

## Hurdle Balloting

Normal closing race: only performances up to the closing of entries will be taken into account

### Maiden Hurdle

In order of preference –

1. Grade 1,2,3/ Group winner in NH/Flat & less than 3 completed hurdle races in Ire
2. Rated 115+ (105+ from 1<sup>st</sup> May-30<sup>th</sup> Sep) over hurdles in Ire.
3. 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in either of last two completed WFA hurdle runs in Ire.
4. Bumper winner with less than three completed hurdle runs in Ire.
5. Flat winner with less than three completed hurdle runs in Ire.
6. Three, Four or Five completed Hurdle runs with no hurdle rating in Ire.
7. Completed less than 3 times in hurdle races in Ire.
8. Highest rating below 115 (105 from 1<sup>st</sup> May-30<sup>th</sup> Sep)
9. Six or more completed Hurdle runs in Ire and no official rating.

**Note:** When protection is equal, horses previously balloted/eliminated from a Hurdle up to 180 days prior to the preliminary ballot being run will be protected from balloting first, the latest ballot/elimination date at the time of the preliminary ballot stage affording greatest protection

Random ballot if equal protection.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.*

### Winner, Novice, Conditions Hurdles

In order of preference –

1. Grade 1,2,3/ Group winner in NH/Flat.
2. Hurdle winner with no hurdle rating in Ire.
3. Hurdle winner with highest hurdle rating in Ire.
4. Flat/Bumper winners & placed 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in either of last two completed hurdle runs in Ire.
5. Bumper winner with less than three completed hurdle runs in Ire.
6. Rated 105+ over hurdles in Ire.
7. 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in either of last two completed hurdle runs in Ire.
8. Flat winner from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> of last year with less than three completed hurdle runs in Ire.
9. Flat winner with less than three completed hurdle runs in Ire.
10. Three or more completed hurdle runs with no rating in Ire.
11. Less than three completed hurdle runs in Ire.
12. Highest hurdle rating in Ire below 105.

**Note:** When protection is equal, horses previously balloted/eliminated from a Hurdle up to 180 days prior to the preliminary ballot being run will be protected from balloting first, the latest ballot/elimination date at the time of the preliminary ballot stage affording greatest protection  
Random ballot if equal protection.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.*

### Handicap Hurdle 80-95

In order of preference –

1. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> on their last hurdle run in Ire, on or subsequent to 1<sup>st</sup> Jan of year previous to current year.
2. Most recently balloted at the time of the preliminary ballot stage from a 0-95 handicap hurdle in the **correct distance category** and up to 180 days prior to the preliminary ballot being run. If equal protection, greatest protection given to horses which have not run in a hurdle race in Ire for greatest number of days at the closing of entries and random thereafter.

Distance Categories:

2m to less than 2m 4f

2m4f or more

**Note 1:** Horses will lose their provisional ballot status if since entry:

- a) Are declared to run but not a reserve in any hurdle run in Ire up to and including the day after the closing of declarations.
- b) Run in a hurdle in Ire without finishing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- c) Run in more than one hurdle in Ire or have run once and are declared to run but not a reserve due in a hurdle up to and including the day after the closing of declarations.

In such re-ballot, greatest protection to those horses with the greatest number of days since their last hurdle run in Ire at closing of declarations.

If equal protection, horses with the highest rating afford greatest protection.

**Note 2:** When protection is equal, greatest protection given to horses which have not run in a hurdle race in Ire for the greatest number of days at closing of entries and random thereafter.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.*

#### **All other handicap hurdles**

Ballot horses out of the handicap first & then lowest rated horses.

Random ballot if equal protection.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.*

## Steeplechase & Bumper Balloting

Normal closing races: only performances up to the closing of entries will be taken into account

### Beginners Chase

In order of preference –

1. Grade 1,2,3 NH winner & completed in less than three chases run in Ireland.
2. Chase rating in Ire of 115+.
3. Placed 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in either of last two completed WFA chases run in Ire.
4. Hurdle winner with less than three completed chase runs in Ire.
5. Bumper winner with less than three completed chase runs in Ire.
6. Two, three or four completed chase runs with no chase rating in Ire.
7. Less than three completed chase runs in Ire.
8. Highest chase rating in Ire below 115.
9. Five or more completed chase runs in Ire and no official rating.

**Note:** When protection is equal, horses previously balloted/eliminated from a chase up to 180 days prior to the preliminary ballot being run will be protected from balloting first, the latest ballot/elimination date at the time of the preliminary ballot stage affording greatest protection

Random ballot if equal protection.

'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.

### Winner, Novice & Conditions Chases

In order of preference –

1. Grade 1,2,3 NH winner.
2. Chase winner with no chase rating in Ire.
3. Chase winner with the highest chase rating in Ire.
4. Chase rating in Ire of 115+.
5. Hurdle/Bumper winner & 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in either of last two completed chase runs in Ire.
6. Hurdle winner with less than three completed chase runs in Ire.
7. Bumper winner with less than three completed chase runs in Ire.
8. 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in either of last two completed chase runs in Ire.
9. Three or more completed chase runs with no chase rating in Ire.
10. Less than three completed chase runs in Ire.
11. Highest chase rating in Ire below 115.

**Note:** Horses with the most recent ballot date in a chase from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> of last year will be protected from balloting first.

Random ballot if equal protection.

'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.

### Handicap Chase 0-102 or less

In order of preference –

1. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> on their last chase run from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> last year.
2. Most recently balloted at the time of the preliminary ballot stage from a 0-102 or less handicap chase in the **correct distance category** and up to 180 days prior to the preliminary ballot being run. If equal protection, greatest protection given to horses which have not run in a chase in Ire for greatest number of days at the closing of entries and random thereafter.

Distance Categories:

2m to less than 2m 4f

2m4f or more

**Note 1:** Horses will lose their provisional ballot status if since entry:

- a) Are declared to run but not a reserve in any chase run in Ire up to

and including the day after the closing of declarations.

b) Run in a chase in Ire without finishing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>.

c) Run in more than one chase in Ire or have run once and are declared to run but not a reserve due in a chase up to and including the day after the closing of declarations.

**Note 2:** When protection is equal, greatest protection will first be offered to horses which have not run in a Steeplechase in Ireland since 22nd June 2020 for the greatest number of days at the closing of entries and thereafter will be random.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.*

#### **All other handicap chases**

Ballot horses out of the handicap first & then lowest rated horses. Random ballot if equal protection.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.*

#### **Bumper (Maiden & Winners)**

In order of preference –

1. Bumper winner.
2. 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in either of last two completed bumper runs in Ire.
3. Less than three completed bumper runs in Ire.

**Note:** When protection is equal, horses previously balloted/eliminated from a Bumper on or up to 180 days prior to the date of the preliminary ballot will be protected from balloting first, the latest ballot/elimination date at the time of the preliminary ballot stage affording greatest protection. Random ballot if equal protection.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.*

## **Flat Balloting**

*Normal closing races: performances up to the closing of entries will be taken into account*

### **Flat Maidens**

In order of preference –

1. Flat rating in ire of 80+ (70+ during Flat Race Winter Season).
2. 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in either of last two flat races in Ire & has no flat rating in Ire.
3. 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> in either of their last two flat races in Ire & rated 60+ in Ire.
4. No previous flat runs in Ire.
5. Three, four or five flat runs in Ire & with no rating in Ire.
6. Less than three flat runs in Ire.
7. Highest flat rating in Ire below 80 (70 during Flat Race Winter Season).
8. Six or more flat runs in Ire and with no rating in Ire.

**Note:** Horses with the most recent ballot date at the time of the preliminary ballot stage in a flat race and up to 180 days prior to the preliminary ballot being run will be protected from balloting first.

Random ballot if equal protection.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.*

### **Flat Winner, Claiming & Condition Races**

In order of preference –

1. Flat winner with no rating in Ire.
2. Flat winner rated 80+ (70+ during Flat Race Winter Season in Ire)
3. Flat rating in Ire of 80+ (70+ during Flat Race Winter Season)
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> in either of last two flat races in Ire & has no flat rating in Ire.
5. Flat winner & rated 60+ in Ire.
6. 2<sup>nd</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> in either of their last two flat races in Ire & rated 60+ in Ire.
7. No previous flat runs in Ire.
8. Three, four or five flat runs in Ire & with no rating in Ire.
9. Less than three flat runs in Ire.
10. Highest flat rating in Ire below 80 (70 during Flat Race Winter Season)
11. Six or more flat runs in Ire and with no rating in Ire.

**Note:** Horses with the most recent ballot date at the time of the preliminary ballot stage in a flat race and up to 180 days prior to the preliminary ballot being run will be protected from balloting first.

Random ballot if equal protection.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.*

### **Flat Handicap 47-65**

In order of preference –

1. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> on their last flat run in Ire from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> last year.
2. Most recently balloted at the time of the preliminary ballot stage from 47-65 handicap in the **correct distance category** and up to 180 days prior to the preliminary ballot being run. If equal protection, greatest protection given to horses which have not run in a flat race in Ire for greatest number of days at the closing of entries and random thereafter.
3. Ballot horses first rated below 40.

#### **Distance Categories:**

5f to less than 7f

7f to exactly 9f

9f & 1yd to exactly 12f

12f & 1yd or more

**Note 1:** Horses will lose their provisional ballot status if since entry:

- a) Are declared to run but not a reserve in any flat race run in Ire up to and including the day after the closing of declarations.
- b) Run in a flat race in Ire without finishing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- c) Run in more than one flat race in Ire or have run once and are declared to run but not a reserve in any flat race scheduled to be run in Ireland up to and including the day after the closing of declarations

**Note 2:** In such re-ballot, greatest protection will go to those horses with the greatest number of days since their last flat run in Ire at closing of declarations.

If equal protection, horses with the highest rating afford greatest protection.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run*

### **Benchmark Flat Handicap with a Rating of 80 or less**

In order of preference –

Ballot first horses rated below 40. Highest ratings first. Random ballot if equal protection. Then in order of preference:

1. Horses rated 1lb or 2lb above the benchmark rating will have first protection (e.g. in an 80 Benchmark Handicap, horses rated 82 and 81 have first protection with 82 the first to be protected).
2. Horses rated at the Benchmark or lower, down to the minimum stipulated weight in the conditions of the race, with elimination first of the lowest rated horses but before any penalties have been applied.
3. Horses rated 3lbs or more above the Benchmark rating in ascending rating order (e.g. in an 80 Benchmark Handicap, for horses rated 83 and above, the horse rated 83 will be afforded the greatest protection).
4. Horses with the lowest weight which are out of the handicap but before any penalties have been applied.

Random ballot if equal protection.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.*

### **All other Flat Handicaps**

Ballot first horses rated below 40.

Next ballot horses out of the handicap & then the lowest rated horses. Random ballot if equal protection.

*'Pulled Up' considered a completed run.*