



QLD Grading Policy

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The QLD Grading Policy aims to:
- a) Create a fair, equitable and transparent system for participants to compete that ensures greyhounds with the most appropriate form secure starts and are grouped with greyhounds of like ability; and
 - b) Ensure the viability of the Industry by promoting the highest standard of racing possible that maximizes the racing career of greyhounds in QLD.

2. Scope

- 2.1 This Policy is applicable to the grading of all Category A (Metropolitan), Category B (TAB) and Category C (TAB or Non-TAB) race meetings conducted at QLD racetracks.
- 2.2 The Policy is applicable at the closing time of nominations for an Event or series of Events or a qualifying trial.
- 2.3 In accordance with clause 8, Albion Park Monday, Ipswich Tuesday, Albion Park Wednesday, Albion Park Thursday, Ipswich Friday, Ipswich Saturday and Albion Park Sunday are to be considered different tracks for the purpose of this policy. Meetings held at Rockhampton, Townsville, Bundaberg, Cairns and Capalaba will be considered the same track no matter the day of the meeting.
- 2.4 For grading purposes only, the following TAB meetings will be graded in variance to the day of meeting policy for equality purposes.

Ipswich Thursday Special meetings – greyhounds will be graded and drawn in line with Ipswich Friday Category B criteria.

Albion Park Friday Special meetings – greyhounds will be graded and drawn in line with Albion Park Wednesday Category B criteria.

Ipswich Monday Special meetings- greyhounds will be graded and drawn in line with Ipswich Tuesday Category B criteria.

3. Eligibility for Events

- 3.1 The eligibility of a greyhound to compete in an Event shall be determined in accordance with the following hierarchy of events:
- a) A greyhound shall be deemed to be eligible for a Maiden Event if the greyhound at the time of starting, has never won an Event.

- b) Upon winning a Maiden Event a greyhound will be classified as a 5th Grade greyhound at all tracks and distances.

Category C

- c)
 - i. Upon winning two (2) Grade 5 Events at a particular track and distance, that greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular track and distance; or
 - ii. Upon winning one (1) Event at an Category A meeting in a particular distance category, that greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound when it competes in an Event at a Category C meeting in that particular distance category unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance;
 - iii. Upon winning two (2) Events at a Category A meeting in a particular distance category, that greyhound will be classified as a 3rd Grade greyhound when it competes in an Event at a Category C meeting in that particular distance category unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance;
- d) Upon winning one (1) Grade 4 Event at a particular track, distance and category of meeting, that greyhound will be classified as a 3rd Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular category of meeting, track and distance.
- e) Upon winning one (1) Grade 3 Event at a particular track, distance and category of meeting, that greyhound will be classified as a 2nd Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular category of meeting, track and distance.
- f) Upon winning one (1) Grade 2 Event at a particular track, distance and category of meeting, that greyhound will be classified as a 1st Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular category of meeting, track and distance.

Category B

- g)
 - i. Upon winning two (2) Grade 5 Events at a particular track and distance, that greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular track and distance; or
 - ii. Upon winning two (2) Events at a Category A meeting in a particular distance category, that greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound when it competes in an Event at a Category B meeting in that particular distance category unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance;
- h) Upon winning one (1) Grade 4 Event at a particular track, distance and category of meeting, that greyhound will be classified as a 3rd Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular category of meeting, track and distance.

- i) Upon winning one (1) Grade 3 Event at a particular track, distance and category of meeting, that greyhound will be classified as a 2nd Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular category of meeting, track and distance.
- j) Upon winning one (1) Grade 2 Event at a particular track, distance and category of meeting, that greyhound will be classified as a 1st Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Event at that particular category of meeting, track and distance.

Category A

- k) Upon winning two (2) Grade 5 Events at an Albion Park Thursday meeting that greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Albion Park Thursday Event at that distance.
 - l) Upon winning one (1) Grade 4 Event at an Albion Park Thursday meeting that greyhound will be classified as a 3rd Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Albion Park Thursday Event at that distance.
 - m) Upon winning one (1) Grade 3 Event at an Albion Park Thursday meeting that greyhound will be classified as a 2nd Grade greyhound when it next competes in an Albion Park Thursday Event at that distance.
 - n) Upon winning one (1) Grade 2 Event at an Albion Park Thursday meeting that greyhound will be classified as a 1st Grade greyhound when it next competes in a Albion Park Thursday Event at that distance.
- 3.2 Where a Maiden Event is conducted by way of heats, semi-finals and a final or heats and a final at a particular track, a greyhound that wins a heat and/or semi-final and/or the final shall at the conclusion of the series be deemed to have won one (1) Event for the purposes of determining the greyhound's grade under this Policy.
- 3.3 Where a greyhound is adjudged to have dead-heated for first place, the greyhound shall be deemed to have won the Event.
- 3.4 In order to be eligible to compete in an Event other than a Maiden or Age Restricted Event at an Albion Park Thursday meeting, a greyhound must have won a Maiden Event and one (1) other Event over a distance of at least 400m unless the conditions of the Event state otherwise.
- 3.5 In order to be eligible to compete in an Event below Grade 4 at a Category B Albion Park meeting, the Category A Albion Park Thursday grade of a particular greyhound shall be no higher than or equal to Grade 3.
- 3.6 Where a greyhound is nominated for an event at a Category C meeting that greyhound cannot be classified at a grade lower than its actual grade at a Category B meeting at the same track and distance.

4. Mixing of Grades

- 4.1 RQL, upon application being made to it in writing, may grant permission to a Club to conduct an Event the conditions of which differ from this Policy, and such Event shall be known as a Special Event. A club must apply to RQL in order for a Group Race to be treated as a Special Event under this Policy. RQL age restricted, non-penalty events will be catered for under this clause.
- 4.2 Group Races may consist of greyhounds of any grade subject to the eligibility requirements of the particular Group Event.
- 4.3 A greyhound is eligible for a Free For All Event if the greyhound is eligible for a Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3 or Grade 4 Event, however a Grade 4 greyhound shall not be eligible for a Free For All Event if it has not won a minimum of five (5) Events including a minimum of two (2) Events in the Category of Race Meeting in which the Free For All Event is to be conducted.
- 4.4 The following Mixed Grade Events may be conducted with at least two (2) eligible greyhounds in the lower grade and at least one (1) eligible greyhound in the higher grade:-
- i) 3rd / 4th Grade
 - a) A Grade 4 greyhound shall not be eligible for a 3rd / 4th Mixed Grade Event if it has not won a minimum of four (4) Events including a minimum of two (2) Events in the Category of Race Meeting in which the Event is to be conducted or a higher Category of Race Meeting.
 - ii) 4th / 5th Grade
 - a) A Grade 5 greyhound shall not be eligible for a 4/5th Mixed Grade Event if it has not won a minimum of two (2) Events.
 - b) Notwithstanding Part (a) of this clause, a greyhound having won one (1) event shall be exempted from the provisions of this clause when nominating for an advertised feature Mixed Grade Event.
- 4.5 Where a greyhound wins an Event consisting of multiple grades, that win shall be classified as a win in the lowest grade for which the greyhound was eligible to compete at that track, distance and category of meeting.

5. Re-Grade

5.1 After winning a Maiden Event at any track, a greyhound having its first start at a particular day of meeting, distance and category of meeting shall be eligible to contest a 5th Grade Event at that particular track, distance and category of meeting except in the following circumstances:-

5.1.1 *Category A meetings*

- a) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of up to 564m, and that greyhound has won two (2) Events at a Category A meeting at a track other than Albion Park and at distances up to 564m, the greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1.
- b) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of 565m or above, and that greyhound has won two (2) Events at a Category A meeting at a track other than Albion Park and at distances of 565m or above, the greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1

5.1.2 *Category B meetings*

- a) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of up to 564m, and that greyhound has won two (2) Events at a Category A meeting, or a total of ten (10) Events at either a Category A or Category B meeting at distances up to 564m, the greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1.
- b) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of 565m or above, and that greyhound has won two (2) Events at a Category A meeting or a total of ten (10) Events at either a Category A or Category B meeting at distances of 565m or above, the greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1.

5.1.3 *Category C meetings*

- a) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of up to 564m, and that greyhound has won two (2) Events at a Category A meeting or a total of ten (10) Events at either a Category A or Category B meeting at distances up to 564m, the greyhound will be classified as a 3rd Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1.
- b) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of 565m or above, and that greyhound has won two (2) Events at a Category A meeting or a total of ten (10)

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Events at either a Category A or Category B meeting at distances of 565m or above, the greyhound will be classified as a 3rd Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1.

- c) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of up to 564m, and that greyhound has won one (1) Event at a Category A meeting or a total of six (6) Events at either a Category B or Category C meeting at distances up to 564m, the greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1.
- d) Where a greyhound is nominated for an Event at a distance of 565m or above, and that greyhound has won one (1) Event at a Category A meeting or a total of six (6) Events at a Category B or Category C meeting at distances of 565m or above, the greyhound will be classified as a 4th Grade greyhound unless it is already a higher Grade at that particular track and distance. Thereafter, it will progress up and down the Grades in accordance with clauses 3.1 and 6.1.

6. Drop-Back Rule

- 6.1 Where a Grade 4 greyhound or higher, is unplaced at the same category of meeting, at the same particular track and distance in two (2) Events after its last win at that particular category of meeting, track and distance, or after being graded in accordance with clause 5.1 that greyhound shall be lowered one (1) grade when it next competes in an Event at that particular track, distance and category of meeting.

7. Grading Guidelines

- 7.1 The following is the order of entry that the Grader shall use for the inclusion of greyhounds in fields for graded Events :
- i) Last start winners at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination;
 - ii) Last start placegetters at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination;
 - iii) Greyhounds that were reserves at the previous meeting at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination that had not gained a start at that meeting;
 - iv) Last start winners at a Category B race meeting when nominating at an alternative Category B race meeting or at a different distance at the track of nomination;
 - v) Last start winners at a Category C race meeting when nominating at an alternative Category C race meeting or at a different distance at the track of nomination;
 - vi) Greyhounds dropping in grade at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination;
 - vii) Greyhounds with the best race form amongst the remainder as determined by the Grader. For the purposes of Category A, Category B and Category C race meetings, the Grader shall determine best race form using the Weighted Points Score Table. (See Appendix A)
- 7.2 For the purposes of Category A, Category B and Category C race meetings, once the Order of Entry has determined the pool of greyhounds to be drawn, the 'top-down' grading principle will be applied in the following order:
- i) Greyhounds graded 1st grade will be drawn to race ahead of 2nd grade, 2nd grade ahead of 3rd grade, 3rd grade ahead of 4th grade, 4th grade ahead of 5th grade, and 5th grade ahead of maiden greyhounds;
 - ii) Greyhounds of the same grade shall be drawn in the following order:
 - a) Greyhounds with the highest number of meeting category wins in the distance category;
 - b) Greyhounds with the highest number of total wins.
 - c) Greyhounds with the highest number of points under the Weighted Points Score Table (See Appendix A);
 - iii) For the purposes of 7.2(ii)(a), there are two distance categories:
 - a) Sprint: all distances up to and including 564m
 - b) Distance: 565m and longer
- 7.3 The Order of Entry shall not apply when grading Special Events, Events conducted by way of heats and final or Events open to the 'Best' greyhounds nominated as determined by the Grader. For the purposes of such Events at a Category A, Category B or Category C race meeting, unless the conditions of the Event determined by the Race Club state otherwise, greyhounds shall be drawn in the following manner:

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- i) Greyhounds graded 1st grade will be drawn to race ahead of 2nd grade, 2nd grade ahead of 3rd grade, 3rd grade ahead of 4th grade, 4th grade ahead of 5th grade, and 5th grade ahead of maiden greyhounds;
- ii) The Weighted Points Score Table (See Appendix A) will determine the order of entry for greyhounds of the same grade;
- iii) Greyhounds of equal grade and Point Score will be drawn at random.

7.4 An eligible greyhound may be drawn in any programmed Special Event, Heats or Race Series to be staged at the meeting for which it has been nominated unless the nominator states NO to special event at the time of nomination.

7.5 The following is the order of entry that the Grader shall use for the inclusion of greyhounds in fields for Maiden Events conducted at Category A, Category B or Category C race meetings:

- i) Last start placegetters at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination;
- ii) Greyhounds that were reserves at the previous meeting at the category of meeting, track and distance of nomination that had not gained a start at that meeting;
- iii) Greyhounds placed in two (2) of their last three (3) race starts;
- iv) Greyhounds placed in one (1) of their last three (3) race starts;
- v) All greyhounds having their First start
- vi) Greyhounds unplaced after having one (1) race start;
- vii) Greyhounds unplaced as determined by the Weighted Point Score Table.

7.6 i) Guarding implies that greyhounds owned and/or trained by the same person will be separated into different divisions of an Event whenever and wherever possible. Guarding will be applied as follows:-

- a) in all maiden Events; and
 - b) in all Events consisting of heats and/or semi-finals
 - c) in all Grade 5 Events containing greyhounds that have all won four (4) Events or less
- ii) Race fields for Grade 4 Events and higher, as well as race fields for Grade 5 Events with greyhounds that have won five (5) Events or more, will not be guarded.

8. Categories of Race Meetings

For the purposes of this Grading Policy, race meetings conducted at greyhound racing tracks throughout Australasia are categorised as follows:

8.1 Category A Race Meetings

Wentworth Park Saturday (NSW)	Saturday night meetings only
Wentworth Park Monday (NSW)	Monday night meetings only
Wentworth Park Friday (NSW)	Friday night meetings only
Meadows (VIC)	Saturday night meetings only
Sandown (VIC)	Thursday night meetings only
Albion Park (QLD)	Thursday night meetings only
Cannington (WA)	Saturday night meetings only

Note that all Group races as set out in the Australian Greyhound Racing Association Group Race Calendar conducted interstate will be classified as Category A Events regardless of the classification of the track at which the Group race is held for the purposes of determining a greyhound's grade under this Policy.

8.2 Category B Race Meetings

Bathurst (NSW) – TAB Meetings
 Bulli (NSW) - TAB Meetings
 Casino (NSW) - TAB Meetings
 Dapto (NSW) - TAB Meetings
 Gosford (NSW) - TAB Meetings
 Lismore (NSW) - TAB Meetings
 Maitland (NSW) - TAB Meetings
 Nowra (NSW) - TAB Meetings
 Richmond (NSW) - TAB Meetings
 The Gardens (NSW) - TAB Meetings

Ballarat (VIC)
 Bendigo (VIC)
 Cranbourne (VIC)
 Geelong (VIC)
 Horsham (VIC)
 Meadows (VIC) – All meetings except Saturday night
 Sale (VIC)
 Sandown (VIC) – All meetings except Thursday night
 Shepparton (VIC)
 Traralgon (VIC)
 Wangaratta (VIC)
 Warragul (VIC)
 Warrnambool (VIC)

Albion Park (QLD) – Mondays only
 Albion Park (QLD) – Wednesdays only
 Albion Park Friday (QLD) – Special meetings
 Albion Park (QLD) – Sundays only
 Ipswich Monday - Special Meetings
 Ipswich (QLD) – Tuesdays only
 Ipswich Thursday (QLD) – Special meetings
 Ipswich (QLD) – Fridays only

Angle Park (SA) – Thursday & Mondays only

Gawler (SA) – Thursday & Mondays only

Cannington (WA) – All meetings except Saturday night
Mandurah (WA)

Hobart (TAS) – Thursday & Mondays only
Launceston (TAS) – Thursday & Monday only

Addington (Christchurch) (NZ)
Manukau (Auckland) (NZ)
Waikato (Cambridge) (NZ)
Wanganui (Hatrick) (NZ)
Otago (Dunedin) (NZ)
Invercargill (Ascot Park) (NZ)
Manawatu (Palmerston North) (NZ)

8.3 Category C Race Meetings

Appin (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Armidale (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Bathurst (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Broken Hill (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Bulli (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Casino (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Coonabarabran (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Coonamble (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Cowra (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Dapto (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Dubbo (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Forbes (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Gosford (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Goulburn (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Grafton (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Gunnedah (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Kempsey (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Lismore (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Lithgow (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Maitland (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Moree (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Mudgee (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Muswellbrook (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Nowra (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Potts Park (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Richmond (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Tamworth (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Taree (NSW) TAB C Meetings
The Gardens (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Temora (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Tweed Heads (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Wagga (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Wauchope (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Wentworth Park (NSW) TAB C Meetings
Young (NSW) TAB C Meetings

Canberra (ACT)

Healesville (VIC)

Cairns (QLD)
Townsville (QLD)
Bundaberg (QLD)
Capalaba (QLD)
Rockhampton (QLD)
Ipswich (QLD) – Saturdays only

Angle Park (SA) - All meetings except Thursday and Monday nights
Gawler (SA) - All meetings except Thursday and Monday nights

Northam (WA)

Hobart (TAS) - All meetings except Thursday and Monday nights
Devonport (TAS)
Launceston (TAS) - All meetings except Thursday and Monday nights

Ashburton (NZ)
Taranaki (NZ)
Wairarapa (NZ)
Wellington (NZ)

8.4 Category D Race Meetings

Appin (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Armidale (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Bathurst (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Broken Hill (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Bulli (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Casino (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Coonabarabran (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Coonamble (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Cowra (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Dapto (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Dubbo (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Forbes (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Gosford (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Goulburn (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Grafton (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Gunnedah (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Kempsey (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Lismore (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Lithgow (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Maitland (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Moree (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Mudgee (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Muswellbrook (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Nowra (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Potts Park (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Richmond (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Tamworth (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Taree (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
The Gardens (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Temora (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Tweed Heads (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Wagga (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings

Wauchope (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Wentworth Park (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings
Young (NSW) Non-TAB Meetings

Barmera (SA)
Kulpara (SA)
Mount Gambier (SA)
Port Augusta (SA)
Port Pirie (SA)
Strathalbyn (SA)
Whyalla (SA)

Darwin (NT)

Weighted Points Score & Pro Rata

Weighted Point Score for the purpose of determining order of entry in accordance with clause 7.								
Category	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Category A								
Grade 1	112	96	88	44	40	36	32	28
Grade 2	104	88	80	40	36	32	28	24
Grade 3	96	80	72	36	32	28	24	20
Grade 4	88	72	64	32	28	24	20	16
Grade 5	80	64	56	28	24	20	16	12
Maiden	36	32	28	14	12	10	8	6
Category B								
Grade 1	84	72	66	33	30	27	24	21
Grade 2	78	66	60	30	27	24	21	18
Grade 3	72	60	54	27	24	21	18	15
Grade 4	66	54	48	24	21	18	15	12
Grade 5	60	48	42	21	18	15	12	9
Maiden	36	32	28	14	12	10	8	6
Category C								
Grade 1	70	60	55	28	25	22	19	16
Grade 2	65	55	50	25	22	19	16	14
Grade 3	60	50	45	22	19	16	14	12
Grade 4	55	45	40	19	16	14	12	10
Grade 5	50	40	35	17	14	12	10	8
Maiden	36	32	28	14	12	10	8	6
Category D								
Grade 1	56	48	44	22	20	18	16	14
Grade 2	52	44	40	20	18	16	14	12
Grade 3	48	40	36	18	16	14	12	10
Grade 4	44	36	32	16	14	12	10	8
Grade 5	40	32	28	14	12	10	8	6
Maiden	36	32	28	14	12	10	8	6

Note: Performance Trials will not be conducted at Queensland meetings. Performance trial points will not apply to Queensland meetings.

Pro Rata

Greyhounds that have not yet competed in five (5) starts are allocated points on a pro-rata or an average over five (5) starts with a weighting of 80% applied to the "pro-rata" points. To calculate the points of a greyhound that has not competed in five (5) starts you divide the greyhound's total points by the amount of starts it has competed in, then you multiply the new average by the difference between 5 and the number of actual starts and after applying the **80%** discount weighting add the result to the actual points earned from the greyhound's starts.

Examples for working out the points of greyhounds using this method:

One Start = 36 points $36 / 1 = 36$ $36 \times 4 = 144$ $144 \times 0.8 = 115$ $115 + 36 = 151$ points

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Two Starts = 46 points $46 / 2 = 23$ $23 \times 3 = 69$ $69 \times 0.8 = 55 + 46 = 101$ points

Four Starts = 84 points $84 / 4 = 21$ $21 \times 1 = 21$ $21 \times 0.8 = 16 + 84 = 100$ points