

# Racing Rewards Easter Showcase – 04 April 2026

## Qualifying Conditions & Eligibility

For horses aged four-year-old and older, rated R50 or below on 01 January 2026. Horses remain eligible even if their rating ascends above R50 within the qualifying period.

Horses will accrue points in relation to the South Island starts they have over the qualification period, linked to their performance (Official Placings). In this instance the qualifying period is 1 January 2026 to 29 March 2029, inclusive (at conclusion of Rangiora HRC and Wyndham HRC meetings).

Each start a horse has within the qualification period is multiplied by the number of wins (x 1), the number of seconds (x 0.5), the number of thirds (x 0.33) and the number of fourths (x 0.25). The four figures are then aggregated to give a 'Racing Rewards Score', which will place the horse within the Racing Rewards rankings.

To be eligible to contest a Racing Rewards Easter Showcase race, a horse must have had a minimum of **five starts** within qualification period at a South Island harness racing meeting.

The top 42 ranked pacers nominated will be selected, the top 30 ranked trotters nominated will be selected then split into fields, based on ratings. In Pacing Racing Rewards races there will be a maximum of three fields of 14 acceptors. In Trotting Racing Rewards races there will be a maximum of two fields with 15 acceptors, and up to three rating-specific emergencies per race.

Only 'R' rated horses will be eligible to contest these Racing Rewards races.

In the event of a tie for any qualifying position horses will be separated by counting back to the horse with highest rating, if a tie still exists then the horse with the most lifetime wins will be ranked ahead of the horse with fewer lifetime wins.

There is no distinction between a dead-heat and a standard placing in reference to points allocation.

Nominations for the respective races shall be made with the HRNZ Bureau (host club NZ Metropolitan TC) in the normal manner, per the advertised programme (by noon, Tuesday 31 March).

## Racing Rewards Easter Showcase 04 April 2026 - Race Conditions

**Pacing Division – for up to R50 4YO & Older, with five or more starts from 1 January 2026 to 29 March 2026.**

- Pacers Racing Rewards Showcase – three \$30,000 races, with a maximum of 14 starters.
- Race Conditions: 2600m mobile, Sequential Preferential Barrier Draws based on Ratings and Winning Stakes.
- Stakes: Of \$30,000 (\$16,500, \$4,650, \$2,285, \$1,800, others \$525)
- The top 42 ranked nominated horses are determined, then split in fields up to a maximum of three 14-horse races.
- One rating-specific emergency may be selected in each of the Racing Rewards pacing races.
- No Non-Win horses are eligible for selection in these races.

## **Trotting Division – for up to R50 4YO & Older, with five or more starts from 1 January 2026 to 29 March 2026.**

- Trotters Racing Rewards Showcase – two \$30,000 races, with a maximum of 15 starters.
- Race Conditions: 2600m Special Handicap, Front: R35-R40, 10 metres: R41-R45, 20 metres: R46-R50. 30 metres R51-R59, 40 metres R60 & faster
- Stakes: Of \$30,000 (\$16,500, \$4,650, \$2,2850, \$1,800, others \$525)
- The top 30 ranked nominated horses are determined, then split in fields up to a maximum of two 15-horse races.
- No Non-Win horses are eligible for selection in these races.
- Up to three Emergencies may be selected. The Emergencies will be the next eligible qualified horses, relative to the respective rating bands of the races that are declared.

## **Splitting the Racing Rewards Showcase Fields**

Once the fields are selected, the splits will be made based on Ratings. Where there are horses on the same rating that require separation, this will be conducted based on Winning Stakes. If a tie still exists, the horses will be separated based on highest career rating achieved. If a tie remains the horses will be separated by lot.

## **Other Conditions & Contingencies**

In the event there are fewer than the allowable maximum number of acceptors for either the pacing or trotting Racing Rewards Showcase races, the splits of the respective races will be determined by the host club in consultation with HRNZ.

If the numbers of acceptors result in there being fewer than 12 acceptors per or for any given the race, the host club, in consultation with HRNZ reserves the right to reduce the number of Racing Rewards Showcase races.

Any horse accepted into a race(s) at Manawatu HRC 31 March, Timaru HRC 01 April, Waikato BOP Harness 02 April or Invercargill HRC 02 April will lose its selection preference for its nominated Racing Rewards Showcase race, if there are more than capacity fields of acceptors for the respective division.

In the event the Racing Rewards Showcase races are oversubscribed with acceptors, the club, in consultation with HRNZ may add an additional race.

Any other matter that requires a decision that is not covered by these conditions or HRNZ Regulations will be done so by the CEO of HRNZ.

There are no nomination or acceptance fees payable for these races.