

1. OBJECTIVE

- 1.1 The objective of this policy is to prescribe the criteria for the selection process for Tasracing's Annual Harness Awards.

2. AWARD DETAILS

- 2.1 Tasracing will recognise achievements each year with awards in the following categories:

- 2.1.1 Leading Tasmanian Trainer
- 2.1.2 Leading Tasmanian Female Trainer
- 2.1.3 Leading Tasmanian Driver
- 2.1.4 Leading Tasmanian Female Driver
- 2.1.5 Leading Tasmanian Junior Driver
- 2.1.6 Tasracing Mini Trot Award
- 2.1.7 Tasmanian 2YO Colt or Gelding of the Year
- 2.1.8 Tasmanian 2YO Filly of the Year
- 2.1.9 Tasmanian 3YO Colt or Gelding of the Year
- 2.1.10 Tasmanian 3YO Filly of the Year
- 2.1.11 Tasmanian 4YO & Older Horse or Gelding of the Year
- 2.1.12 Tasmanian Mare of the Year
- 2.1.13 Tasmanian Broodmare of the Year
- 2.1.14 Tasmanian Horse of the Year

- 2.2 Joint winners for any of the Awards will be announced.

- 2.3 An ongoing Premiership table is displayed throughout the season on Harness.org for all Trainer / Driver categories.

3. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 The awards will be calculated on the Harness Racing Season, 1 January to 31 December in each year.

- 3.2 For the purpose of the awards for 2YO Colt or Gelding, 2YO Filly, 3YO Colt or Gelding, 3YO Filly, 4YO & Older Horse or Gelding, Mare and Horse of the Year the horse must fall under one of the following criteria:

- 3.2.1 Tasmanian Bred and Owned (part owned) in Tasmania, or
- 3.2.2 Tasmanian Owned (part owned) for the majority of the season with at least 4 starts on Tasmanian Tracks, or
- 3.2.3 Trained by a Tasmanian registered trainer for the majority of the season with at least 6 starts on Tasmanian tracks, or
- 3.2.4 Tasmanian Owned (part owned) and trained by a Tasmanian registered trainer for the majority of the season.

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- 3.3 Any Horse, Trainer or Driver who is disqualified or warned off from racing for any period of time during that racing season; or has their licence or registration, or any privilege attached to their licence or registration, suspended for a period of two months or more during that racing season shall be considered ineligible for any award.
- 3.4 Where any part of such period of suspension is served in more than one particular racing season, they shall be considered ineligible for any award for each particular racing season in which part of the suspension is served.
- 3.5 Tasracing has full discretion to revoke any award which has been won for any racing season if the winning horse, trainer or driver is subsequently disqualified, or warned off, or suspended for a period of two months or more resulting from a breach of the Australian Harness Racing Rules & Regulations which occurred during that particular racing season.
- 3.6 Any Trainer or Driver who, in the opinion of Tasracing, conducted themselves in a manner which has undermined the integrity, or reputation, or public image of Tasracing or racing generally is ineligible to win any award.

4. SELECTION CRITERIA

- 4.1 In the calculation of all Trainer and Driver awards a dead heat in a race is considered a win. The following awards are calculated on Tasmanian based performances only:
 - 4.1.1 **Leading Tasmanian Trainer** – Number of races won.
 - 4.1.2 **Leading Tasmanian Female Trainer** - Number of races won.
 - 4.1.3 **Leading Tasmanian Driver** - Number of races won.
 - 4.1.4 **Leading Tasmanian Female Driver** – Number of races won.
 - 4.1.5 **Leading Tasmanian Junior Driver** – Number of races won.
- 4.2 The following awards will be selected by the relevant departments at Tasracing based on performances in the related season.
 - 4.2.1 **Tasracing Mini Trot Award** – Mini Trot Co-ordinator
- 4.3 The Awards for the Horse of the Year categories will be determined as follows:
 - 4.3.1 By the end of December of each year, Tasracing, shall invite twelve suitable, independent persons without conflict or interest who they consider suitable candidates to be appointed on the Horse of the Year Awards Selection Panel. Tasracing will also appoint an additional person to act as Coordinator for the panel.
 - 4.3.2 The Panel Coordinator will determine a contenders list of eligible horses for each category based on the performances for the related season. The list of contenders will be selected at the Panel Coordinators discretion but will consist of no less than three (3) horses.

- 4.3.3 The Selection Panel will be asked to vote for their top three selections in each category in order of 3, 2, 1 points, three (3) being the first choice, two (2) second choice and one (1) third choice. The winner shall be the horse with the greatest aggregate of votes for each category.
- 4.3.4 The Panel may allocate votes to a horse not listed in the contenders list provided by the Panel Coordinator. These horses must be eligible for the Award under the provisions of Clause 3.2.