



**TRNT BOARD POLICY NO: 024**

**Date Introduced: 2 July 2009**

**Date Varied: 20 March 2012**

**Date Reviewed (left unaltered): 2 September 2015**

**Date(s) Amended: 28 April 2016  
31 September 2016**

## **DIVIDING OF RACES**

**Authority to Divide Races and Pay additional Prize money, along with non Prize money earning payments to Owners and Riding Fess for Jockeys on Non prize money earning horses.**

### **NTR 55 - Divided Races**

#### **Guidelines**

##### **Carnival**

The reason for dividing races is to provide opportunities for horses to gain a start where there may be limited opportunities if they miss the cut for a given race.

**Future opportunities:** If no opportunity exists within a similar class or similar distance within the following 11 days it is accepted that a genuine lack of opportunity exists.

Similar Class means another race for which they are eligible and are rated above the minimum. Similar Distance means another race which is over a distance of within 200 metres of the given race.

**Field Sizes:** There should be at least 18 acceptors in the given race which will result in field sizes of no less than 9 if divided.

##### **Outside Carnival**

There may be several reasons why a race outside carnival is divided. It will predominantly be to provide an opportunity for horses to gain a start but the necessity for that can have several reasons. It may be that there are too many acceptors or it could be that there is a shortage of riders.

As a general rule there should be 8 starters in each division. However, this is not an essential requirement. For example there may only be 12 acceptors but there could be only 6 riders available, therefore to divide the race would ensure that all horses can start. Where a shortage of riders is the reason for considering a division, in the first instance all reasonable efforts should be made to correct the shortage and, in any event, a race with less than 12 acceptors should not be split.

It may also be that the Club needs to consider requesting a division. If there were to be 2 races deleted and 1 race with 10 acceptors it may be that to divide the race would allow the meeting to proceed rather than abandon the entire meeting.

Decisions not to divide a race are often controversial and attended by publicity. A degree of flexibility is required to deal with the wide range of possible scenarios. It is impossible to completely identify the potential circumstances which may apply, and the extent to which they may apply. The rigid application of a hard and fast rule based on an arbitrary set of circumstances is likely to produce less satisfactory results than if a wider discretion is exercised.

Therefore, it is considered prudent to set out these flexible guidelines rather than absolutely binding criteria. Each decision should be made keeping in mind at all times the best interests of the sport, the Club and the participants.

## **POLICY**

The decision to split races be delegated to the Chairman and CEO of TRNT with the following guidelines to be followed:

1. That there would be no opportunity on the next race day for the majority of the eliminated runners at a similar distance and class.
2. That during each major Club's Cup Carnival meetings, the number of runners in each of the races resulting from a race being split is not less than 9. At the country clubs, this number may be less, due to the fact that field sizes are restricted at some distances at these courses.
3. That outside of Carnival meetings, ideally the number of runners in each of the races resulting from a race being split is not less than 8. However, a decision to be made having regard to the flexible guidelines set out above.
4. That there has to be sufficient funding available in the existing TRNT Prizemoney and unplaced subsidy budget to meet the additional cost.
5. Sponsorship entitlements may be taken into account when considering dividing a race, i.e. if a race has been lost on a programme and all races have sponsors, a split may be considered if numbers warrant.
6. That so far as practicable the CEO of TRNT will consult with the CEO of the relevant Club before a decision is made.