The Kosciuszko Race

Saturday, 17th October 2026

(At Royal Randwick Racecourse)

1. Race Conditions

Distance	1200m
Age	Three years and up
Weight Scale	Set Weights & Penalties (No allowances for apprentices)
Field Limit	14 Starters plus 4 emergencies

2. Prizemoney

Of $2,000,000 and Trophies. First Horse $1,000,000 and Trophies; Second Horse $400,000; Third Horse $200,000 Fourth Horse $100,000 Fifth Horse $60,000 Sixth Horse $40,000 Seventh Horse $25,000; Eighth Horse $25,000; Ninth Horse $25,000; Tenth Horse $25,000; Eleventh Horse $12,500; Twelfth horse $12,500; Thirteenth Horse $12,500; Fourteenth horse $12,500. Equine Welfare Fund Contribution $30,000; Jockey Welfare Fund Contribution $20,000.

3. Eligibility

Open to horses with a NSW benchmark (Metropolitan/Provincial) below 110 and trained in Country NSW or the ACT as at and subsequent to the eligibility date.

Eligibility Date – 18 October 2025

To contest The Kosciusko in 2026, horses must legitimately be under the care of a NSW country trainer with a current stable return lodged on or before midnight 18 October 2025, being the eligibility date. The lodgement date of the stable return will be used in assessing the horse against the eligibility date.

For the avoidance of doubt, horses trained in country regions outside of NSW or the ACT and not in accordance with the definition of a country area in the Racing NSW Local Rules of Racing, are not eligible to compete.

Horses trained by a trainer that is the holder of a metropolitan, provincial or interstate licence are not eligible to compete.

Horses transferred to a NSW country or ACT stable after the eligibility date are not eligible to contest The Kosciuszko.

Horses that are the winner of a Group 1 race run after midnight on 31 December 2024 are ineligible.

Must Remain within Eligible Stable for Twelve Months

Horses contesting the 2026 Kosciuszko must for twelve months after the race, remain under the care of a trainer eligible for the race.

Where a horse is transferred from an eligible stable to a provincial, metropolitan, interstate or international stable within twelve months of the Final, failing to comply with this important race condition, Racing NSW may impose a penalty on the connections including the forfeiture of any prizemoney won contesting the Kosciuszko.

Racing NSW will require that owners undertake to abide by this condition.

Horses may be transferred between trainers eligible to compete in the Kosciuszko, during the twelve-month period following the race.

This provision does not apply to horses retired from racing within a twelve-month period.

Racing NSW may at its absolute discretion provide permission for a horse to transfer to a non-eligible stable within the twelve-month period following the race, on application to Racing NSW.

Minimum of One NSW Race Start

Horses must have had at least one NSW race start for an eligible trainer to be eligible for The Kosciuszko.

Dual Training Locations

Horses trained by a trainer who holds a licence to train at a designated country racing region in NSW and at a provincial, metropolitan, or interstate racecourse are not eligible to contest The Kosciuszko.

A trainer operating from both a NSW Country and ACT location will be deemed as being an ACT trainer.

Location and Training of Horses

While in training, from the eligibility date, the horse must remain located at the trainer's nominated training location and under the care of the nominated trainer. A horse that is spelled during the eligibility period must have a stable return lodged advising the location of the horse. The spelling of a horse will not render the horse ineligible for The Kosciuszko, provided it is immediately returned to the original nominated trainer or other eligible country trainer when returning from the spell and the stable return amended accordingly.

Location of Horse Prior to The Kosciuszko

All horses declared in the final field (including emergencies) may be relocated to a metropolitan or provincial region on or after Monday 12 October 2026. Horses located in the metropolitan area prior to 12 October 2026 and continuously thereafter until the running of The Kosciuszko will require the express written permission of Racing NSW. In the absence of such express written permission, a horse that is found to be located in a metropolitan or provincial region prior to Monday 12 October 2026 becomes ineligible to compete in The Kosciuszko.

Handicapper Rating and Group 1 Winners

Horses with a NSW Metropolitan/Provincial benchmark rating of 110 or more are ineligible to compete.

Horses that are the winner of a Group 1 race after midnight on 31 December 2024 are ineligible.

Maximum of Two ACT Trained Horses

A maximum of two ACT trained horses are able to contest the race. Only the first two ACT trained horses nominated by prize winning slot holders will be included in the field.

In the event that there are simultaneous nominations which would put the number of ACT horses in excess of the two-horse maximum, Racing NSW will have absolute discretion to decide which of simultaneously nominated ACT horses are selected.

Racing NSW the Sole Judge of Eligibility

Racing NSW will be the sole judge to determine eligibility to compete in The Kosciuszko.

4. Set Weight and Penalties Weight Scale

Weights for The Kosciuszko will be a set weights and penalties. Any penalties will be added to the set weight for the horse.

Set Weights

Class	Weight
Open	57.5kg
Class 6	56.5kg
Class 5	56kg
Class 4 or below	55kg

Fillies and mares to carry 2kg less than shown above.

Penalties

The following penalties apply from races run in the period 1 January 2025 to 17 October 2026 inclusive.

Penalty	Description
3.5kg	Group One Race Winner (after 31 December 2024)
2.5kg	Winner of any other Group Race
1.5kg	Listed Race Winner or winner of any race with prizemoney greater than or equal to $200,000 to the Winner
1.0kg	Winner of any race with prizemoney of greater than or equal to $75,000, but less than $200,000 to the Winner
0.5kg	Winner of any race with prizemoney of greater than $50,000 but less than $75,000 to the Winner

Penalties which are not cumulative, are added to the set weight to obtain the weight to be carried.

5. Nomination and Acceptance

The fourteen (14) prize winners (Slot Holders) of The Kosciuszko Sweep Promotion competition are entitled to enter a horse in the race.

Final Declarations are made by the Slot Holders or their nominated representatives, based on an acknowledged agreement between parties as appropriate.

FINAL DECLARATIONS – Close by 9am on Wednesday, 14th October 2026.

6. Declaration of Emergencies and Scratchings

Up to four emergency runners may be declared for The Kosciuszko. The selection of emergencies will be by Racing NSW taking account of, but not solely on the benchmark of eligible horses.

Emergencies will be listed in benchmark order.

If Slot Licensee's horse is scratched before 7.30am on the day of The Kosciuszko:

- with a certified veterinary certificate approved by Racing NSW and confirmed by Racing NSW's industry veterinarian, as determined by Racing NSW in its absolute discretion, then the Slot Holder will be permitted to select one of the available emergency horses to run in The Kosciuszko on the terms and conditions set out in *Schedule A – Terms and conditions in respect of Scratchings and Substitution of Emergency Horse(s)*. If there is no emergency horse available, the Slot Licensee will receive last place prizemoney;
- without a veterinary certificate approved by Racing NSW and confirmed by Racing NSW's industry veterinarian, as determined by Racing NSW in its absolute discretion, then the Slot Holder will not be entitled to a runner in The Kosciuszko and the Slot Holder will forfeit the right to any prizemoney.

If Slot Holder's horse is scratched after 7.30am on the day of the The Kosciuszko:

- with a certified veterinary certificate approved by Racing NSW and confirmed by Racing NSW's industry veterinarian or as ordered by the Racing NSW stewards, or otherwise as determined by Racing NSW in its absolute discretion, then the Slot Holder will not be entitled to a runner in The Kosciuszko and will receive last place prizemoney;
- without a veterinary certificate approved by Racing NSW and confirmed by Racing NSW's industry veterinarian, or as ordered by the Racing NSW stewards, or otherwise as determined by Racing NSW in its absolute discretion, then the Slot Holder will not be entitled to a runner in The Kosciuszko and the Slot Holder will forfeit the right to any prizemoney.

If Racing NSW receives a Racing NSW veterinary report after Final Declarations time and before 7.30am on the day of The Kosciuszko that a particular horse is not, or cannot reasonably be expected to be, fit to compete in The Kosciuszko then Racing NSW under the Rules of Racing may scratch the horse and the provisions above will then apply as if the horse was scratched with a certified veterinary certificate approved by Racing NSW.

Where an emergency runner obtains a run in The Kosciuszko, prizemoney will be determined in accordance with *Schedule A – Terms and conditions in respect of Scratchings and Substitution of Emergency Horse(s)*.

7. Slot Holdings and Division of Prizemoney

7.1 The draw for the fourteen (14) prize winners (Slot Holders) of The Kosciuszko Sweep Promotion competition will be on Wednesday 9 September 2026, or other date as advised by Racing NSW.

7.2 Arrangements for the division of prizemoney between Slot Holders and the owner(s) of horses for The Kosciuszko must provide that the Slot Holders receive a minimum of 40% of the prizemoney, with a maximum of 60% being payable to the owner(s).

8. General Matters

8.1 The Kosciuszko will be conducted under the Rules of Racing, being the Australian Rules of Racing and Racing NSW's Local Rules of Racing, a copy of which is available from Racing NSW's website.

8.2 Racing NSW may at its absolute discretion reject the declaration by a Slot Holder of a horse that is not regarded as being of sufficient standing or quality to contest The Kosciuszko and horses with a country Benchmark of 65 and below are ineligible.

8.3 The Kosciuszko is scheduled to be run on Saturday 17 October 2026 at Royal Randwick Racecourse, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. However, Racing NSW may, in its absolute discretion, run The Kosciuszko at any Sydney metropolitan racecourse at another time, including if there is a force majeure event.

8.4 Racing NSW may refuse the nomination and/or acceptance of any horse in The Kosciuszko for any reason permissible under the Rules of Racing. Further, in the event that the nomination and/or acceptance of a horse in The Kosciuszko is refused, or the horse is scratched or disqualified under the Rules of Racing, then the Rules of Racing apply in respect of any prizemoney.

8.5 Nominations for The Kosciuszko shall only be received on condition that the Australian Rules of Racing and Racing NSW's Local Rules of Racing now or hereafter in force shall be binding in all respects and subject to any other conditions imposed by Racing NSW.

8.6 Racing NSW reserves the right to make from time to time any alteration or modification to the conditions governing The Kosciuszko, including but not limited to the date and time for receiving final declarations. The right to alter the conditions of the race is at the absolute discretion of Racing NSW.

Racing NSW reserves the right to cancel the race, at its absolute discretion.

Schedule A – Terms and conditions in respect of Scratchings and Substitution of Emergency Horse(s)

In the event that an emergency horse is selected to run in The Kosciuszko in place of a horse scratched pursuant to these race conditions, then the following terms and conditions are agreed between the Slot Holder and the owner(s) of the emergency horse:

1. The owner(s) and trainer of the emergency horse retain all rights and responsibilities under the Rules of Racing.
2. The emergency horse is to run from the scratched horse's barrier.
3. The prizemoney is to be paid as follows (including Local Rule 72 allocations):

Finishing position	Total per Finishing Positions	Slot Holder	Emergency Horse Owner	Trainer	Jockey	Stablehand
1st	$1,000,000	$415,000	$415,000	$100,000	$50,000	$20,000
2nd	$400,000	$166,000	$166,000	$40,000	$20,000	$8,000
3rd	$200,000	$83,000	$83,000	$20,000	$10,000	$4,000
4th	$100,000	$41,500	$41,500	$10,000	$5,000	$2,000
5th	$60,000	$24,900	$24,900	$6,000	$3,000	$1,200
6th	$40,000	$16,600	$16,600	$4,000	$2,000	$800
7th–10th	$25,000	$10,375	$10,375	$2,500	$1,250	$500
11th–14th	$12,500	$5,188	$5,188	$1,250	$625	$250

Equine Welfare Fund: $30,000

Jockeys Welfare Fund: $20,000

Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

For further information, contact:

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