

(b) After a declaration to start has been made, no horse shall be withdrawn except by permission of the judges.

(c) Prior to the opening of the declaration box, when futurities, stakes, early closing or late closing events are programmed, the presiding judge shall communicate with the race secretary to ascertain if any declarations by mail, telegraph or otherwise are in his office and not deposited in the box. If there are such declarations, the presiding judge shall see that they are declared and drawn in the proper event. To avoid conflicts and misunderstandings when the time of declaration of any race is stated in day or hours prior to the day of the race, it shall be construed to exclude Sunday.

13:71-16.2 Entry box and drawing of horses at pari-mutuel meetings

(a) The entry box shall be opened by the presiding judge at the advertised time and the presiding judge will be responsible to see that at least one horseman or an official representative of the horsemen is present. No owner or agent for a horse with a declaration in the entry box shall be denied the privilege of being present. Under the supervision of the presiding judge, all entries shall be listed, the eligibility verified, preference ascertained, starters selected and post positions drawn. If it is necessary to reopen any race, public announcement shall be made at least twice and the box reopened to a definite time.

(b) Upon receiving a request by the race secretary, the presiding judge, at his discretion, may open the entry box prior to the time of closing and give the race secretary the opportunity to process declarations contained therein. Information as to names of horses declared shall not be given by the race secretary or his assistants until after the time for declaration has passed.

13:71-16.3 Error in declaration

(a) Where a horse properly declared is omitted from the race by error of the association, or its agent or employee, the horse shall be added to the race but given the outside post position provided, however, that the error is discovered prior to the printing of the official program or prior to scratch time, whichever is sooner.

1. In the event that there is not a position on the gate available to add the horse omitted in error, the race shall be redrawn. This shall apply only in stakes events, late closers, early closers and futurities and shall not apply to overnight events.

Amended by R.1991 d.315, effective June 17, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1069(a), 23 N.J.R. 1961(a).

Reconstructed existing text to include an (a) and new (a)1; deleted “, other than by telephone,”; added “or its agents or employee,”; substituted “printing” for “publication”; added “or prior to scratch time, whichever is sooner”; deleted “and said program disclosed such position”.

13:71-16.4 Qualifying races

(a) Declarations for overnight events shall be governed by the following:

1. Within two weeks of being declared in, a horse that has not raced previously at the gait chosen must go a qualifying race under the supervision of the presiding judge or an associate judge and acquire at least one charted line by a licensed charter. In order to provide complete and accurate chart information on time and beaten lengths, a standard photo finish shall be in use.

2. A horse that does not show a charted line for the previous season, or a charted line within its last six starts must go a qualifying race as set forth in paragraph 1 of this subsection. Uncharted races contested in heats or more than one dash and consolidated in accordance with paragraph 4 of this subsection will be considered one start.

3. A horse that has not started at a charted meeting for a period of 30 days must go a qualifying race as set forth in paragraph 1 of this subsection. Any horse that fails to race within 30 days after having started in a current year shall start in a qualifying race and meet the standards of the meeting before being allowed to start in a race with pari-mutuel wagering.

4. When a horse has raced at a charted meeting during the current season and then goes to meetings where races are not charted, the information from the uncharted races may be summarized, including each start, and consolidated in favor of charted lines, and the requirements of paragraph 2 of this subsection would then not be applicable. The consolidated line shall carry date, place, time, driver, finish track conditions and distance if race is not at one mile.

5. The judges may require any horse that has been on the steward's list to go a qualifying race. If a horse has raced in individual time not meeting the qualifying standards for the class of horse, he may be required to go a qualifying race.

6. The judges may permit a horse to qualify by means of a timed workout consistent with the demonstrated form and ability of the horse.

7. To enable a horse to qualify, qualifying races should be held at least one full week prior to the opening of any meeting that opens before July 1 of a season and shall be scheduled at least twice a week. Qualifying races shall also be scheduled twice a week during the meeting.

Amended by R.1976 d.125, effective April 22, 1976.
See: 8 N.J.R. 47(b), 8 N.J.R. 308(a).

13:71-16.5 Entries

When the starters in a race include two or more horses owned or trained by the same person, or trained in the same stable or by the same management, they shall be coupled as

an "entry" and a wager on one horse in the "entry" shall be a wager on all horses in the "entry". "Ownership" shall be construed to mean any person required to be licensed as an owner pursuant to these rules and in the instance of multiple ownerships, persons possessing at least a five percent commonality of interest in each of the respective horses. Provided, however, that when a trainer enters two or more horses in a stake, early closing, futurity, free-for-all or other special event under bona fide separate ownerships, the said horses may at the request of the association and with the approval of the Commission, be permitted to race as separate betting entries. If the race is split in two or more divisions, horses in an "entry" shall be seeded in separate divisions insofar as possible, but the divisions in which they compete and their post positions shall be drawn by lot. The above provisions shall also apply to elimination heats.

As amended, R.1982 d.109, eff. April 5, 1982.
See: 13 N.J.R. 820(a), 14 N.J.R. 347(a).

Section substantially amended.
Petition for Rulemaking.
See: 34 N.J.R. 3030(b).

13:71-16.6 Also eligibles

Not more than two horses may be drawn as also eligibles for a race and their positions shall be drawn along with the starters in the race. Also eligibles shall be drawn from those horses having the least preference. In the event one or more horses are excused by the judges, the also eligible horse or horses shall race and take the post position drawn by the horse it replaces, except in handicap races. In handicap races the also eligible horse shall take the place of the horse that it replaces in the event that the handicap is the same. In the event the handicap is different, the also eligible horse shall take the position on the outside of horses with a similar handicap. No horse may be added to a race as an also eligible unless the horse was drawn as such at the time declarations closed. No horse may be barred from a race to which it is otherwise eligible by reason of its preference due to the fact that it has been drawn as an also eligible. A horse moved into the race from the also eligible list cannot be drawn except by permission of the judges, but the owner or trainer of such a horse shall be notified that the horse is to race and it shall be posted at the race secretary's office. All horses on the also eligible list and not moved into race by 9:00 A.M. on the day of the race shall be released.

13:71-16.7 Preference

(a) Preference shall be given in all overnight events according to a horse's last previous purse race during the current year. The preference date on a horse that has drawn to race and then scratched is the date of the race from which he was scratched.

(b) When a horse is racing for the first time in the current year, the date of the first declaration shall be considered its last race date and preference applied accordingly.

(c) Where the word "preferred" is used in a condition it shall not supersede date preference.

13:71-16.8 Steward's list

(a) A horse may be placed on the "Steward's list" if:

1. It is dangerous;
2. Unmanageable;
3. Sick;
4. Lamé;
5. Unable to qualify;
6. Otherwise unfit.

(b) The horse must be placed on the "Steward's list" by the presiding judge and declarations on such horse shall be refused.

(c) Owners and trainers shall be notified in writing of such action and the reason for such action.

(d) The clerk of the course shall make a note on the eligibility certificate of such horse showing the date the horse was placed on the "Steward's list" the reason therefor and the date of removal if the horse has been removed. A horse which has been a late scratch from a claiming race may be put on the "Steward's list".

13:71-16.9 Driver information

Declarations shall state who will drive the horse and the driver's colors. Drivers may be changed until 9:00 A.M. of the day preceding the race without permission but the presiding judge must be notified thereof. No driver shall be changed thereafter except by permission of the judges and only then for good cause. When a nominator starts two or more horses, the judges shall approve or disapprove the second and third drivers.

13:71-16.10 Postponement—reasons for; rescheduling races

(a) In case of unfavorable weather, or other unavoidable cause, the racing association may postpone the races upon notification of the same to the Commission.

(b) When a racing program is postponed, the races scheduled shall be rescheduled as follows:

1. Early closing, late closing races, stakes and futurities shall be postponed to the next racing day.
2. If there is no time remaining in the scheduled race meeting and it cannot be extended to permit the race to be programmed, the entrance money and forfeits shall be divided equally among the nominators who have horses on the grounds declared in and eligible to start.