

Australasian Young Drivers

QUALIFYING CRITERIA - NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR DRIVERS 2026

Harness Racing New Zealand will nominate three (3) Junior Drivers to compete in the 2026 Australasian Young Drivers Championships held in New Zealand in November 2026.

Each of the 3 drivers will be selected by the following criteria:

- 1) The winner of the 2026 New Zealand Junior Driver Championship held in August/September 2026.
- 2) The leading South Island Junior Driver (by number of wins) as at 11.59pm, September 27, 2026
- 3) The leading North Island Junior Driver (by number of wins) as at 11.59pm, September 27, 2026

Should The 2026 Junior Driver Championship winner also be the leading North/South Island Junior Driver as at September 27, 2026, HRNZ will invoke a Wild Card nomination to fill the vacant nomination. Wild Cards will be determined by the Chief Executive Officer of HRNZ, HRNZ Head of Racing & Wagering, and the HRNZ Handicapper.

In the event of a tie for the Leading South Island or Leading North Island Junior Driver positions as at September 27, 2026, the selection will be determined based on UDR for the period January 1, 2026 to September 27, 2026.

In a situation where an issue may arise relating to any of the above, the CEO of HRNZ will be the sole adjudicator of resolution.

All drivers must be under 25-years-old at the commencement of the New Zealand 2026 racing season to be eligible.
