



## **Rules Governing the 2015 World Driving Championship**

1. The 2015 World Driving Championship ("the Championship") will be conducted by Harness Racing Australia ("the organising association") and will be hosted by Australia ("host country").
2. The Championship will be controlled and raced under these guidelines and under the racing Rules of the organising association and the Controlling Body (tracks) at which the competition is conducted.
3. A minimum of 20 races will be contested.
4. All drivers competing in the Championship shall be named not later than 1 January 2015.
5. Each participating driver must sign a driving contract provided by the organising association.
6. Each driver competing in the Championship will be licensed to drive in the host country following the production of a document from his own governing body indicating that he or she holds a current driving licence and is of good standing.
7. Other than the Defending Champion, each driver shall wear his or her country's national driving silks. The silks shall be free of any commercial sponsorship other than that approved by the organising association.
8. The Defending Champion shall wear driving silks in the colours of the International Trotting Association and provided by the organising association.
9. Each driver shall wear a helmet approved by the organising association.
10. Air travel costs from the country of origin to the host country and return will be the responsibility of the controlling body in each country of each participating driver.
11. Driving assignments for each race will be determined by random lot. The drivers or the representatives of the participating countries have the right to be present at the drawings. A driver shall not drive a horse that he or she normally drives, trains or works.
12. Points for the Championship shall be awarded in each race according to the final, official



order of finish, on the following basis:

**Number of Starters – 10:**

17 (1); 12 (2); 9 (3); 7 (4); 6 (5); 5 (6); 4 (7); 3 (8); 2 (9) and 1(10)

**Number of Starters – 9:**

16 (1); 11 (2); 8 (3); 6 (4); 5 (5); 4 (6); 3 (7); 2 (8) and 1 (9)

**Number of Starters – 8:**

15 (1); 10 (2); 7 (3); 5 (4); 4 (5); 3 (6); 2 (7) and 1 (8)

13. In the event of a horse being scratched, or where a horse is not available, five (5) points shall be awarded to the driver concerned. If a horse is disqualified or fails to complete the course, the driver shall receive one (1) point.
14. A driver shall not be awarded any points if he or she is judged to have used the whip after the finish of a race or in a cruel, excessive or improper manner.
15. In the event of a dead heat for any finishing position in any race the points normally individually awarded to the horses and driver finishing in those positions shall be added together and divided equally among those drivers.
16. The point score will be kept by an Official Point Scorer appointed by the host country.
17. All drivers must compete in all the races in the Championship, unless unable to do so because of illness, injury or exceptional circumstances. In the event that a driver is unable to compete, his or her driving assignments will be handled, at the option of the host country, by:
  - a. Another driver in the Championship, if the horse he or she was to drive in the same race is scratched; or
  - b. A substitute international champion or the current leading race winning driver at the track at which the race is being contested, or the second leading driver if the first is already competing in the Championship or is otherwise unavailable.
18. The driver with the most points at the end of the Championship shall be declared the 2015 World Driving Champion and is known as the Defending Champion for the following Championship.
19. In the event of a tie for any position, based upon the number of points earned, the driver with the most winning drives in the Championship races will be declared the winner. If still



tied, the greater number of second place finishes, third place finishes, fourth place finishes, and so on will determine that driver's position in the standings.

20. No driving fees are to be paid by the owners or trainers of the competing horses to the drivers.
21. All races shall be started by the use of a mobile barrier, and will have ten (10) starters. All drivers should be given equal opportunity to start in the first tier in the event that fewer than ten (10) horses are able to start in the first tier.
22. All horses in all races are to be graded as evenly as possible, and each host racetrack shall, as best as possible, attempt to achieve this. Superior horses or difficult to handle horses shall not be allowed to participate.
23. As best as is possible, each Driver will be provided the opportunity to start twice in each of the ten (10) barrier positions.
24. In all cases where an accident, driving error or other incident results in an inquiry by the Stewards into the conduct of a race, the UET Supervisor and two persons nominated by the International Trotting Association may be present at the inquiry.
25. One representative of the organising association, the Official Point Scorer and the UET Supervisor shall constitute a jury for the purpose of making any necessary point adjustments as provided herein.
26. When an offence occurs that is within the power of the Stewards to issue a penalty to a driver as is appropriate under the Rules, all controlling bodies shall be notified of the details of that decision.
27. The host country or association shall arrange a thorough pre-briefing of all drivers on the racing Rules governing each race. Attendance by the drivers is mandatory, and the briefing shall include explanations of the following:
  - The relevant Rules regarding driving in races;
  - Relevant information pertaining to the tracks where races are being conducted;
  - Assembly and conduct of the post parade;





- Recalls and reformation of the parade;
  - Breaking stride;
  - Permissible uses of the whip;
  - Going inside the pylons;
  - Fallen horses and other accidents; and
  - How to file post-race objections.
28. Electrical devices of any kind shall not be used by a driver, and only driving equipment and attire permitted in the host country may be used or worn.
29. All drivers will be required to submit to breath analysis used to determine the presence of alcohol. Drivers exceeding the limit (0.02%) will not be permitted to participate in that leg of the Championship, and will be subject to fine and/or suspension.
30. The total purse to be paid to the participating drivers will be US\$55,000. The distribution of the prize money shall be as follows:
- First Place - \$25,000, Second Place - \$12,500, Third Place - \$6,000, Fourth Place - \$4,000, Fifth Place - \$2,500 & Sixth through Tenth Place, each - \$1,000 (Grand Total - \$55,000)
31. When there is a tie for any final position, in terms of the total points won, the drivers will be placed in the standings according to their "best placings." For example, the number of wins will be compared and the driver with more wins will be placed above the other driver. If both drivers have the same number of wins the second place finishes are compared, and the driver with more second places will be placed above the other. If still tied the number of finishes in third place, fourth place, fifth place, and so forth are compared until the tie is broken.
- 32. SCHEDULE OF THE RACES:**
- Saturday, 21 February 2015 – Menangle – 2 races
- Sunday, 22 February 2015 – Newcastle – 3 races
- Monday, 23 February 2015 – Goulburn – 3 races
- Tuesday, 24 February 2015 – Wagga – 4 races
- Wednesday, 25 February 2015 – Bathurst – 4 races
- Thursday, 26 February 2015 – Penrith – 3 races
- Sunday, 1 March 2015 – Menangle – 1 race (Inter Dominion Grand Final Day)