

Weight allocation & Minimum Group 1 weights

Summary:

AR.103(2) has been amended to allow PRAs to set a higher minimum top weight at acceptance time. The rule currently states that there must only be a 58kg top weight at acceptance time.

For a PRA to set a higher acceptance top weight an adjustment is required to eliminate any challenge to the higher weight, e.g. 60kg, at the time of acceptances for certain races.

The amendment does not impact the current operations of states (raising to 58kg), but does add flexibility should changes be decided upon by other PRAs in future.

AR.103(3) has also been amended to add flexibility to minimum weights in Group 1 racing. The intention of this change is to enable a PRA, at its discretion, to set a lower limit weight on Group 1 handicaps. As an example, Racing NSW might want to go lower for say the Doncaster or Sydney Cup. Similarly, Racing Queensland might want to run a lower limit for the Stradbroke, or Racing Victoria on the Newmarket.

Please amend AR.103(2) as follows:

“(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subrule (1), if at the declaration of acceptances for a handicap flat race the weight allocated to the highest-weighted acceptor (including any extra weight by way of re-handicap or penalty) is less than 58 kilograms, or less than a higher weight determined by a Principal Racing Authority, then allocated weights for the race must be increased until the highest-weighted acceptor is weighted at not less than 58 kilograms.”

Date of Effect: 1 October, 2015

Please amend AR.103(3) as follows:

“(3) The minimum weight allocated for handicap flat races must not be less than –

- (a) 50 kilograms for the Melbourne Cup and Caulfield Cup;
- (b) 52 kilograms for Group 1 handicap races other than the Melbourne Cup and Caulfield Cup;
- (c) 53 kilograms for Group 2 handicap flat races;
- (d) 54 kilograms for all other handicap flat races.

Provided that the Principal Racing Authority concerned may approve applications made by racing clubs for a minimum weight of 50 kilograms for Group 1 handicap races other than the Melbourne Cup and Caulfield Cup (paragraph (b) of this subrule) and also for 2-year-old and/or 3-year-old horses in open-age handicap races to be allocated lower minimum weights than those prescribed by paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) of this subrule.”

Date of Effect: 1 October, 2015