

As of 7 September 2022, the carded numbers will be the same as the barrier draw of the horse for all races in Cape Town!

FAQs

Why is this change being made?

This new system will make it easier for all racing fans to follow their selections from the jump. The horse carded as number 1 will jump from draw number 1, horse 2 from draw 2, and so on. No more having to look at your race card every time to check different horse and draw numbers!

What is the difference between a horse's carded number and a horse's draw?

A horse's **'carded number'** is the number as it appears in the race / card. This used to be determined alphabetically, by weight or by merit rating.

The **'draw'** is the starting stall or barrier number where the horses jump from at the beginning of a race. Number 1 is closest to the rail. The draw is done randomly once race entries have been finalised.

Previously, a horse's carded number and draw number were different. Now, both numbers will be the same, greatly simplifying spotting your horse from the start!

Will this new system affect my horse's chances?

The draw is still done as it has always been, using a random number generator. The only difference is that the draw number will now determine the card number.



What happens in the event of a scratching?

Reserve runners will no longer be allocated a barrier draw, but should there be a scratching, the reserve will automatically take up the barrier position of the scratched horse it replaces. This will further be indicated by the coloured saddle cloth number shown above the horse's starting gate.

E.g. If number 4 gets scratched, 13, which is the reserve runner will take its place and number 13 will be shown above stall 4.

Where else in the world is this system used?

Carded draws are currently used throughout the USA, South America and KZN.



How will this change affect form studying?

Form studying will be easier as you will now be able to 'see' the draw when looking at the card. Draw and horse number are the same!



Will I be able to identify my horse easily?

While it may be something seasoned racegoers are not used to, it will quickly simplify identifying your horse, as numbers on the saddle cloths will align with the barrier position and the grooms' bibs. In no time, everyone will easily be able to track their horse from parade ring, to race start, to finish line!

