

**Supplementary Report of the
NZ PATTERN COMMITTEE**

Following 1 November 2012 Meeting

15 NOVEMBER 2012

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This Supplementary Report should be read in conjunction with the Annual Report of the NZ Pattern Committee, issued on 28 August 2012.
2. The 2012 NZ Pattern Committee (NZPC) has held its November meeting to review the Prestige Jumps Races (PJR) for 2012.
3. There is one change to the schedule of PJRs, with the Paeroa RC Inter-Island Steeplechase being downgraded from PJR status. There are now eleven races with PJR status for the 2013 jumps season.
4. The NZPC has resolved to adopt Race Ratings, based on peak domestic handicap (jumps) horse ratings, as its primary statistical assessment tool for PJR races.

COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** The NZPC 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 NZPC 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. These are now termed Significant Jumps Races (SJRs). All SJRs will be kept on a “watch list” by the NZPC for consideration should it be deemed that there is room for a new or replacement race on the PJR list.
- 2.2** The NZPC now reviews all juvenile black-type races at its August meeting each year.
- 2.3** It is the responsibility of the club to notify the NZPC 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 NZPC has resolved to downgrade the Paeroa RC Inter-Island Steeplechase from the PJR list after taking several points into consideration. The race had a second warning and was not contested in 2012; the prizemoney offered for the last few runnings of the race had not been commensurate with the stakes put up for other PJRs; and the future of the race remains uncertain. The eleven races remaining on the PJR schedule for 2013 represent a percentage of total jumps races programmed in NZ which is way above the 5% guideline figure for flat races. The NZPC resolved not to replace the demoted race in the schedule at this point, but noted that hurdle races seem to have a disproportionately low number of PJRs, compared to steeplechases.
- 2.5** It was resolved to adopt Race Ratings as the primary statistical assessment tool for judging the quality of PJR fields. Using the ANZ Race Ratings (utilised for judging flat races) as a template, it was decided to develop a PJR Race Rating based on the average of the first four finishers and using their peak domestic handicap (jumps) rating for the year concerned. In a few years’ time, once sufficient data is at the Committee’s disposal, it is intended to develop Benchmark PJR Race Ratings that races will be expected to attain most years in order to retain PJR status. The numbers of PJR winners and PJR wins, along with an overview of the entire field, will still be taken into account when assessing quality.

SUMMARY

3.1 As a result of the review, the number of Prestige Jumps Races for 2013 compared with previous years is as follows:

Status	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
PJR	11	12	12	12	12	12

3.2 Promotions/Relegations

The Paeroa RC Inter-Island Steeplechase is relegated from the PJR List.

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
PJRs	0	0	0	0	0	0

RACE RATINGS

4.0 2012 PJR Race Ratings

ARC Great Northern Hurdle H.	92.75
WRC Wellington Hurdle H.	92.25
CJC Grand National Hurdle H.	88.25
Waikato RC Waikato Hurdle H.	84.75
WRC Wellington S/chase H.	94.25
ARC Great Northern S/chase H.	94.00
CJC Grand National S/chase H.	94.00
ARC McGregor Grant S/chase H.	94.00
Pakuranga Hunt Cup S/chase H.	93.75
Waikato RC Waikato S/chase H.	87.25
HBRI Hawke's Bay S/chase H.	84.75

4.1 2012 SJR Race Ratings

Manawatu RC Awapuni Hurdle H.	91.75
Riverton RC Great Western Hurdle H.	90.25
ARC KS Browne Hurdle H.	88.00
Pakuranga HC Tony Richards Toyota Hurdle H.	88.00
HBRI Hawke's Bay Hurdle H.	81.75
CJC Sydenham Hurdle H.	77.25
Waikato RC Garrards Horse & Hound Hurdle H.	76.75
CJC Koral S/chase H.	92.75
Manawatu RC Manawatu S/chase H.	89.25
Waikato Hunt Gold Cup S/chase H.	88.25
Riverton RC Great Western S/chase H.	85.75