

# HRI DIRECTIVE 10

## Elimination and Balloting out of Horses:

Where the number of horses declared exceeds the number permitted to run in the race, HRI shall reduce the number of declared runners to the recommended limit by ballot or elimination in accordance with the criteria laid out in HRI Directive 10:

In all five day closing races only performances up to the closing of entries will be taken into account when determining protection from balloting/elimination. In early closing races performances up to the final forfeit stage will be taken into account when determining balloting/elimination. Balloting or elimination at the overnight declaration stage will take place among those horses which are liable for ballot/elimination. Horses with the lowest ballot/elimination numbers will be the first to get into a race.

### 3. In Flat Handicaps

#### 3.1 With a designated rating band of 65 or less

By elimination first of those horses with an official flat rating below 38, the highest rating affording the greatest protection

Protection from balloting/elimination will then operate in the following order (only performances up to the time of entry will be taken into account):

- a. Horses placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd on their last completed run in a Flat race run in Ireland, on or subsequent to 1st January of the year previous to the current year. If it is necessary to ballot among horses of equal protection, such ballot will be random.
- b. Horses previously balloted/eliminated from a Flat Handicap run in Ireland, on or subsequent to ~~1st January of the year, previous to the current year~~ **1<sup>st</sup> June 2020** with a designated rating band of 65 or less and within the same distance category (indicated below) of the race to be balloted. The latest ballot/elimination date at the time of the preliminary ballot stage affording the greatest protection.

In all of the above, if it is necessary to ballot among horses of equal protection, such ballot will in the first place afford the greatest protection to those horses which have not run in a Flat race in Ireland **since 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020** for the greatest number of days at the closing of entries and thereafter will be random.

The relevant distance categories are as follows:

- Sprint (5 furlongs to less than 7 furlongs).
- Mile (7 furlongs to less than 10 furlongs).
- Intermediate (10 furlongs to less than 13 furlongs).
- Long (13 furlongs or more).

Note: For the purposes of Section (3.1) above 'pulled up' will be considered a completed run.

Notwithstanding the above and in the interest of permitting as many horses as possible a reasonable opportunity to run in flat handicaps with a maximum rating band of 65 or less, horses will lose their provisional ballot status which:

- are declared to run but not a reserve in any flat race scheduled to be run in Ireland ~~on the same day as~~ **up to and including the day after** that fixed for the closing of declarations.
- since the time of entry for such a race, have run in a flat race in Ireland without being placed 1st, **2nd or 3rd**
- since the time of entry for such race, have run more than once in a flat race in Ireland.

In any of these circumstances, such re-ballot will afford the greatest protection to those horses with the greatest number of days since their last run in a flat race in Ireland at the closing of declarations and, when such protection is equal, horses with the highest rating will be afforded the greatest protection.