

IHRA Members Update March 11th 2022

Future Eliminators & Finals...

The conditions for future feature races will change from 2022 onwards. The main changes are:

1. These races will for Grade D+
2. Should the number of horses from D upwards be:
 - (a) 16, then 2 eliminations of 8, with 4 qualifying from each for the final
 - (b) 15, then 2 eliminations of 7 & 8, with 4 qualifying from each for the final
 - (c) 14, then 2 eliminations of 7, with 4 qualifying from each for the final
 - (d) 13, then 2 eliminations of 7& 6, with 4 qualifying from each for the final
 - (e) 12, then 2 eliminations of 6, with 4 qualifying from each for the final
 - (f) 11, then 2 eliminations of 6&5, with 4 qualifying from each for the final
 - (g) 10, then 2 eliminations of 5, with 4 qualifying from each for the final
 - (h) 9 or less, then one straight race.

New Starting Car set for Portmarnock

A new starting car has been purchased for Portmarnock Raceway and is currently being worked on with the installation of new gates. It is hoped that the starting car will be in action in May 2022.

Reminder to All Trainers:

For all your horses declared in training you must submit copies of your flu vaccinations.

Any trainer who intends on racing on March 27th must have these submitted by next **Wednesday 16th March**

For any trainer who has yet to declare your horses in training you must do so 28 days in advance of racing to be eligible to race. This can be done via the IHRA website.

[Trainer Declarations 2022 – The Irish Harness Racing Association](#)

IHRA Handicap Review

The IHRA joint committee recently reviewed the handicap system. Here are the amendments for 2022:

1. All G/G1/G2 horses will receive a run on winning these races.
2. The Grade F Handicap mark is now being split into Grade F1 & F2.
 - (a) The Grade F1 is for horses who are in Grade F, with more than 6 runs banked and who are under the age of 10.
 - (b) The Grade F2 is for horses who are in Grade F, with more than 6 runs banked and who are 10 years and above.
3. All TF horses bought via the upcoming sales and upon conversion into the IHRA Handicap system shall be capped at a Grade B.
4. The optimum number of horses per race shall be 8/9 but a 10 horse race may occur from time to time but it will not be the preferred option.

Attention ALL Members:

All Licences must be renewed using the online renewals form on the IHRA website,

[Licence Renewals – The Irish Harness Racing Association](#)