



## BENCHMARK RACES

### AVERAGE BENCHMARK

Average Benchmark Races (ABR) are races where the benchmark level is set after nominations are taken.

#### HOW ABR RACES WORK

- Entries are taken as per normal.
- The average rating of those horses entered is then calculated (see conditions).
- The average rating then becomes the benchmark for that race.
- The Benchmark (rating) for the race is then allocated 58kg's and all other horses are weighted up or down according to the template.

#### Conditions

- To ensure that the Benchmark is not skewed either by a particularly high or low rated horse the top and bottom rated 10% of horses entered, or in cases where there are less than ten entries the highest and lowest rated horses are discounted for the purpose of calculating the average. The remaining horses ratings are then averaged to create the benchmark for that race.
- Any horse which runs in the first three in an ABR and is rated below the 55.0kg minimum will automatically be rerated up to the 55.0kg of that race.
- If the stewards believe that any horse/s may have been nominated in an endeavor to affect the Benchmark in an ABR race they may instruct the handicapper to discount its rating in the calculation of the Benchmark for that race. Stewards will scrutinize the nominations and exclude any horses from the calculation of the average benchmark if they believe that such horse/s sits outside the norm for that race. All horses which are used for the average calculation will be identified on the weights.

### Benchmark 54 races — October 1, 2017

54 rated horses to carry the equivalent of 59kg. Each rating point above 54 will incur a penalty of 0.5kg, i.e. a 60 rater (6pts above 54) will receive 62kg. Similarly, each horse's rating below 54 will reduce the weight carried by 0.5kg down to a minimum of 55kg.

Trainers will be permitted to enter horses rated above 54 but no horse with a rating above 60 will be eligible. Open horses will be ineligible.

Sliding scale for average benchmark races



64.0  
63.5  
63.0  
62.5  
62.0  
61.5  
61.0  
60.5  
60.0  
59.5  
59.0  
58.5  
58.0  
57.5  
57.0  
56.5  
56.0  
55.5  
55.0

## COUNTRY MEETING SUBSIDIES AND BONUSES

### TENNANT CREEK

\$500 travel subsidy per horse  
\$200 bonus for each winning trainer and jockey

### KATHERINE

\$500 travel subsidy per horse  
\$200 bonus for each winning trainer and jockey

### ADELAIDE RIVER

\$200 travel subsidy per horse  
\$200 bonus for each winning trainer and jockey

*The travel subsidy will be paid to the trainer of each horse that starts at the respective country fixtures.*