	3	Saturday	9/12/2023	Albion Park
Grand Final	1	Saturday	16/12/2023	Albion Park
Consolation	1	Saturday	16/12/2023	Albion Park
FFA (Pref for ID23 Competitors)	1	Saturday	16/12/2023	Albion Park

10. ELIGIBILITY OF HORSES

- The Pacing Championship is restricted to registered Standardbred horses and will be conducted under the Rules of Harness Racing.
- 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, Grand Final or Consolation unless reinstated before the commencement of the first round of Qualifying Heats.
- To be eligible to compete in the Grand Final of the Pacing Championship, horses shall start in a Qualifying Heat in each round of the Championship, 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.
- c) All horses nominated for the Pacing Championship will be deemed eligible to compete in the Consolation at no additional Nomination or Acceptance Fee to those payable for the Pacing Championship, provided they were accepted for and competed in one or more of the Qualifying Heats.

12. SCHEDULE OF FEES AND DEADLINES

Type	Amount (Ex GST)	Date	Time	Description
Nomination Fee	\$0 (NIL)	25/09/2023	12:00PM AEST	No fee
First Acceptance Fee	\$300	23/10/2023	12:00PM AEST	Refund if balloted
Second Acceptance Fee	\$400	20/11/2023	12:00PM AEST	Refund if balloted
Final Acceptance	\$500	27/11/2023	Deducted from PM	N/A if Scr or withdrawn

NOTE: Minimum prize money guarantee of \$5,000 applies

13. LATE NOMINATION FEE

Horses which are not nominated for the Pacing Championship by the time stated in Clause 9 per September 27, 2023, can be made eligible for the Series by paying a Late Nomination Fee of \$10,000 (plus GST). Any late nomination and continuation payments must be made prior to 12:00pm (AEST), November 17, 2023. The Late Nomination Fee is non-refundable and is inclusive of the First and Second Acceptance fees. 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.

A Golden Ticket holder not previously nominated for ID23 may accept for the series at half the cost of the late nomination fee, therefore \$5,000 (plus GST).

14. WHERE TO LODGE NOMINATIONS, WITHDRAWALS AND SCRATCHINGS

All nominations and acceptances for the Pacing Championship must be submitted as per below and subject to Clause 13, must be received at the offices of the Host Controlling Body (Racing Queensland) by the due date, listed in Clause 9. Nominations, Withdrawals & Scratchings are to be submitted:

- Online via HarnessWeb, per code APM01122301
- E-mail: harnesshandicapping@racingqueensland.com.au
- Phone: 07 3869 9775 (and confirmed in writing)

15. RANKING SYSTEM

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

Horses shall be ranked in the following descending order:

- a) Defending Champion
- b) Winners of any Australian Grand Circuit race (2023 season)
- c) Winners of open age Australian and New Zealand Group 1 races, excluding races restricted by class or sex, from January 1, 2023.
- d) Golden Ticket holders as winner of any of the following races in the 2023 Racing Season:
 - The Eureka (Menangle)
 - James Brennan Memorial (Gloucester Park)
 - Kilmore Pacing Cup (Kilmore)
 - The Battle Of Beersheba (Menangle)
 - Queensland Cup (Albion Park)
 - Kaikoura Cup (NZ).

NOTE: a Golden Ticket holder not previously nominated for ID23 may be accepted as a late entry if half the late entry fee is paid (\$5,000 plus GST)

- e) Horses ranked in order of entry at the discretion of Racing Queensland Handicappers based primarily on form in the 2023 season, including feature races. The ranking order of horses with no or limited exposed form in 2023 may be determined based on form in the last 10 starts.
- f) Rankings updated fortnightly as per table in Clause 9.

16. HORSES SCRATCHED AFTER FINAL ACCEPTANCES

- a) It shall be a condition of Nomination that horses scratched from the Pacing Championship after Final Acceptances for the heats shall not be eligible to compete in any other race at any meeting for the period commencing the First Night of the Pacing Championship until completion of the Pacing Championship, unless permission is granted by the Host Controlling Body.

17. HORSES REMAIN ACCEPTORS UNLESS WITHDRAWN

- a) A horse nominated for the Pacing 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 Round of Qualifying Heats, or other such time as determined and published by the Host Controlling Body.

19. RACE DISTANCES AND BARRIER DRAWS

Race Type	Day	Date	Distance	Barrier Type
First Round Qualifying Heat	Friday	1/12/2023	1660m	RBD
Second Round Qualifying Heat	Tuesday	5/12/2023	2138m	RBD
Third Round Qualifying Heat	Saturday	9/12/2023	2680m	RBD
Grand Final	Saturday	16/12/2023	2680m	RBD
Consolation	Saturday	16/12/2023	2680m	RBD
FFA (Pref ID23 Competitors)	Saturday	16/12/2023	2138m	RBD

20. MODE OF START

- a) All races in the Pacing Championship shall be mobile barrier starts.

21. HANDICAPPING PENALTIES

- a) Winners of Qualifying Heats, the Grand Final and the Consolation shall be penalised in accordance with the Handicapping Regulations of the Host Controlling Body of the Pacing Championship.

22. FIELD SIZES

- a) The field for the Qualifying Heats of the Pacing Championship shall consist of a maximum (12 Starters) as set by the Host Controlling Body.
- b) The field size for Round 1 Heats (1660m) shall consist of 9 starters plus three (3) common emergencies (in the First Round of Qualifying Heats only). The field size for all remaining Qualifying Heats of the Pacing Championship shall consist of a maximum (12 Starters) as set by the Host Controlling Body.
- c) 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 is declared by the Stewards ODM, RODM, EOD.
- d) The field for the Grand Final shall consist of a maximum (12 Starters) as set by the Host Controlling Body plus one (1) emergency. The emergency being the next highest ranked on the Pacing Championship point score.
- e) The field for the Consolation shall be conducted with a maximum (12 Starters) as set by the Host Controlling Body plus one (1) emergency, with the emergency in the Grand Final drawn as a starter in the Consolation (if nominated). A Consolation will only be conducted if three (3) or more Qualifying Heats are conducted in each qualifying round, and if there is a minimum of six (6) acceptors for the Consolation.
- f) Where there are no emergencies drawn in any event, the barrier positions shall be determined at acceptance time. In the event of scratching(s), horses will remain on the same row, though will move next to the horse drawn to its inside.
- g) Where emergencies are declared in an event they will be allocated a barrier position in accordance with the regular practice of the Host Controlling Body subject to 22 (b).

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

- a) At the close of acceptances on the day the First Round of Qualifying Heats are drawn the Host Controlling Body will declare final acceptors and emergencies.
- b) In the event that there are insufficient horses to conduct three (3) Qualifying Heats of the Pacing Championship on each of the nights, then the Host Controlling Body reserves the right to reduce the number of Qualifying Heats from three (3) to two (2) for the three (3) rounds of Qualifying Heats.

24. 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 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) Should a single heat be abandoned and unable to be re-run each horse shall receive 6 points.
- h) In the event of a dead-heat, all points of the horses dead-heating shall be added together and equally divided. This includes bonus points.

Points Table

Position	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
12 starters	16	13	11	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
9 starters	13	10	8	6	5	4	3	2	1			

The above table includes the bonus points referred to in 24(c)

25. STAND DOWNS

Any horse that is stood down from racing for breaking gait, wayward behaviour or performing poorly in a heat of the Pacing Championship will be stood down from all remaining races of the Championship. There will be no opportunity to trial.

26. GRAND FINAL & CONSOLATION SELECTION

- a) The horses with the highest number of points scored throughout the Qualifying Heats shall gain a start in the Pacing 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 Pacing 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 Pacing 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.
- c) Fresh Nominations will be called for the Pacing Championship Consolation with preference in field selection given to horses who contested the most rounds of heats selected from highest to lowest by points scored in Qualifying Heats. In the event of two or more horses each scoring equally on the minimum number of points then the set criteria determined by the Host Controlling Body in 26(b) shall apply.

27. STAKEMONEY DISTRIBUTION

Race Type	Total Stakes	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th to last
Grand Final	\$530,000	\$286,000	\$82,000	\$53,000	\$31,800	\$21,200	\$8,000
Consolation	\$50,000	\$27,000	\$7,750	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$750
Heats	\$30,000	\$16,200	\$4,650	\$3,000	\$1,800	\$1,200	\$450

NB: A Final Acceptance fee of \$500 (Plus GST) will apply for the Pacing Championship and will be deducted from the relevant stakes for all Finalists.

There is no Final Acceptance fee applicable for horses in the Consolation.

Standard prize money distribution applies throughout the series, that is:

All prize money \$400 or more distributed 85% owner, 10% trainer and 5% driver.

A 1% deduction for Equine Welfare will be applied to all prize money from the Heats and Consolation races prior to distribution.

A 5% deduction for Equine Welfare will be applied to all prize money from the Grand Final prior to distribution.