

Media Release issued by Harness Racing Victoria
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National ratings based handicapping update

Harness Racing Australia (HRA) has advised states the new national ratings based handicapping system will be implemented from July 1.

Participants are advised that horse ratings will go live from May 1 and be visible on Harnessweb and some other online platforms, but the new ratings' system won't come into effect until July.

Harness Racing Victoria (HRV) will issue communications to the industry in June explaining the system and Victoria's approach to programming.

July race programs will be released in the first week of June.

"It's important our trainers, drivers, owners, breeders and punters all have a thorough understanding of the new system," HRV General Manager – Racing Stephen Bell said.

"To ensure all our people are properly briefed HRV will issue detailed communications in June. Prior to that, we'll advise of any updates to the national rollout in a timely manner.

"The challenge now is for each state to develop local race programs that maximise industry earning opportunity and deliver competitive wagering outcomes through more competitive racing."

Participants are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the [HRA national handicapping document](#), which explains how the new system will work.