

Canterbury Amateur Race Series – Driver Points

Race series points will accumulate to each competing driver based upon their finishing position in each race. The points scale is detailed below.

Starters	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
1 st	14	13	12	11	10	9	8
2 nd	11	10	9	8	7	6	5
3 rd	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
4 th	6	5	4	3	2	1	
5 th	5	4	3	2	1		
6 th	4	3	2	1			
7 th	3	2	1				
8 th	2	1					
9 th	1						

Final finishing positions in the race series will be based upon each drivers best nine drives.

At the conclusion of the race series, the top eight drivers will then compete in a four race final series to be conducted in March/April. For these events the drivers will be drawn randomly.

The leading drivers from this final series will be the Canterbury representatives at the New Zealand Amateur Drivers Champs in April.

The winner of the New Zealand Champs will be the New Zealand representative at the World Champs, subject to meeting all other selection criteria.

The Races

Whenever possible the race series will be held on actual race days. When it is not convenient for clubs to host an Amateur race on race day the race series will be at the workouts.

A preferential barrier draw system will be used based upon each horses current handicap score.

When running series races on actual race days then CADA will always endeavour to card fields of the maximum allowable size.

In the event that only one Amateur event is allowed on a race day then a second division of the same race will be conducted on the next most convenient workout day. Drivers are only allowed to enter once for multiple divisions of the one race.

On occasions when a race is staged on an actual race day then there may be insufficient nominations to make up a second smaller field. On these occasions the extra nominations will be placed in the field in correct barrier order as emergencies. Should there be insufficient scratchings to allow them to re-enter the field then they

will be automatically scratched. On these occasions when no event could be run for them, they will receive the average points for the race.

The emergencies for any Amateur race will be decided by a random method. Once a driver has missed a race due to them being an emergency then they are excluded from future random draws for emergencies during the remainder of this races series until all drivers competing in a particular race have also been emergencies.

When series races are conducted at the workouts. Should the nominations received exceed the front line limit for that track then nominations will be split into two equal or near equal size divisions of the race. Drivers are only allowed to enter once for multiple divisions of the same race.

Should a horse that is nominated for a tote race on the same day as an Amateur race be accepted for the tote race then they will become and automatic scratching from the Amateur race.

Should a horse that is nominated for a tote race on the same day as an Amateur race be accepted for the tote race, but as an emergency, then the horse may remain in the Amateur field. It may only remain in the Amateur field if the club scratches it at 7.30am on the morning of the race. It will be an automatic scratching from the Amateur race if it is withdrawn from the tote field by the connections prior to this time.

Drivers are not allowed to swap or substitute drivers once the field is carded. Once the field is carded then horses may not be changed, substituted or replaced.

All steward decisions are final, there is no right of appeal and the decision must be accepted without further argument or debate once it is handed down.

Workout Times

An important lesson for all Amateurs to learn is the ability to judge pace. To achieve this a target time should be established for the workout.

As a guide the target time should be 3 – 5 seconds slower than the qualifying time at that particular track. Once the target time has been established, this need to be conveyed to all participating drivers.

Should a workout go too fast or too slow then the steward should first decide who was responsible for the pace. In most cases this will be the person in front or the person outside the leader.

The penalty will be based upon the following guideline.

1. Less than two seconds under the nominated time is to be considered as the margin of error. This allows for errors in clocking or a particularly fast last half.
2. Up to five seconds under the nominated time will be a warning for a first offence. For subsequent offences this will mean a novice Amateur will not get

their card signed. For full Amateurs this will mean a one race stand down. The warning remains effective for two months.

3. Times faster than five seconds under the nominated time will result in the card not being signed for the novice Amateur and a one race stand down for the full Amateur.
4. The margin for error for going too slow is ten seconds.
5. If the workout goes slower than ten seconds over the nominated time then a first warning will apply as in point 2 above. A repeat offence for going too slow will result in the penalties in point 3 applying.