

# PART 1 - GENERAL INTRODUCTORY

## *The racing seasons*

### 1. Dates of the racing seasons

1. Schedule 1 sets out the period of the following racing seasons

- 1.1. The Flat Season,
- 1.2 The Winter Flat Season, and
- 1.3 The Jump Season (for steeple chasing and hurdle racing).

## *Types of races and related terms*

### 2. Meaning of race

2.1 In this Manual, **race**

2.1.1 means a Total Race Value Race, Private Sweepstakes or Match race run under these Rules or a race run under the Rules of any Recognised Racing Authority, but

2.1.2 does not include any Arabian horse race or point-to-point steeple chase.

2.2 For the purposes of Paragraph 2.1.1

**Match** is a race between horses the property of two different Owners on terms agreed by them and to which no money or other prize is added;

**Private Sweepstakes** is a Sweepstakes to which no money is added and which has not been publicly advertised before closing;

**Total Race Value Race** is a Sweepstakes in which the Stakes go to the winner or placed horses, in addition to any Prize Money and Appearance Money guaranteed by the racecourse which shall not be less than the advertised value of the race when added to Stakes but if the total stakes exceed that value, the total stakes are the Prize Money.

2.3 In this Rule

**Sweepstakes** is a race in which the Stakes, subscription, or other contribution by Owners go to the winner or placed horses, and any such race is still a Sweepstakes when money or other prize is added.

2.4 For the purposes of the definition of Total Race Value Race in Paragraph 2.2, a portion of the supplementary entry payment which is equal to the full stake payable through the early entry system shall be included within the Total Race Value, with the balance being added to the value of the race.

### 3. General race categories

3.1 A **Handicap Race** is a race in which the weights for the horses are allotted by the Handicapper in accordance with Part 8 for the purpose of equalising their chances of winning.

3.2 A **Weight-for-Age** race is a race which is not a Handicap.

3.3 A **Claiming** Race is a race in which every horse running in the race may be claimed in accordance with the provisions of Chapters 2 and 3 of Part 4.

3.4 A **Selling** Race is a race in which

3.4.1 the winner of the race must be offered for sale by auction in accordance with Chapters 1 and 3 of Part 4, and

3.4.2 every other horse running in the race may be claimed.

3.5 A **Free Handicap** is a race in which no liability for stakes is incurred until acceptance.

3.6 A race is a **Novelty Race** if

3.6.1 it involves a restricted number of runners, other than the numbers determined by the Safety Factor and Maximum Figure, or Field Size Limit (if applicable), or

3.6.2 it is an invitation race, either in regard to horses or riders.

## Categories of Flat Race

4.1 A flat race is a **Pattern Race** if, in any particular year, it is a flat race which appears as a pattern race in the European Pattern Race Book.

Flat pattern races are divided into Groups 1, 2 and 3.

4.2 A flat race is a **Listed Race** if

4.2.1 in any particular year, it is a flat race which appears as a listed race in the European Pattern Race Book, but

4.2.2 in respect of the period 1980 to 1986, it includes any flat race which was published as a listed race in the 1987 Pattern Race Book.

4.3 A flat race is a **Conditions Race** if it is a flat race which is none of the following

4.3.1 a Handicap Race or a Novice Race,

4.3.2 a race restricted to Maiden Horses, or

4.3.3 a race governed by Selling or Claiming provisions.

4.4 A flat race is a **Conditions Stakes** if it is a flat race which has not been awarded pattern or listed status and it is none of the following

4.4.1 a Handicap Race, Classified Stakes or a Novice Race,

4.4.2 a race restricted to Maiden Horses,

4.4.3 a race governed by selling or claiming provisions, or

4.4.4 a race confined to Apprentice Jockeys or Amateur Riders in respect of which the Total Prize Fund is less than £7,500.

4.5 A flat race is a **Classified Stakes** if it is a Weight-for-Age Race which

4.5.1 is restricted to horses which have been awarded Handicap Ratings at or below a figure specified in the conditions of the race, and

4.5.2 is not a Maiden Race or Novice Race.

4.6 A race for Maiden Horses is

4.6.1 an **Open Maiden Race** if it is a flat race

4.6.1.1 which is restricted to Maiden Horses at starting,

4.6.1.2 which is not a Handicap Race, Selling Race, Claiming Race, Auction Race, Median Auction Race, Classified Stakes or Rating Related Maiden race, and

4.6.1.3 for which entry may be further restricted only by the number of starts, or age, or sex or inclusion in the European Breeders' Fund sponsorship arrangements;

4.6.2 a **Maiden Handicap** if it is a flat race which

4.6.2.1 is a Handicap Race,

4.6.2.2 is restricted to Maiden Horses, and

4.6.2.3 is not open to horses of two years old;

4.6.3 a **Maiden Auction** Race if it is a flat race restricted to two year old Maiden Horses **or three year old Maiden Horses** which have been sold or bought in by public auction under the hammer at specified sales (and for these purposes, any horse which is unsold having failed to reach its reserve does not qualify nor do private sales);

4.6.4 a **Median Auction Maiden Race** if it is a flat race which is restricted to Maiden Horses which are the progeny of stallions which established a median price for the sale of yearlings contemporary with the entrants in the race based on the sale or bought in price of one or more animals at specified sales. **In addition, two-year-old horses are excluded if they have been sold or bought in at public auction under the hammer at specified sales at a price more than £20,000 above the median price stated in the race conditions.**

4.6.5 a **Rating Related Maiden Race** is a flat race which

4.6.5.1 is restricted to Maiden Horses at starting which have been awarded Handicap Ratings at or below a figure specified in the conditions of the race, and  
4.6.5.2 is not a Handicap Race.

4.7 A race is

4.7.1 a **Novice Flat Race** if it is a flat race restricted to horses which

4.7.1.1 have not won more than two flat races,

4.7.1.2 have not won a flat race which is classified as Class 1 or more than one flat race which is classified as Class 2 in Schedule 2, **and**

**4.7.1.3 have not run more than twice, except if the horse has never previously won a race or is a two-year-old,**

4.7.2 a **Novice Auction Race** if it is a flat race restricted to horses which

4.7.2.1 have not won more than two flat races,

4.7.2.2 have not won a flat race which is classified as Class 1 or more than one flat race which is classified as Class 2 or 3 in Schedule 2,

**4.7.2.3 have not run more than twice, except if the horse has never previously won a race or is a two-year-old, and**

4.7.2.4 have been sold or bought in by public auction under the hammer at specified sales,

and for these purposes, any horse which is unsold having failed to reach its reserve does not qualify nor do private sales;

4.7.3 a **Median Auction Novice Race** if it is a flat race restricted to horses which

4.7.3.1 have not won more than two flat races,

4.7.3.2 have not won a flat race which is classified as Class 1 or more than one flat race which is classified as Class 2 or 3 in Schedule 2,

**4.7.3.3 have not run more than twice, except if the horse has never previously won a race or is a two-year-old,**

4.7.3.4 are the progeny of stallions which established a median price for the sale of yearlings contemporary with the entrants in the race based on the sale or bought in price of one or more animals at specified sales, and

**4.7.3.5 have not been sold or bought in at public auction under the hammer at specified sales at a price more than £20,000 above the median price stated in the race conditions. This restriction only applies to two-year-old horses.**

4.8 A **Heritage Handicap** is a Handicap flat race which is identified as such by the Authority and which has a minimum advertised value for a race of that type as specified in Schedule 2 Part 1.

4.9 A **Nursery Handicap** is a Handicap flat race which is restricted to two year old horses.

## 5. Categories of steeple chases, hurdle races and national hunt flat races

5.1 A steeple chase, hurdle race or National Hunt Flat Race is a **Pattern Race** if, in any particular year

5.1.1 it appears in the list of pattern races in the steeple chase and hurdle race section of the Programme Book published by the Authority, or

5.1.2 in the case of a race run in Ireland, it appears as a pattern race in the Irish Racing Calendar.  
Such pattern races are divided into Grades 1, 2 and 3.

5.2 A steeple chase, hurdle race or National Hunt Flat Race is a **Listed Race** if in any particular year, it is a race which appears as a listed race in the steeple chase and hurdle race section of the Programme Book published by the Authority.

5.3 A steeple chase, hurdle race or National Hunt Flat Race is a **Maiden Race** if it is confined to Maiden Horses.

5.4 A steeple chase, hurdle race or National Hunt Flat Race is a **Novice Race** if is confined to Novice Horses.

## 5.5 A steeple chase is

5.5.1 a **Hunters' Steeple Chase** if it is a Steeple Chase confined to Amateur Riders and to horses currently issued with a Hunters' Steeple Chase certificate,

5.5.2 a **Novice Hunters' Steeple Chase** if it is a Weight-for-Age Steeple Chase confined to Amateur Riders and to horses which

5.5.2.1 are currently issued with a Hunters' Steeple Chase certificate, and in respect of any race run or to be run in 2018, have not won a steeple chase before June 10th, 2017, and

5.5.3 a **Beginners' Steeple Chase** if it is a steeple chase race for horses which have never won a steeple chase in any country, apart from a Match or Private Sweepstakes, or a steeple chase at a point-to-point meeting in Great Britain.

## 5.6 A steeple chase or hurdle race is a **Classified Stakes** if

5.6.1 it is a Weight-for-Age Steeple Chase or Hurdle Race which is restricted to horses which have been awarded Handicap Ratings at or below a figure specified in the conditions of the race, and

5.6.2 it is not a Maiden Race or Novice Race.

5.7 A hurdle race is a Juvenile Race if it is confined to Juvenile Horses.

## 6. Maiden horses

6.1 A horse is a **Maiden**, in relation to a flat race, if it has never won a flat race in any country apart from

6.1.1 a National Hunt Flat Race in Great Britain,

6.1.2 an Irish national hunt flat race,

6.1.3 a French AQPS Flat Race,

6.1.4 an Arabian horse race in Great Britain,

6.1.5 a Match, or

6.1.6 a Private Sweepstakes, other than the Newmarket Challenge Whip.

6.2 A horse is a **Maiden**, in relation to a steeple chase or hurdle race, if it has never won a steeple chase or hurdle race in any country, apart from

6.2.1 a National Hunt Flat Race in Great Britain,

6.2.2 an Irish national hunt flat race,

6.2.3 a French AQPS Flat Race,

6.2.4 a Match,

6.2.5 a Private Sweepstakes, or

6.2.6 a steeple chase at a point-to-point meeting.

6.3 A horse is a **Maiden**, in relation to a National Hunt Flat Race, if it has never won

6.3.1 a National Hunt Flat Race in Great Britain,

6.3.2 an Irish national hunt flat race, or

6.3.3 a French AQPS Flat Race.

## 7. Novice horses

7.1 A horse is a **Novice**, in respect of a flat race, if the horse is permitted to run in the race in accordance with the definition of any novice flat race category defined in Rule 4.7.

7.2 A horse is a **Novice**, in respect of a Hunters' Steeple Chase, if the horse is permitted to run in the race in accordance with the definition of Novice Hunters' Steeple Chase in Rule 5.5.2.

7.3 In respect of any steeple chase which is run in The Jump Season **2017/2018** and is not within Paragraph 7.2, a horse is a Novice if the horse has not won a steeple chase before April **30th, 2017**.

7.4 In respect of a hurdle race which is run in The Jump Season **2017/2018**, a horse is a Novice if the horse has not won a hurdle race before April **30th, 2017**.

7.5 Where, in the period starting on March 1st, **2018** and ending on April **28th, 2018**, a horse wins a hurdle race or a steeple chase for the first time, it shall be regarded as a novice and is eligible to run in novice hurdle races or

novice steeple chases as the case may be until October 31st, **2018**.

7.6 Any additional wins during the period March 1st, **2018** to April **28th, 2018** will not affect the horse's qualification to run in novice hurdle races or novice steeple chases before November 1st, **2018**.

7.7 Paragraphs 7.3 to 7.5 apply to a steeple chase or hurdle race which is run in the period starting on April **30th, 2017** and ending on April **28th 2018**.

## **8. Classification of races**

8.1 All races run in Great Britain shall be classified in accordance with the criteria for such races that are specified in Schedule 2.

## **9. Definitions supplementing Rules 2 to 8**

9. These definitions apply to this Manual, not solely to Rules 2 to 8

**European Pattern Race Book** means the work authorised to be published by the Authority, Horse Racing Ireland, France-Galop, the Direktorium fur Vollblutzucht und Rennen, and M.I.P.A.A.F. (ex A.S.S.I & U.N.I.R.E.);

**French AQPS Flat Race** means a race run in France on or after January 1st, 2007 which is restricted to AQPS bred horses;

**Juvenile Horses.** A horse is a Juvenile in respect of a Hurdle Race during any Jump Season if prior to 1st January it is three years old and after December 31st until the last day of April is four years old.

**Money Added to Stakes**, in respect of a Sweepstakes

9.1 means the minimum published amount contributed towards Prize Money by the racecourse or from other sources, and

9.2 does not include any additional sums contributed by the racecourse to meet the Guaranteed Minimum Value of a race or the Owners' Prize Money Pool;

**National Hunt Flat Race** is a flat race for horses which at starting have not run under any recognised Rules of Racing except in National Hunt Flat Races held under these Rules or in Irish National Hunt flat races or in French AQPS races (by virtue of the race conditions, no horse aged more than 7 years old will be eligible to start in a national hunt flat race.);

**Owners' Prize Money Pool**, in respect of a race, means the Stakes held by the Stakeholder for that race;

**Prize Money**, in respect of a race, means

9.3 the Total Prize Fund, or

9.4 a combination of

9.4.1 the Stakes, and

9.4.2 any Money Added to Stakes, and

9.4.3 any additional sums contributed by the racecourse to meet the Guaranteed Minimum Value of a race;

**Total Prize Fund** shall be construed in accordance with the definition of Total Prize Fund Race in Rule 2.