



## TERMS & CONDITIONS OF RACE SERIES IMPORTANT PLEASE READ

# AUSTRALIAN PACING GOLD SERIES THIRTY-TWO

**Sales Year: 2021    2yo Series: 2022    3yo Series: 2023**

OPEN TO ANY HORSE PRESENTED FOR SALE AT THE APG YEARLING SALES, OR NOMINATED AS AN APG NON-SALE ENTRY, SUBJECT TO THE HORSE HAVING BEEN FOALED IN AUSTRALIA ONLY AND HAVING THE FREEZE BRAND OF AN AUSTRALIAN STATE OF REGISTRATION, AND SUBJECT TO BOTH APG's TERMS & CONDITIONS AND COMPLIANCE WITH AUSTRALIAN HARNESS RACING COUNCIL FUTURITY RACE RULES

### CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Each State based race series conducted as part of Australian Pacing Gold's Series Thirty-Two Race Series shall be conducted as a series of heats and finals; one division being for colts and geldings and one being for fillies which were foaled in Australia only and having the freeze brand of an Australian State of registration.

### 1.0 OVERVIEW & VENUES

- 1.1 Queensland (QLD), New South Wales (NSW), Victoria (VIC) and Western Australia (WA) shall each conduct their own stand-alone APG Gold Bullion race series for 2yo and 3yo APG eligible horses, consisting of a single round of heats leading into finals. Heats and finals shall be conducted at venues to be agreed between APG and each relevant State, but shall typically be conducted at Albion Park, QLD; Gloucester Park, WA; Melton, VIC; and Menangle, NSW.
- 1.2 Separate to the Gold Bullion Series:
  - a) Albion Park Harness Racing Club (QLD) and Racing and Wagering Western Australia (WA) shall each conduct their own "Sales Based" race series, exclusively restricted to graduates of the APG Brisbane and APG Perth Sales respectively. The terms & conditions of those race series are not set by APG, but are available by contacting the relevant body conducting the race series.

### 2.0 TIMING

- 2.1 The Two-Year Old APG Gold Bullion Races shall be conducted in the 2021/22 Racing Season, the Three-Year Old APG Gold Bullion Races shall be conducted in the 2022/23 Racing Season.
- 2.2 APG's Directors reserve the right to change the date and location of any or all races if, in the opinion of the Directors, for any reason it becomes impractical or undesirable to hold any of the races at the designated track on the designated date, with any revised race dates or locations to be set in consultation with the relevant State Harness Racing Authorities (being Harness Racing Victoria, Harness Racing New South Wales, Racing

Queensland and Racing and Wagering Western Australia – hereafter referred to as the “Racing Authorities”).

- 2.3 APG’s Directors reserve the right to vary the conditions of the Series should extraordinary circumstances occur, similar but not limited to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### 3.0 ELIGIBILITY AND ACCEPTANCE

- 3.1 Only horses foaled in Australia and having the Freeze Brand of an Australian State of registration, sold in accordance with the "Terms and Conditions of Sale" at Sales approved by the Directors as "Australian Pacing Gold Sales", shall be eligible to compete in the Series subject to the following conditions set out in 3.2-3.4 inclusive. A passed-in yearling shall be deemed to be sold.

- 3.2 Eligibility shall be maintained on the payment of either:

#### **Option One – One-off “Series” Payment:**

Purchasers may choose to make a single “Series Payment” of \$2,750 (including GST) to be paid by the purchaser on the day of the sale. This payment will make a horse fully eligible for the Two Year Old and Three Year Old Gold Bullion Series. No further payments are necessary.

#### **Option Two – Four Step Sustaining Schedule:**

Purchasers may choose to keep their horses eligible for the APG Gold Bullion Series by making the following payments:

- a) A Sales Day Sustaining Payment of \$700 (including GST) to be paid by the Purchaser on the day of the Sale.
- b) A Second Sustaining Payment of \$700 (including GST) due by 1 June, 2021.
- c) A Third Sustaining Payment of \$700 (including GST) due by 1 September, 2021.
- d) A Fourth Sustaining Payment of \$1,250 (including GST) due by 1 December 2021.

Any eligibility will remain with a horse, even if sold subsequently.

Failure to make any sustaining commitment required by the conditions constitutes an automatic withdrawal from the event. **Note:** Where an owner provides a written commitment to sustain their horse prior to the sustaining deadline, but payment of the relevant fee is not received within 28 days following the relevant sustaining deadline, APG shall have the right to cancel the horse’s eligibility for the APG Race Series and retain any sustaining fees already paid.

- 3.3 In addition to 3.1 horses foaled in Australia only and having the Freeze Brand of the Australian State of registration, nominated as Non Sale Entries with Australian Pacing Gold at a cost of \$3,300 on or before 31 October, 2021 NOT presented for sale at an Australian Pacing Gold Sale, shall be eligible to compete in the Series, provided that the horse is NOT ENTERED OR OFFERED as a yearling at any other Standardbred Sale, or any other auction which has horses for sale, where such sale takes place after 31st October 2020. Eligibility shall be maintained on the payment of all sustaining fees listed in Conditions 3.2(b), (c) & (d).
- 3.4 In the event that a yearling that has been nominated and accepted for the APG Yearling Sales becomes injured (e.g. severe cut) or requires surgery (e.g. joint or colic surgery) prior to sales day, the vendor may apply to APG’s Board in writing to request permission to transfer the horse to a non-sale entry. The application should include relevant photos and/or diagnostic imaging of the injury, along with a veterinary report clearly identifying the horse, the nature,

severity and timing of the injury. APG's Board shall review all written applications and may, at its sole discretion, allow the vendor to transfer the horse to a Non Sale Entry at a cost of \$3,000 (inc GST). This cost is in addition to the original entry fee that was levied when the vendor first nominated their horse for sale.

- 3.5 APG shall submit to each relevant Racing Authority a list of sustainers 28 days post each sustaining deadline.

#### **4.0 LATE ENTRY**

- 4.1 There shall be no provision for late entry of horses or notification of Sustaining in the Series unless it is determined by APG's Board of Directors to be appropriate in the particular circumstances.

#### **5.0 REFUND OF FEES**

- 5.1 Fees paid are non-refundable except that, should any circumstances prevent the running of the Series (or part of the Series) and where such determination is made by the APG Board after 31st December 2021, all sustaining fees paid (and Non Sale Entry fees if applicable) for **fully sustained horses only** shall be refunded, less administrative and promotional costs incurred (or in the case of a partial cancellation of the series, a pro-rata refund will be paid using the same basis as sustaining payments are allocated between age groups in APG's audited accounts).

#### **6.0 PACERS HEATS FOR APG GOLD BULLION SERIES RACES**

- 6.1 The conditions for the APG Gold Bullion Series have been set in consultation with the relevant Racing Authorities. The Racing Authorities have full responsibility for administering the races in each State, including the interpretation of Conditions 6 and 7. Any decision of the Racing Authorities shall be final and binding on all participants.
- 6.2 Queensland (QLD), New South Wales (NSW), Victoria (VIC) and Western Australia (WA) shall each conduct their own stand-alone APG Gold Bullion race series for 2yo and 3yo APG eligible horses, consisting of a single round of heats leading into finals.
- 6.3 Except as provided by 6.4, eligible horses may only be drawn in a field to contest APG Gold Bullion races (Refer 9.0 - 9.3) in a single state in any given racing season.
- 6.4 In the event that a horse that is drawn to contest a Gold Bullion heat in a particular State is scratched due to illness or injury, if connections lodge a satisfactory veterinary certificate with the relevant stewards in that State to substantiate the injury or illness, such stewards may make a determination that the horse should remain eligible to contest an APG Gold Bullion heat in another State in which the horse is otherwise eligible.
- 6.5 Horses which satisfy the eligibility criteria in 3.1 to 3.4 are eligible to contest an APG Gold Bullion Series in either:
- a) The State where the horse was purchased (or presented for sale in the case of passed-in lots); or
  - b) In the case of Non Sale Entries, the State that was nominated by the owner when they originally nominated their yearling as a non-sale entry; or
  - c) The State in which the horse's licensed trainer normally resides (the horse must have been in that trainer's care for a minimum of 28 days prior to acceptances, as evidenced by the lodgment of a stable return).
- 6.6 Trainers who wish to nominate for an APG Gold Bullion heat must nominate with their relevant Racing Authority in the same way that they would nominate for any normal race.

- 6.7 Any horse which accepts for a Heat must have completed all Qualifying Standards set by the respective Racing Authority of the State in which it will contest said Heat (e.g. NSW horses will need to have had at least one start prior to contesting a NSW APG Gold Bullion heat).
- 6.8 All horses that are nominated for a heat and which satisfy the eligibility requirements set out in Conditions 6.3 and 6.5 will be guaranteed a start.
- 6.9 The field sizes for all Gold Bullion races shall be determined by the Racing Authority in the relevant State in accordance with their local rules of racing.
- 6.10 The number of Heats will be determined by the number of Acceptors.
- 6.11 Random Barrier Draw applies for all races in the Series.
- 6.12 Horses owned in the same interests or trained by the same Trainer will be separated, if possible.
- 6.13 In the event that APG receives less than six (6) nominations for a particular division of a particular State Gold Bullion Series, APG's Board reserves the right to cancel the Series for the relevant Division in the relevant State and implement an alternative arrangement (at the Board's discretion) to cater for the affected horses.

Eligibility Examples:

**Example 1:**

A QLD buyer purchases a yearling from APG's Sydney Sale and takes the horse back to QLD to be trained.

When the APG heat dates are finalised, the schedule shows that QLD's APG Gold Bullion 2yo heats will be held on 1 May, whilst NSW's APG Gold Bullion 2yo heats are scheduled for the following week on 8 May.

The owner & trainer elect to nominate for QLD's APG Gold Bullion heats, rather than tackling NSW's APG Gold Bullion Series.

The horse goes on to compete in the QLD heat, but gallops and finishes last, and fails to qualify for the final which is scheduled for the following week.

Under the above scenario, the trainer would NOT be entitled to nominate for NSW's APG Gold Bullion heats the following week because the horse has already contested a heat of the QLD Series.

If, instead of galloping, the horse had instead been forced to scratch from QLD's APG Gold Bullion heat due to illness or injury, then if connections provided a satisfactory veterinary certificate to the QLD stewards, the stewards may make a determination allowing the horse to nominate for the NSW heats the following week.

**Example 2:**

A VIC buyer purchases a yearling from APG's Sydney Sale and takes the horse back to VIC to be trained.

The horse is trained in VIC all the way from the yearling sales through until the middle of March, at which point it travels to NSW to contest the Bathurst Gold Crown Series.

Following the completion of the Bathurst series, the horse return to VIC, where it remains until the date of the VIC's APG Gold Bullion heats.

Even if the timing of the horse's return to VIC meant that the horse was not resident in Victoria for the full 28 days prior to VIC's APG Gold Bullion heats, the horse would nonetheless be eligible to contest the VIC heats (because the horse was at all times in the care of a trainer that normally resides in VIC).

**Example 3:**

A QLD owner enters their yearling as a non-sale entry in October 2020 and nominates NSW as his preferred venue.

The owner subsequently arranges for the yearling to be trained in QLD, where it remains all the way through until it comes time to nominate for the heats of APG's Gold Bullion Series heats.

Based on the above facts, the horse is eligible to contest either the NSW Gold Bullion Series (because that is the venue specified when the Non Sale entry was originally lodged) or the QLD Gold Bullion Series (because that is where the horse is trained).

**Example 4:**

A NSW buyer purchases a yearling from APG's Melbourne Sale and takes it back to be trained in NSW. After an extensive preparation, the trainer suggests to the owner that the horse may struggle against the anticipated strong opposition in both Victoria and NSW. The owner transfers the horse to a QLD trainer 28 days before the QLD Gold Bullion series and thereby becomes eligible to compete in the QLD Gold Bullion series.

## **7.0 QUALIFICATION FOR THE FINALS**

- 7.1 Qualification for the relevant State Gold Bullion Finals shall be determined based solely upon the results of each State's heats.
- 7.2 Preference in field selection goes to the highest placed finishers in each State's Gold Bullion Heats.
- 7.3 In the event that a tie-breaker is required to determine priority between two or more horses that finished in identical positions in their heats, preference will go to the horse that recorded the faster personal heat time. In the event that the horse's recorded identical heat times, preference will go to the horse with the higher season earnings. If season earnings are identical, preference will be decided by way of a random ballot conducted by the relevant Racing Authority.
- 7.4 Trainers do not need to nominate for the finals – the finals field will automatically be drawn by the relevant Racing Authority based on each horse's finishing position in the heats.

## **8.0 DISTANCES OF HEATS AND FINALS**

- 8.1 All races comprising the Gold Bullion Series shall be conducted over a distance of 1609 metres. If not practical, the races shall be conducted over a distance as near as possible to 1609 metres, but not less than 1609 metres.

## **9.0 RACE DATES**

- 9.1 Race dates will be agreed between APG and the States on a year-by-year basis as and when each State produces its annual meeting calendar.
- 9.2 Race dates will be published on APG's website as and when they become available, and the dates for the various State Gold Bullion Finals will be published by the States in the

National Feature Race Calendar that is available for viewing on Harness Racing Australia's website.

- 9.3 It is intended that each State will host its own APG Gold Bullion Finals night, featuring 2 x 2yo and 2 x 3yo APG Group Races. These APG Gold Bullion nights will ideally be conducted in the April / May timeslot, at a time that best suits the feature race calendar in each State. However, programming the heats and finals will ultimately rest with each State.
- 9.4 All race dates and venues are subject to change at the absolute discretion of Australian Pacing Gold and/or the relevant Racing Authorities.

## **10.0 PACERS PRIZEMONEY**

### **10.1 GOLD BULLION SERIES**

All heats shall be run for base stakes in the relevant jurisdiction unless otherwise stated.

Finals for both the colts and fillies divisions in each state shall attract the prizemoney set out below.

<b>AGE GROUP</b>	<b>VIC</b>	<b>NSW</b>	<b>QLD</b>	<b>WA</b>
2yo Finals	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
3yo Finals	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$50,000

## **11.0 GENERAL CONDITIONS**

- 11.1 The Racing Authorities of the States in which races of the Series are being conducted, shall preside over these Rules.
- 11.2 The races conducted in a Series shall be run under the Rules of Harness Racing of the Racing Authority in the State in which such races are conducted.
- 11.3 All horses nominated for the Series and their Owners, Trainers and Drivers, in addition to being bound by the Rules of Harness Racing of the State in which the races are conducted, shall be deemed to be bound by the Conditions of the Series and any decision made thereunder.
- 11.4 Prizemoney for all APG events will be divided in accordance with the practice of the jurisdiction in which the races are conducted. No portion of prizemoney will be payable to the breeder.

## **12.0 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- 12.1 The Board of Directors of Australian Pacing Gold shall have the utmost power to deal with any matter arising from these conditions and any such decision by the Board of Directors shall be final and binding on all parties.

The Board of Directors, shall have power to, however, not limited to:

- administer the Series;
- determine any fees payable;
- determine any variations to these conditions on a needs basis;
- determine dates on which any fees will fall due;
- determine what amounts to "extraordinary circumstances" as provided for in Clause 2.3 hereof;
- determine dates on which races comprising the Series will be conducted;
- determine venues of races comprising the Series;
- determine Prizemoney and the distribution thereof;
- authorise sales as " Australian Pacing Gold Sales" under such conditions as it prescribes;

- determine any alteration to the number of Heats and Gold Bullion Races to be conducted;
- determine any changes required to the choice of venue to produce adequate field sizes in Heats;
- adjudicate on the eligibility of any horse to contest a Race in the Series;
- conduct a Ballot to have horses contest Heats at a venue other than the venue nominated;
- abandon the Series (or part of the Series) for whatever reason with all horses that were eligible (i.e. currently sustained) at the time of abandonment to receive a pro-rata refund of any sustaining payments previously paid, plus, in the case of Non Sale Entries, a pro-rata refund of their original Non Sale entry fee. Any pro-rata payments are to be made based on the same basis as sustaining payments are allocated between age groups in APG's audited accounts.

### **13.0 THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

<b>Club</b>	<b>Name</b>
HRV	Messrs P Watkinson
NSWHRC	Messrs R Marshall & B Ellis
ALBION PARK HRC	Messrs P Ellis & T O'Reilly
GENERAL MANAGER	Mr David Boydell - Tel (03) 5275 1999 Fax (03) 5275 6999
SECRETARY	Mr Chris Bolenski - Tel (02) 4645 2200 Fax (02) 4633 8200

### **14.0 DISCLAIMER**

- 14.1 The Racing Authorities accept no liability whatsoever in the event that APG fails to comply with any conditions for the event, including conditions relating to eligibility or prizemoney.