

## **Graded Stakes Additional Information**

### **Grading Criteria**

Other criteria for grading include:

- A race must have been contested two previous years with minimum purse requirement and fundamentally the same conditions. (Committee has discretion to waive two-year requirement).
- New races may be considered for grading after two years.
- A stake discontinued for two years loses graded status. If the race meets purse requirements, it may be reconsidered but the grading process must start over. (Committee has discretion to add a year for mitigating circumstances).
- Starting in 2025, quality of field points and field size will be considered in grading a race and may affect it being upgraded or downgraded regardless of purse.
- Any Grade 3 race that does not have a point value of 10 or more for two consecutive years will be downgraded and lose grading status regardless of purse.
- Any Grade 2 race that does not have a point value of 15 or more for two consecutive years will be downgraded and lose grading status regardless of purse.
- Any Grade 1 race that does not have a point value of 20 or more for two consecutive years will be downgraded and lose grading status regardless of purse.
- For any Grade 1, 2 or 3 downgraded races, grading may be reconsidered with two consecutive years with more than 10, 15, 20 points, respectively, and required purse level.
- Races where the conditions allow for racing in divisions cannot be graded on total purse and drop one grade regardless of purse.
- Regardless of purse, elimination and consolation races will not be graded.
- In cases of races whose purses fall short of requirements by 5% or less of Grade 1 or 2 status, the Committee has the discretion to raise them based upon the races' point values and history.
- In the future, a speed performance rating system may be employed in the grading process. Grading may be assigned by the Committee based upon a two-third vote with a majority of the members present in person or via meeting.

### **Statistics**

Information utilizing statistics from the last four years for all eligible races that the Committee will consider is:

- Points assigned for best performance in unrestricted black type stakes
- Graded Stakes winners in the field

- Official charts from last four renewals of the race
- Division, purse and number of starters

### **Point System**

Following is the point system that will be utilized by the Committee:

Six (6) Points: Grade 1 Stakes winner

Four (4) Points: Grade 2 Stakes winner or second in Grade 1

Three (3) Points: Grade 3 Stakes winner or second in Grade 2 or third in Grade 1

Two (2) Points: Second in Grade 3 or third in Grade 2

One (1) Point: Third in Grade 3