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# GENERAL CONDITIONS

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## ROYAL SABAH TURF CLUB



**21 MARCH 2026**



# ROYAL SABAH TURF CLUB

## GENERAL CONDITIONS

(Subject to alteration)

### 1) Entries

A horse may be entered for any race for which it is eligible at the time of entry.

Except for **feature races**, no horse may be entered for more than one race during meetings for which entries close on the same day.

Entries are accepted subject to the horse satisfactorily completing all **embargoes and tests** prior to being declared to race.

### 2) Cancelled Races, Additional Entries and Divided Races

Following the closing of entries, any race (or division thereof) that attracts fewer entries than the maximum field size may be cancelled. Alternatively, at the Club's discretion, any race may be reopened for an additional period, with or without an additional division.

### 3i) Selection

For feature races, races with separate conditions, and conditions races, the field will be selected by the Panel of Handicappers. Selection is based on the horses' ratings and current form, subject to the handicappers' discretion. The Club reserves the right to reject any entry that, in its opinion, does not warrant inclusion in the race.

### 3ii) Balloting Conditions

**Selection of Emergency Acceptors and Balloted-out Horses (Norm Races)** For all norm races (excluding feature races), horse selection will be based on the following criteria in order of preference:

1. Horses balloted out from their previous entry (including emergency acceptors scratched due to field capacity).
2. Horses making their **debut** (first start) at the Royal Sabah Turf Club (RSTC).
3. Last-start winners that were not promoted to a higher class and did **not race** in the most recent RSTC meeting.
4. Horses that have won once in their last three starts, were not promoted to a higher class, and did not race in the most recent RSTC meeting **despite a race being available for their specific class**.
5. Horses that placed (2nd or 3rd) in their last three starts, were not promoted to a higher class, and did **not race** in the most recent RSTC meeting.
6. **For Special Conditions Races: Horses falling outside the principal rating range for that class, balloted from the lowest-rated horse upwards.**
7. Ballots will be drawn from horses that ran in the most recent RSTC meeting, starting from the lowest-rated horse upwards.

### 4) Rating Bands

The rating bands for Class races will be as follows:

CLASS	RATING
Class 1	84 and above
Class 1 (Special Conditions)	41 and above (84 and above as the principal rating range)

	Horses that placed (1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> ) in their last start in Class 2/3 (unless promoted to Class 1) will not be accepted unless the number of acceptors for the race is 9 or less.
Class 2	67 – 83
Class 2 (Special Conditions)	41 and above* (67 - 83 as the principal rating range) *Horses above rating points of 83 and above and have 5 unplaced runs after winning a race or demotion from Class 1 or have 4 unplaced runs after placed (2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> ) excluding before demotion. Horses that placed (1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> ) in their last start in Class 3 (unless promoted to Class 2) will not be accepted unless the number of acceptors for the race is 9 or less.
Class 3	41 - 66
Class 3 (Special Conditions)	36 – 83* (41 - 66 as the principal rating range) *Horses above rating points of 66 and above and have 5 unplaced runs after winning a race or demotion from Class 2 or have 4 unplaced runs after placed (2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> ) excluding before demotion. Horses that placed (1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> ) in their last start in Class 4 (unless promoted to Class 3) will not be accepted unless the number of acceptors for the race is 9 or less.
Class 4	20 - 40
Class 4 (Special Conditions)	20 – 66* (20 - 40 as the principal rating range) *Horses above rating points of 40 and above and have 5 unplaced runs after winning a race or demotion from Class 3 or have 4 unplaced runs after placed (2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> ) excluding before demotion.
Class 5	9 - 19
Initiation	4 - 8
Novice	0 - 3

The advertised benchmark serves as the maximum entry point for Benchmark races; entries are restricted to horses rated at or below this benchmark

### 5i) Weight for Handicap Races

The weights for handicap races except for FEATURE RACES held under handicap conditions will be allocated using the following guidelines.

Class	Conditions
Class 1 / Class 1 (Special Condition)	Set/Handicap/Condition Weight
	60kg downwards to 48kg minimum bottom weight for if highest rating in the field is 97 and above 58kg downwards to 48kg minimum bottom weight for if highest rating in the field is 96 and below
	Maximum Weight including overweight claims will be capped at 65kg for race distance of 1400m and below and capped at 63kg for distance of above 1400m before apprentice allowance, if any.
Class 2 / Class 3	Handicap weight at 0.5kg per 1 rating point
	Weight allocation from 57kg (Top weight) downwards to 48kg minimum bottom weight
Class 2 (Special Condition)	Handicap weight at 0.5kg per 2 rating points for rating above 83
	Handicap weight at 0.5kg per 1 rating point for rating 83 and below
	Weight allocation from 58kg (Top weight for horses from higher class) downwards to 48kg minimum bottom weight
Class 3 (Special Condition)	Handicap weight at 0.5kg per 2 rating points for rating above 66
	Handicap weight at 0.5kg per 1 rating point for rating 66 and below
	Weight allocation from 58kg (Top weight for horses from higher class) downwards to 48kg minimum bottom weight

<b>Class 4</b>	Handicap weight at <b>0.5kg</b> per rating point
	Weight allocation from 57kg (Top weight) downwards until minimum weight of <b>48kg</b>
<b>Class 4 (Special Conditions)</b>	Handicap weight at <b>0.5kg per 2 rating points for rating above 40</b>
	Handicap weight at <b>0.5kg per 1 rating point for rating 40 and below</b>
	Weight allocation from <b>58kg (Top weight for horses from higher class) downwards to 48kg minimum bottom weight</b>
<b>Class 5</b>	Handicap weight at <b>1.0kg</b> per rating point
	Weight allocation from 57kg (Top weight) downwards until minimum weight of <b>48kg</b>
<b>Initiation</b>	Weight assignment are based on horses' abilities with reference to the average timing from past races and the discretion of the handicappers. Weight allocation from 57kg (Top weight) downwards until minimum weight of <b>48kg</b>
<b>Novice</b>	Weight assignment are based on horses' abilities with reference to the average timing from past races and the discretion of the handicappers, Weight allocation from 57kg/56.5kg/56kg (Top weight) downwards until minimum weight of <b>48kg</b>

- **Weight Adjustments:** The handicappers reserve the right to adjust top weights under specific circumstances, such as after a long spelling period, or in response to extreme track conditions (e.g., very hard or soft tracks). During dry seasons, top weights may be adjusted to minimize the risk of injuries sustained from hard ground.
- **Minimum Weight:** The minimum weight shall not be less than **48kg**.
- **Weight Assignments:** The handicappers reserve the right to assign higher weights based on a horse's recent performance or the availability of eligible jockeys to ride specific horses.

### 5ii) Classes and Weight Assignment

CLASS	RATING	RANGE	WEIGHTS ASSIGNMENT	Remarks
Class 1 (Inclusive of Special Conditions race)	80 and above	~	Capped at 65kg (including overweight claims)	<b>Set/Handicap/Condition Race</b>  Bottom weight will be adjusted by the Handicapper if horse(s) is/are assigned with handicap weight of less than 53kg.  Weight Saddle Pad must be used for horses that carry heavy weights of <b>58kg</b> and above. (Lead weights are strictly not allowed unless approved by the Racing Stewards)
Class 2 (Inclusive of Special Conditions race)	67 - 83	17	0.5kg per point	Handicap Race Bottom weight will be adjusted by the Handicapper if horse(s) is/are assigned with handicap weight of less than 53kg.
Class 3 (Inclusive of Special Conditions race)	41 – 66	26	0.5kg per point	
Class 4	20 – 40	21	0.5kg per point	

(Inclusive of Special Conditions race)				
Class 5	9 – 19	11	1.0kg per point	
Initiation	4 - 8	5	Newly demoted horses from Class 6 and higher classes (Never raced in Initiation) will carry the top weight and up to maximum of 57kg  Weight assignment are based on horses' abilities with reference to the average timing from past races and the discretion of the handicappers	Handicap Race
Novice	0 – 3	4	Weight assignment are based on horses' abilities with reference to the average timing from past races and the discretion of the handicappers	

**If the top weight at the time of Final Declaration is less than 57kg (excluding Initiation and Novice races), the top weight shall be raised to 57kg, and all other weights in the field shall be increased proportionately.**

#### **SELECTION CONDITIONS AND WEIGHT ALLOWANCES: INITIATION/NOVICE CLASS**

##### **Selection Conditions:**

1. Performance Ranking: Horses in Initiation and Novice classes will be ranked from lowest to highest ability, based on their past performances and current form.
2. Field Composition: The Racing Team will select and group horses in a race field according to their ratings, relative abilities, and competitiveness. This is determined by referencing average race times recorded since 30 August 2020.

##### **Weight Allocation:**

1. Handicapping Discretion: Weight allowances are at the discretion of the Handicappers and the Racing Team. Horses showing superior ability will be assigned higher weights.
2. Minimum Weight: The minimum weight for any horse shall not be less than 48kg.
3. **Apprentice Claims: Standard Rider Allowances for apprentice jockeys shall apply.**

##### **Timing and Competitiveness**

1. Data Tabulation: Race times for every horse in the Initiation class will be recorded and tabulated to derive an average performance time.
2. Distanced Finishers: Timing will not be recorded for horses that finish at "distanced" margins (where the photo-finish system cannot provide a reading).
3. Uncompetitive Status: Horses that finish at a distanced margin for three or more consecutive starts will be deemed "uncompetitive".

Priority: Uncompetitive horses will be given the lowest priority during the selection and balloting process.

##### **Division and Weight assignment:**

1. **Basis of Assignment:** Weight assignments are based on a horse's ability, determined by their average race timings and the Handicappers' discretion. The scale of weights ranges from a maximum top weight of 57kg to a minimum bottom weight of 48kg.
2. **Tentative Weights:** If a horse is handicapped at less than 53kg, a **tentative weight of 53kg** will be assigned initially. This weight may be further adjusted during the **Declaration of Jockeys** phase.
3. **Under Scale Adjustments:** For "under scale" horses (those handicapped below the standard riding weight), weights will be finalized after the Declaration of Jockeys. This adjustment will be based on the jockey's official body weight, their minimum riding weight, and their maximum allowable handicap advantage.

### **Initial Ratings and Height Classifications.**

1. **Starting Ratings:** A horse's initial rating will be determined by its official height measurement and subsequent classification by the Handicapper.
2. **Measurement Validity:** For horses entering **Class 5, Initiation, or Novice** races, the official height measurement is valid for **90 days**.
3. **Re-measurement Requirements:** If a horse has fewer than **two (2) starts** within that 90-day period, it must be re-measured to remain eligible.
4. **Growth and Reclassification:** If a horse is re-measured after 90 days and is found to have grown by more than **2 inches (2")**, it will be reclassified immediately.
5. **Disqualification:** Any horse found to be over-height for its assigned class will be **withdrawn** from its scheduled race or **disqualified** if it is determined that the horse is over-qualified for that specific category.

The initial rating for unraced horses shall be determined by height, using the following measurement scale as a guide:

Categories	Starting Rating
Imported unraced Thoroughbred	64
Above 64"	30
64" and below but above 62"	25
62" and below but above 60"	19
60" and below but above 57"	14
57" and below but above 55"	8 / 7
55" and below but above 54"	6 / 5
54" and below but above 52"	3 / 2
52" and below	1 / 0

**The Handicapper reserves the right to adjust a horse's rating by one (1) point above or below this guide at their discretion.**

### **Reclassification of Unraced Horses**

1. **Observation Period:** All formerly unraced horses are subject to reclassification at any time during their first eight (8) starts, at the Handicappers' discretion. However, a horse must complete at least three (3) starts before any reclassification can occur.
2. **Downward Reclassification:** If a horse's racing performance demonstrates that it is uncompetitive in its initial class, it may be reclassified to the next lower class.
3. **Reinstatement Rule:** If a horse wins a race after being reclassified to a lower class, it shall be immediately reinstated to its original classification and rating.

## 6) Net Prizemoney Distribution unless otherwise stated (currency in RM) *(revised on 2 June 2025)*

PRIZEMONEY DISTRIBUTION (W/F 2ND JUNE 2025)															
Class	Owner & Trainer						Jockey							Prize Money Total	Entry Fee
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	Jockey		
	52.50%	20.50%	10.25%	5.00%	2.00%	1.00%	5.25%	2.00%	1.00%	0.50%	0.20%	0.10%	0.50%		
Class 1	15750	6150	3075	1350	550	275	1575	600	300	150	50	25	150	30000	100
Class 2	14450	5650	2775	1250	500	250	1450	550	275	125	50	25	150	27500	100
Class 3	11050	4300	2150	950	375	175	1100	425	200	100	50	25	100	21000	80
Class 4	8150	3175	1600	700	275	125	825	300	150	75	25	25	75	15500	60
Class 5	5250	2050	1025	450	175	100	525	200	100	50	20	5	50	10000	40
Initiation	4725	1850	925	400	150	75	475	175	100	50	20	5	50	9000	20
Novice	4475	1750	850	375	150	75	450	175	75	50	20	5	50	8500	20
Restricted Progress	2525	1075	550	250	100	50	250	100	50	25	10	5	10	5000	0

*Prize money distribution is rounded to the nearest multiple of RM25. Then, if there is a discrepancy, surpluses will be added to the 1st placing (Owner/Trainer). For shortages, the first RM50 will be deducted from the 3rd placing (Owner/Trainer) and the rest (RM25) will be deducted from the 4th placing (Owner/Trainer).*

**Entry Fee (Norm races):**  
**Novice = RM20 (RM0 if half the field is entered by horses with 0 rating)**

\*\*Rating bands for Rating races will be decided on an ad-hoc basis based on the rating of horses available for racing and their competitiveness.

## 7) Change in Track Surface After Closing of Entries

If a change in the track surface is deemed necessary after the closing of entries, the following rules shall apply (including the reverse scenario):

- **Eligibility and Transfer:** All horses entered for the original surface will remain eligible and will be transferred to the new surface automatically, unless otherwise specified by the Club.
- **Withdrawals:** Owners or trainers may be permitted to withdraw horses without penalty if the change in surface is determined to be a "material change" to the race conditions.

In the event that a change in track surface is deemed necessary after entries have closed, the following distance conversions shall apply (including vice versa):

Turf Track		Sand Track
1200m	to	1100m
1400m – 1700m	to	1600m
1800m and longer	to	1800m

## 8) Minimum Starters at Declarations

At the closing time for declarations, a race will be cancelled (with the exception of Feature and Sponsored races) if the number of declared starters is fewer than six (6).

Notwithstanding this requirement, the Club reserves the right to reschedule any race or proceed with fewer starters at its absolute discretion.

## 9) Rating Assignment: Penalization, Promotion, and Demotion

The Handicapper determines rating adjustments based on the following criteria:

**Winners:** Winning horses will receive an upward rating adjustment. The scale of this increase is determined by the margin and manner of victory, the quality of the opposition (strength of the field), and the weight differentials carried.

**Placed Horses:** Horses finishing in point-scoring or "placed" positions (typically 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) will receive adjustments as deemed necessary to reflect their competitive performance.

**Unplaced Runners:** Horses finishing outside of the placings may receive rating relief (a reduction in rating) based on their overall performance profile and consistency.

## 10) Handicapping Guidelines for Penalties and Relief

The following table serves as the official guideline for rating adjustments:

### CLASS 1 (INCLUSIVE OF SPECIAL CONDITIONS RACE):

Winners	<p><b>5 points Penalty</b> for horses with pre-race rating of 99 and below  <b>4 points Penalty</b> for horses with pre-race rating of 100 – 104.  <b>3 points Penalty</b> for horses with pre-race rating of 105 – 109.  <b>2 points Penalty</b> for horses with pre-race rating of 110 and above.</p> <p>Newly imported horses with prior racing experience that win a Cup race within their first three (3) starts are subject to a 5 to 10-point rating penalty. This adjustment is applied at the discretion of the Handicappers and is subject to final approval by the Racing Steward.</p> <p><b>Overweight Claims for next race</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4"><b>OVERWEIGHT CLAIM FOR NEXT RACE ( CUMULATIVE)</b></th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th><b>1<sup>st</sup></b></th> <th><b>2<sup>nd</sup></b></th> <th><b>3<sup>rd</sup></b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>60kg and above (Including overweight claim)</b></td> <td><b>1.0kg</b></td> <td><b>0.5kg</b></td> <td><b>0</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>High-Weight Winner Penalties</b></p> <p>Performance Surcharge: Horses that win while carrying 60kg or more will be subject to an additional 1.0kg penalty for their next norm race.</p> <p>Cumulative Limit: These high-weight penalties are cumulative, up to a maximum total of 5.0kg.</p> <p>Cup Race Application: At the discretion of the Handicappers, these cumulative weight penalties may also be applied to Cup Races.</p>	<b>OVERWEIGHT CLAIM FOR NEXT RACE ( CUMULATIVE)</b>					<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>60kg and above (Including overweight claim)</b>	<b>1.0kg</b>	<b>0.5kg</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>OVERWEIGHT CLAIM FOR NEXT RACE ( CUMULATIVE)</b>													
	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>										
<b>60kg and above (Including overweight claim)</b>	<b>1.0kg</b>	<b>0.5kg</b>	<b>0</b>										
Placed 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<p><b>2 points rating penalty (&lt; 60kg)</b></p> <p><b>For horses with a pre-race rating of 105 or higher carrying a weight of 60kg or more: 1 point rating penalty</b> will be applied if the horse finishes in a "placed" position in <b>two or more consecutive starts.</b></p> <p><b>High-Weight 2<sup>nd</sup> Placed Penalties</b></p> <p>Performance Surcharge: Horses that “placed 2<sup>nd</sup>” while carrying 60kg or more will be subject to an additional 0.5kg penalty for their next norm race.</p>												

	<p>Cumulative Limit: These high-weight penalties are cumulative, up to a maximum total of 5.0kg.</p> <p>Cup Race Application: At the discretion of the Handicappers, these cumulative weight penalties may also be applied to Cup Races.</p>												
Placed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<p>1 point rating penalty if <b>placed twice or more consecutively</b></p> <p><b>No Additional Surcharge:</b> Horses carrying 60kg or more that finish in 3<sup>rd</sup> place will NOT incur the additional high-weight penalty (overweight surcharge) for their next norm race.</p>												
Unplaced	<p><b>Performance-Based Rating Relief</b></p> <p>Unplaced horses are eligible for rating relief (reductions) based on their consecutive performance profile. Relief is capped at a maximum of 5 points per adjustment according to the following schedule:</p> <p>4<sup>th</sup> Consecutive Unplaced Run: 3-point rating relief.</p> <p>5<sup>th</sup> Consecutive Unplaced Run: 4-point rating relief.</p> <p>6<sup>th</sup> Consecutive Unplaced Run (and onwards): Maximum 5-point rating relief per run.</p> <p><b>In special conditions race, the maximum rating relief granted to horses entering from lower classes shall be capped at 2 rating points.</b></p> <p><b>Class 1 to Class 2 Demotion Protocol</b></p> <p>When a horse's rating dropped sufficiently to be demoted from Class 1 to Class 2, the following entry conditions apply:</p> <p>Starting Rating: Upon entering Class 2, the horse's rating shall be reset to a base of 83 points.</p> <p>Subsequent Relief: Once the horse is classified in Class 2, any further rating relief will be governed by specific Class 2 Handicapping Conditions.</p> <p><b>Overweight Claims Relief</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #00aaff; color: white;"> <th colspan="4">OVERWEIGHT CLAIM RELIEF</th> </tr> <tr> <th>1<sup>st</sup> unplaced after win/placed</th> <th>2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive unplaced</th> <th>3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive unplaced</th> <th>4<sup>th</sup> consecutive unplaced</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0.5kg</td> <td>1.0kg</td> <td>1.5kg</td> <td>2.0kg</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Horses penalized with overweight claim will be relieved of the weight after an unplaced run.</p> <p><b>Reduction of Overweight Claim</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 1<sup>st</sup> unplaced after win/placed = 0.5kg reduction from overweight claim</li> <li>2. 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive unplaced after win/placed = 1.0kg reduction from overweight claim until zero</li> <li>3. 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive unplaced after win/placed = 1.5kg reduction from overweight claim until zero</li> <li>4. 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive unplaced or more after win/placed = 2.0kg reduction from overweight claim</li> </ol>	OVERWEIGHT CLAIM RELIEF				1 <sup>st</sup> unplaced after win/placed	2 <sup>nd</sup> consecutive unplaced	3 <sup>rd</sup> consecutive unplaced	4 <sup>th</sup> consecutive unplaced	0.5kg	1.0kg	1.5kg	2.0kg
OVERWEIGHT CLAIM RELIEF													
1 <sup>st</sup> unplaced after win/placed	2 <sup>nd</sup> consecutive unplaced	3 <sup>rd</sup> consecutive unplaced	4 <sup>th</sup> consecutive unplaced										
0.5kg	1.0kg	1.5kg	2.0kg										

**CLASS 2-5:**

Winners	5 points Penalty
Placed 2 <sup>nd</sup>	2 points if <b>placed twice or more consecutively</b>
Placed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	1 points if <b>placed twice or more consecutively</b>
Unplaced (Except Class 2 and Class 3)	For last start winners, placed (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> ) in last start. newly promoted (based on Classes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) or demoted horses (based on Classes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) or horses back to racing with no record of past performances:

	<p>First start unplaced: No deduction  Second consecutive unplaced run: 1 point  Third consecutive unplaced run onwards: up to 2 points</p>
<p>Unplaced (<b>Class 2 inclusive of special condition race only</b>)</p>	<p>0 to 4 points reliefs based on Performance Profile. Horses will be relieved <b><u>3 points on the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive unplaced runs and 4 points relief on 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive runs onwards until it demoted to the next lower class</u></b></p> <p><b>In special conditions race, the maximum rating relief granted to horses entering from lower classes shall be capped at 2 rating points.</b></p>
<p>Unplaced (<b>Class 3 inclusive of special condition race only</b>)</p>	<p>0 to 3 points reliefs based on Performance Profile. Horses will be relieved <b><u>3 points on the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive unplaced runs onwards until it demoted to the next lower class</u></b></p> <p><b>In special conditions race, the maximum rating relief granted to horses entering from lower classes shall be capped at 2 rating points.</b></p>

**INITIATION/NOVICE:**

<p>Winners</p>	<p><b>Winner Penalties and Class 5 Promotion</b></p> <p>Winning horses are penalized based on their historical classification and performance times. The following penalty structures apply:</p> <p><i>A. 5-Point Rating Penalty</i></p> <p>A winner will receive a <b>5-point penalty</b> if they meet any of the following historical criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Class 6 History:</b> Raced in Class 6 (or higher/equivalent) under the Rating Classification used before <b>4 September 2023</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Historical Promotion:</b> Was promoted to Class 6 or higher (equivalent to a Rating of 9+) between <b>1 January 2019</b> and <b>25 April 2021</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Class 5 Experience:</b> Has competed in Class 5 or higher since <b>8 October 2023</b>.</li> </ul> <p><i>B. 3-Point Rating Penalty</i></p> <p>A winner will receive a <b>3-point penalty</b> if they have <b>NEVER</b> met the historical criteria above (i.e., they have no prior experience or promotions in Class 6/Class 5 during the specified dates).</p> <p><i>C. Additional Speed-Based Penalties</i></p> <p>Regardless of historical classification, a winner who has <b>never</b> raced in Class 6 (under the pre-September 2023 system) may face <b>additional penalty points</b> if they exceed the following official time benchmarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1000m:</b> Faster than <b>77 seconds</b>.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>1100m:</b> Faster than <b>83 seconds</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Promotion to Class 5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Automatic Promotion:</b> Any horse that achieves a rating of <b>9 points or higher</b> will be automatically promoted to <b>Class 5</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>5 - 10 points Penalty for horses with height 60” and above winning a race, subjected to Handicappers’ opinions and discretions.</b></p>
Placed 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<p>2<sup>nd</sup> placed horses with history of racing in Class 6 from Rating Classification before 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 or higher classes (or equivalent) will be penalized with 2 points Penalty if placed twice or more consecutively.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> placed horses which never raced in Class 6 from Rating Classification before 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 or higher classes (or equivalent) will be penalized with 1 points Penalty if placed twice or more consecutively.</p>
Placed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<p>3<sup>rd</sup> placed horses will be penalized with 1 points Penalty if <b>placed twice or more consecutively</b>.</p>
<b>Unplaced</b>	<p>Unplaced horses with history of racing in Class 6 from Rating Classification before 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 or higher classes (or equivalent) will be relieved with 0-2 points to the minimum of rating of 2 based on Performance Profile.</p> <p>Unplaced horses which never raced in Class 6 from Rating Classification before 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 or higher classes (or equivalent) will be relieved with 0-2 points to the minimum of rating of 1 based on Performance Profile.</p>

**Across all classes, a horse may be denied any rating relief (reductions) if it is determined that the jockey failed to ride the horse on its merits.**

- Determining Factors: Rating relief may be withheld if there is evidence of a deliberate attempt to prevent the horse from achieving its best possible placing.
- Evidence and Authority: The Stipendiary Stewards' Report shall serve as the primary official record to support such verdicts.
- Handicapper’s Discretion: The Handicapper reserves the right to maintain a horse's current rating—or apply a penalty—should a disciplinary finding be issued regarding the horse's performance.

## **Penalties for Weight Fraud and Misconduct**

Any individual found to be engaged in fraudulent activity regarding the carrying weight of a horse shall face the most severe disciplinary actions:

- **Membership Revocation:** For **RSTC members**, Club membership will be **permanently revoked**.
- **Forfeiture of Prize Money:** All prize money and trophies associated with the race in question shall be **forfeited immediately**.
- **Permanent Ban:** The horse involved in the incident will be **permanently disqualified** and banned from all future racing activities under the Club’s jurisdiction.

## **Relief Schedule for Unplaced Runners**

For horses that were winners/placed in their last start, newly promoted/demoted horses (Classes 1–5), or horses returning to racing without a recent record:

- **First Start Unplaced:** No rating deduction.
- **Second Consecutive Unplaced Run:** 1-point rating deduction.
- **Third (or more) Consecutive Unplaced Run:** Up to 2 points rating deduction.
- **Third (or more) Consecutive Unplaced Run for Class 3 horses:** Up to 3 points rating deduction.
- **Third (or more) Consecutive Unplaced Run for Class 2 horses:** Up to 4 points rating deduction.
- **Third (or more) Consecutive Unplaced Run for Class 1 horses:** Up to 5 points rating deduction.

## **Classification and Entry Rules**

- **Highest Rating Reset:** Any horse demoted to a lower class (Classes 1–5, Initiation, and Novice) must start at the **maximum rating** assigned to that specific class.
- **Promotion via Consistency:** Horses finishing in 2nd or 3rd place in **two consecutive starts** may be promoted to the next higher class, subject to the Handicappers' discretion.
- **New Arrivals:** No rating deduction shall be granted for any horse's **first start** at the Royal Sabah Turf Club.

## **Relief Restrictions (First Runs)**

Rating deductions will **not** be granted in the following scenarios:

- **Post-Promotion:** The first start immediately following promotion to a higher class.
- **Post-Demotion:** The first start immediately following demotion to a lower class.
- **Non-Finishers:** Horses that fail to finish or are disqualified from a race.

## **Disqualifications and Penalties**

- **Irreversibility:** Once a race result is officially confirmed, there shall be **no reversal or refund of penalties** even if a horse is subsequently disqualified.

## **Field Capacity & Administrative Relief**

Horses that fail to secure a start due to maximum field size capacity (balloted out) are eligible for an **additional 1-point relief** (inclusive of their first run after promotion/demotion) on their next run, provided:

1. The next available run occurs **six (6) weeks or more** after the failed entry.
2. The horse finishes **unplaced** in that subsequent run.

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## **Handicappers' Discretionary Powers**

- **Final Authority:** Final rating penalties are determined by the Panel of Handicappers and are **NOT capped**.
- **Reclassification Factors:** Handicappers may reclassify horses based on height, breed, or exceptional performance.
- **Form-Based Adjustments:** Additional penalties or relief may be awarded based on winning margins, consecutive wins, or overall competitiveness within a class.

- **Special Conditions:** Any unique penalties or relief points for Group or Feature races will be explicitly stated in the specific **Race Conditions**.