

Schedule 8 - Elimination or balloting procedures

Part A

1.1 Part A of this Schedule applies to all flat race Handicaps other than Heritage Handicaps, Nursery Handicaps and such other flat race Handicaps with an advertised rating range of more than 20lb.

1.2 Elimination will occur in the following sequence

1.2.1 Horses rated 1lb or 2lb above the upper rating limit specified in the conditions of the race, with horses rated 2lb above the upper rating limit eliminated ahead of those rated 1lb above the upper rating limit. Horses on the same weight will be eliminated in the published ascending order, such order having been determined by random balloting.

(For the avoidance of doubt, this does not apply to Class 1 and 2 races and does not include those horses within the rating range at time of entry whose rating has subsequently been revised by the addition of a penalty putting them above the Rating range of the race.)

1.2.2 Any horse entered which is below the lower rating range stipulated in the conditions of the race unless it has incurred a penalty which brings it within the rating range of the race. In addition, those with the lowest ratings will be eliminated first sequentially and where it is necessary to eliminate some but not all horses on the same rating, random balloting will apply. Where horses have incurred penalties, the amount of the penalty shall be added to the Handicap Rating in order to determine the elimination sequence.

1.2.3 Horses with the lowest weights and horses which have incurred a penalty bringing them within the rating range of the race - commencing at the bottom of the list but disregarding horses which have incurred penalties unless it is necessary to eliminate these horses at their new weights.

1.2.4 Horses with the same weights - where it is necessary to eliminate some but not all horses with the same weights, those that have incurred penalties will be eliminated first and those without penalties will be eliminated in the published ascending order, such order having been determined by random balloting. Penalised horses with the same weights will also be eliminated in the published ascending order determined by random balloting, unless the horses concerned have different penalties in which case the horse with the lower penalty will be given priority. Any horse previously omitted from a Handicap or given an incorrect weight as provided for under Rule 134 will be added randomly to any horses on the same weight and such horse will be subject to elimination, if necessary, in accordance with that revised random order.

1.3 Those horses with the same weight which have a Handicap Rating of 45 or below shall be published in descending rating order, with the order for those horses with the same rating being determined by random balloting.

Part B

2.1 Part B of this Schedule applies to all Heritage Handicaps, Nursery Handicaps and such other flat race Handicaps with an advertised rating range of more than 20lb and all steeple chase and hurdle race Handicaps other than the Grand National Steeple Chase and **Novices' Handicap steeple chases of Class 3, 4 and 5.**

2.2 Elimination will occur in the following sequence

2.2.1 Horses rated 1lb or 2lb above the upper rating limit specified in the conditions of the race, with horses rated 2lb above the upper rating limit eliminated ahead of those rated 1lb above the upper rating limit. Horses on the same weight will be eliminated in the published ascending order, such order having been determined by random balloting.

(For the avoidance of doubt, this does not apply to Class 1 races and does not include those horses within the rating range at time of entry whose rating has subsequently been revised by the addition of a penalty putting them above the Rating range of the race.)

2.2.2 Horses with the lowest weights - commencing at the bottom of the list but disregarding horses which have incurred penalties unless it is necessary to eliminate these horses at their new weights.

2.2.3 Horses with the same weights - where it is necessary to eliminate some but not all horses with the same weights, those that have incurred penalties will be eliminated first and those without penalties will be eliminated in the published ascending order, such order having been determined by random balloting. Penalised horses with the same weights will also be eliminated in the published ascending order determined by random balloting, unless the horses concerned have different

penalties in which case the horse with the lower penalty will be given priority. Any horse previously omitted from a Handicap or given an incorrect weight as provided for under Rule 134 will be added randomly to any horses on the same weight and such horse will be subject to elimination, if necessary, in accordance with that revised random order.

2.3 In respect of flat race Handicaps, those horses with the same weight which have a Handicap Rating of 45 or below shall be published in descending rating order, with the order for those horses with the same rating being determined by random balloting.

Part C

3.1 Part C of this Schedule applies to the Grand National Steeple Chase.

3.2 Elimination will occur in the following sequence

3.2.1 Horses with the lowest weights.

3.2.2 Horses with the same weights - where it is necessary to eliminate some, but not all, horses with the same weight elimination will be determined by using the horses' current Handicap Rating at the time of elimination, the horse with the lowest Handicap Rating being eliminated first.

Part D

4.1 Part D of this Schedule applies to all Pattern and Listed Races and Conditions Stakes races other than Handicaps.

4.2 Elimination will occur in the following sequence

4.2.1 Horses which, in the opinion of the Handicapper, have the lowest Handicap Rating or, if they do not qualify for an official rating under these Rules, have the lowest assessment made by the Authority's Handicapper based on races run up to and including the day before that on which entries closed or, in races which closed more than 6 days before running, up to and including the day before the time determined in accordance with Part 6 for confirming entries.

4.2.2 Random balloting will apply where horses have identical Handicap Ratings or assessments.

4.3 Horses which have not run will be eliminated first by random ballot.

4.4 In order for the Handicapper to take account of performances outside Great Britain and Ireland, Trainers of horses trained outside Great Britain and Ireland are advised to notify the Handicapper 10 days in advance of the entry of the intention to make such an entry. Failure to do so may result in such horses being eliminated first by random ballot. The Handicapper's decision to allot a rating or give an assessment when the above notification has not been fulfilled shall be final.

Part E

5.1 Part E of this Schedule applies to all Classified Stakes races, Rating Related Maiden Races and classified Claiming Races.

5.2 Elimination will occur in the following sequence

5.2.1 Horses which, in the opinion of the Handicapper, have the lowest Handicap Ratings based on races run up to and including the Saturday previous to closing.

5.2.2 Random balloting will apply where horses have identical Handicap Ratings.

Introduction to Parts F to M

6. Unless the Authority has given its permission for races in the following Parts of this Schedule (Parts F to M) to be divided, the runners shall be reduced by the elimination of horses by ballot. However, the Authority will endeavour to ensure that horses will be afforded protection from elimination in order of priority as sequenced below in Parts F to M of this Schedule subject to the number of horses remaining engaged being in excess of the Safety Factor/Maximum Figure as applicable or the Field Size Limit. Unless otherwise stated, the time for the criteria applying will be up to and including the day before that on which entries closed or, in races which closed more than 6 days before running, up to and including the day before the time determined in accordance with Part 6 for confirming entries. Random balloting will apply where horses have identical criteria within each category.

Part F

7. Part F of this Schedule applies to the following.

8.1 All other flat race categories not listed in Parts A, B, D, E, K, and L of this Schedule.

8.2 Protection from elimination will operate in the following order, based upon races run up to and including the Saturday previous to closing or, in the case of races which closed more than six days before running, up to and including the Saturday before the time determined in accordance with Part 6 for confirming entries

8.2.1 Horses which have won a flat race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority and which have run in or completed fewer than three flat races under such rules.

8.2.1.1 Horses placed second,

8.2.1.2 Horses placed third,

8.2.1.3 Horses placed fourth

in a flat race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority and which have run in or completed fewer than three flat races under such rules.

Note: Priority will be given to those horses with the greater number of placings in the order shown above.

8.2.2 Horses which have not run in a flat race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

8.2.3 Horses which have run in or completed fewer than three flat races run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

8.2.4 Horses which, in the opinion of the Handicapper, have the highest flat race Handicap Ratings or, if they do not qualify for an official rating under these Rules, have the highest assessment made by the Authority's Handicapper;

(Note: With regard to horses not covered under points 1-4 above and which do not have a Handicap Rating at the Time of Entry, the Handicapper may decline to allot a rating or give an assessment of a horse if he does not have sufficient information upon which to make his decision. The Handicapper's decision under such circumstances shall be final).

8.2.5 Horses with the least number of unplaced runs in flat races run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

8.3 When performances are identical, or where horses have identical Handicap Ratings, horses previously eliminated from a flat race, other than a Handicap, under these Rules during the current year will be protected from elimination first, the greatest number of such eliminations affording greatest protection.

Part G

9. Part G of this Schedule applies to the following.

10.1 All National Hunt Flat Races of the following three categories other than Pattern Races and Listed Races.

10.2 For Standard National Hunt Flat Races, protection from elimination will operate in the following order

10.2.1 Horses which have won a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race.

10.2.2 Horses placed second, third or fourth in a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rule, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race (note: priority will be given to those horses with the greater number of placings).

10.2.3 Horses which have not run in a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race.

10.2.4 Horses which have run once only in a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race.

10.2.5 Horses which have run twice only in a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race.

10.3 For Intermediate National Hunt Flat Races, protection from elimination will operate in the following order

10.3.1 Horses which have won a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national

hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race.

10.3.2 Horses placed second, third or fourth in a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race (note: priority will be given to those horses with the greater number of placings).

10.3.3 Horses which have run once only in a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race.

10.3.4 Horses which have not run in a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race.

10.3.5 Horses which have run twice only in a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race.

11.1 For Maiden National Hunt Flat Races, protection from elimination will operate in the following order

11.1.1 Horses which have run twice only in a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race.

11.1.2 Horses which have run once only in a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race.

11.1.3 Horses which have not run in a National Hunt Flat Race held under these Rules, an Irish national hunt flat race or a French AQPS Flat Race.

11.2 When performances are identical, horses which have been previously eliminated at any time from a National Hunt Flat Race run under these Rules will be given preference in any of the above categories relating to Standard, Intermediate and Maiden National Hunt Flat Races.

Part H

12. Part H of this Schedule applies to the following.

13.1 All hurdle races, other than Handicaps, Maidens, Pattern and Listed Races, and Classified Stakes Races.

13.2 Protection from elimination will operate in the following order, based upon races run up to and including the Saturday previous to closing, or, in the case of races which closed more than 6 days before running, up to and including the Saturday before the time determined in accordance with Part 6 for confirming entries

13.2.1 Horses which have won a hurdle race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority on or subsequent to January 1st of the year previous to the current year.

13.2.2 Horses placed second, third or fourth in a Hurdle race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority and which have run less than three times under such rules (priority will be given to those horses with the greater number of placings).

13.2.3 Horses which have not run in a hurdle race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

13.2.4 Horses which have run less than three times in a hurdle race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

13.2.5 Horses which, in the opinion of the Handicapper, have the highest hurdle race Handicap Ratings or, if they do not qualify for an official rating under these Rules, have the highest assessment made by the Authority's Handicapper based on racecourse performances up to and including the Saturday previous to closing.

Note: with regard to horses not covered under Paragraphs 13.2.1 to 13.2.4 above and which do not have a Handicap Rating at the Time of Entry, the Handicapper may decline to allot a rating or give an assessment of a horse if he does not have sufficient information upon which to make his decision. The Handicapper's decision under such circumstances shall be final.

13.2.6 Horses with the least number of unplaced runs in hurdle races run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

Note: 1. Unplaced runs outside Great Britain and Ireland will be disregarded when determining a horse's protection from elimination once such a horse has been placed second, third or fourth in Great Britain or Ireland and has not received a hurdle race Handicap Rating.

2. When performances are identical, or where horses have identical Handicap Ratings, horses previously eliminated from a hurdle race, other than a Handicap, under these Rules during the current season will be protected from elimination first, the greatest number of such eliminations affording greatest protection.

Part I

14. Part I of this Schedule applies to the following.

15.1 All steeple chases, other than Handicaps, pattern and Listed Races, Classified Stakes Races and Hunters' Steeple Chases.

15.2 Protection from elimination will operate in the following order, based upon races run up to and including the Saturday previous to closing or, in the case of races which closed more than 6 days before running, up to and including the Saturday before the time determined in accordance with Part 6 for confirming entries

15.2.1 Horses which have won a steeple chase run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority on or subsequent to January 1st of the year previous to the current year.

15.2.2 Horses placed second, third or fourth in a steeple chase run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority and which have run less than three times under such rules.

Note: Priority will be given to those horses with the greater number of placings.

15.2.3 Horses which have not run in a steeple chase race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

15.2.4 Horses which have run less than three times in a steeple chase run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

15.2.5 Horses which, in the opinion of the Handicapper, have the highest steeple chase Handicap Ratings or, if they do not qualify for an official rating under these Rules, have the highest assessment made by the Authority's Handicapper, based on racecourse performances up to and including the Saturday previous to closing.

Note: With regard to horses not covered under Paragraphs 15.2.1 to 15.2.4 above and which do not have a Handicap Rating at the Time of Entry, the Handicapper may decline to allot a rating or give an assessment of a horse if he does not have sufficient information upon which to make his decision. The Handicapper's decision under such circumstances shall be final.

15.2.6 Horses with the least number of unplaced runs in steeple chases run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

Note: 1. Unplaced runs outside Great Britain and Ireland will be disregarded when determining a horse's protection from elimination once such a horse has been placed second, third or fourth in Great Britain or Ireland and has not received a steeple chase Handicap Rating.

2. When performances are identical, or where horses have identical Handicap Ratings, horses previously eliminated from a steeple chase, other than a Handicap, under these Rules during the current season will be protected from elimination first, the greatest number of such eliminations affording greatest protection.

Part J

16. Part J of this Schedule applies to the following.

17.1 All Hunters' Steeple Chases other than Handicaps.

17.2 Protection from elimination will operate in the following order

17.2.1 Horses which have won a steeple chase run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority on or subsequent to January 1st of the year previous to the current year. Of these horses, those which in the opinion of the Handicapper, have the highest steeple chase Handicap Rating or, if they do not qualify for an official rating under these Rules, have the highest assessment made by the Authority's Handicapper, based on racecourse performances up to and including the Saturday previous to closing.

17.2.2 Horses placed second, third or fourth in steeple chases run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority on or subsequent to January 1st of the year previous to the current year.

Note: priority will be given to those horses with the greater number of placings.

17.2.3 Horses which have won an open point-to-point steeple chase (gentlemen's, ladies' or mixed open races) in Great Britain on or subsequent to January 1st of the year previous to the current year.

17.2.4 Horses which have won any other point-to-point steeple chase in Great Britain on or subsequent to January 1st of the year previous to the current year.

17.2.5 Horses previously eliminated from a steeple chase, other than a Handicap, under these Rules during the current season.

17.2.6 Horses with the least number of unplaced runs in steeple chases under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

Part K

18. Part K of this Schedule applies to the following.

19.1 Flat Novices races.

19.2 Protection from elimination will operate in the following order

19.2.1 Horses which have

been placed.

19.2.1.1 first

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19.2.1.2 second,

19.2.1.3 third,

19.2.1.4 fourth,

in a flat race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority and which have run in or completed fewer than three flat races under such rules.

Note: priority will be given to those horses with the greater number of placings in the order shown above.

19.2.2 Horses which have not run in a flat race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

19.2.3 Horses which have run in or completed fewer than three flat races run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

19.2.4 Horses which have run in and completed three flat races, run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority but which have not been placed in the first **four**.

19.2.5 Horses which have won a flat race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

19.2.6 Horses which, in the opinion of the Handicapper, have the highest flat race Handicap Ratings or, if they do not qualify for an official rating under these Rules, have the highest assessment made by the Authority's Handicapper.

Note: with regard to horses not covered under Paragraphs 19.2.1 to 19.2.6 above and which do not have a Handicap Rating at the Time of Entry, the Handicapper may decline to allot a rating or give an assessment of a horse if he does not have sufficient information upon which to make his decision. The Handicapper's decision under such circumstances shall be final.

19.2.7 Horses with the least number of unplaced runs in flat races run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

Note: when performances are identical, or where horses have identical Handicap Ratings, horses previously eliminated from a flat race, other than a Handicap, under these Rules during the current year will be protected from elimination first, the greatest number of such eliminations affording greatest protection.

Part L

20. Part L of this Schedule applies to the following.

21.1 All maiden hurdle races.

21.2 Protection from elimination will operate in the following order, based upon races run up to and including the Saturday previous to closing, or, in the case of races which closed more than 6 days before running, up to and including the Saturday before the time determined in accordance with Part 6 for confirming entries

21.2.1 Horses placed second, third or fourth in a hurdle race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority (priority will be given to those horses with the greater number of placings).

21.2.2 Horses which have run at least three times and for which the Handicapper has declined to allot a rating or give an assessment on the grounds that he does not have sufficient information upon which to make his decision.

21.2.3 Horses which have not run in a hurdle race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

21.2.4 Horses which have run less than three times in a hurdle race run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

21.2.5 Horses which, in the opinion of the Handicapper, have the highest hurdle race Handicap Ratings or, if they do not qualify for an official rating under these Rules, have the highest assessment made by the Authority's Handicapper based on racecourse performances up to and including the Saturday previous to closing.

21.2.6 Horses with the least number of unplaced runs in hurdle races run under the rules of any Recognised Racing Authority.

Note: When performances are identical, or where horses have identical Handicap Ratings, horses previously eliminated from a hurdle race, other than a Handicap, under these Rules during the current season will be protected from elimination first, the greatest number of such eliminations affording greatest protection.

Part M

22.1 Part M of this Schedule applies to all Novices' handicap steeple chases of Class 3, 4 and 5.

22.2 Elimination will occur in the following sequence

22.2.1 Horses with the lowest weights - commencing at the bottom of the list but disregarding horses which have incurred penalties unless it is necessary to eliminate these horses at their new weights.

22.2.2 Horses with the same weights - where it is necessary to eliminate some but not all horses with the same weights, those that have incurred penalties will be eliminated first and those without penalties will be eliminated in the published ascending order, such order having been determined by random balloting. Penalised horses with the same weights will also be eliminated in the published ascending order determined by random balloting, unless the horses concerned have different penalties in which case the horse with the lower penalty will be given priority. Any horse previously omitted from a Handicap or given an incorrect weight as provided for under Rule 134 will be added randomly to any horses on the same weight and such horse will be subject to elimination, if necessary, in accordance with that revised random order.

22.3 Protection from elimination will first be afforded to horses having their first start in a steeple chase but only if, on the initial publication of the weights, they have been allotted a weight no lower than the minimum weight applicable for that race.

22.4 Where elimination of horses having their first start in a steeple chase is necessary, elimination will occur as outlined under Paragraph 22.2 above.