

WTBOA CATALOGING STANDARDS

WTBOA catalogs are compiled using a combination of “stakes” and “black-type” standards.

Black-type Race or Stakes

The expression “black-type” is the equivalent, in sales catalogs and sales terminology, of the more commonly used word “stakes.” A stakes race will not always merit “black-type” in a sale catalog.

There are several different classes of black-type races. A black-type race must, by definition, close for entries at least 72 hours before it is run. Fees must also be paid towards the purse by owners and/or additional (added) money contributed by or through the host racetrack. In addition, a stakes race must have a total purse value distributed on the day of the race of \$50,000 or more. In the more liberal “stakes” definition the amount of purse is not a factor

A horse’s name, when it is a winner or has placed in a black-type race, is indicated in bold (hence “black”) type. A horse that has won at least one black-type race is given upper case (capital) letters. Horses which have never won a black-type race, but who have run second or third in such a race, are listed in lower case letters.

In addition, further symbols or designators associated with the black-type will indicate the quality or level of the race in question.

Graded or Group Black-type Races

All around the world, the “graded” or “group” race is recognized as being the highest quality. Graded or Group races are non-restricted (age and sex qualifications are not considered restrictions) and have a minimum added value of \$75,000. They are divided into three Grades or Groups, 1, 2 or 3, with the best races being Grade or Group 1. Graded and Group races are identified in pedigrees by the name of the race, followed by the designator [G] and 1, 2 or 3.

Beginning 1990, a 4th place finish in a Grade or Group race no longer qualified a horse for black-type in a pedigree.

Listed Black-type Races [L]

Marginally below the quality of Graded or Group races, Listed [L] races must also have a minimum purse value of \$75,000. For other considerations, they do not qualify as Graded or Group races. A listed race is named in the pedigree with the designator [L] and in parentheses, an abbreviation of the host track and the purse earned by the horse in that race.

Restricted Black-type Races [R]

Because restricted races are often framed to exclude better horses, they are usually regarded as of lesser quality than graded or listed races. A restricted race is named in the pedigree with the designator [R] and, in parentheses, by an abbreviation of the host track and the purse earned by the horse in that race.

Black-type races whose conditions are designed to let the best horses start by invitation, by highest handicap ranking or earnings – are NOT restricted races.

Other Races Identified in Catalog

There are some “black-type” or stakes races which are not restricted, but do not have sufficient “added” money to qualify as listed races. These races are identified by name and carry a [N] designator. The name of the race is followed, in parentheses, by an abbreviation of the host track and the purse earned by the horse in that race.

Further Note

In 1985, several other stakes qualified for black-type or for inclusion in pedigrees. Subsequent changes have replaced or eliminated these races, but they will remain in pedigrees until they are excluded by more current data. Such races carry designators [O] and [Q].