



Attachment - Handicapping & Programming Changes

Examples of True Weight Allowance

1. A Benchmark 88 Saturday race has a 53kg limit equivalent to Benchmark 74.

A horse with a benchmark figure of 71, three points below the limit weight will be weighted on the limit of 53kg but have a true weight of 51.5kg in the race.

When accepting for the race, the connections have the choice of declaring a jockey to carry the limit weight of 53kg or declaring a rider to claim part or all of a *true weight allowance* down to the 51.5kg true weight of the horse.

2. In the same race a mare with a benchmark of 72 will have a true weight of 50.0kg (including a 2kg reduction in weight as a female horse).

When accepting for the race, the connections have the choice of declaring a jockey to carry the limit weight of 53kg or declaring a rider to claim part or all of a *true weight allowance*.

As the maximum true weight allowance able to be claimed is 2kg, the trainer in this example has the option to declare a rider to claim the maximum true weight allowance of 2kg down to 51kg.

3. **Apprentice Claim:** In the same race, a horse with a benchmark figure of 72, two points below the limit weight will be weighted on the limit of 53kg but have a true weight of 52.0kg in the race.

When accepting for the race, the trainer, may declare a jockey to carry the limit weight of 53kg.

However, the trainer can engage a lightweight apprentice with a 3kg apprentice claim. The trainer has the option of declaring a rider to claim a *true weight allowance* down to the 52.0 kg true weight of the horse.

The apprentice rider can also claim their 3kg allowance afforded to them as an apprentice jockey, enabling the horse to carry 49.0kg in the race.

Metropolitan and Provincial Programming Structure

The structure of metropolitan and provincial open and benchmark race programmes is summarised below.

Metropolitan Saturday	Metropolitan Midweek	Provincial
Open/BM94 (60.0kg)		
BM88 (60.0kg)		
BM78 (60.0kg)		
3YO BM76 (60.0kg)	BM76 (61kg)	
3YO BM70 (60.0kg)	BM70 (61kg)	
	3YO BM64 (61kg)	*BM70 Cond. (61kg)
		BM64 (61kg)
		Class 2
		Class 1
		Maiden

* A number of Conditional Benchmark 70 races will be programmed in the Provincial sector for horses contesting a minimum of four provincial and country races in the previous twelve months.

Country Programming Structure

The number of benchmark levels programmed on country TAB meetings has been reduced to broaden and simplify options for trainers.

Country TAB Programmes
Open Handicap (61.0kg)
CBM74 (61.0kg)
CBM66 (61.0kg)
CBM58 (61.0kg)
CBM50 (61.0kg)
Class 3
Class 2
Class 1
Maiden

Picnic Race Changes

Picnic races will now be weighted without using the Country benchmark. Weights will be assigned by the handicapper based on either previous weight carried in a picnic race or most appropriate weight based on current form. Adjustments to Country benchmarks will be made after all performances.