Countries appearing in the “International Cataloguing Standards and International Statistics” book are divided into Part I, Part II and Part III. Black-type eligibility for individual countries is determined by its placement following the guidelines below:

**Part I** countries will receive black-type status and any race designators including grade/group indicators that are applicable.

**Part II** countries receive black-type status, but will not be eligible to carry any designators such as grade/group indicators that are assigned to any race.

**Part III** countries have races listed for informational purposes only, and do not receive any black-type status.

First, second and third place finishes in black-type (stakes) races will qualify a horse for bold (black) type in a catalog. Black-type winners are listed in bold-faced capital letters. A black-type-placed horse is listed in bold-faced mixed case.

**North American Black-Type (stakes) Races**

1. North American Black-type (stakes) races are those which:
   a). close 72 hours in advance of its running
   b). have a fee paid by the owner of the entry
   c). have a minimum purse value as designated by the ICSC.

Until 1985, there was no minimum purse value; beginning January 1, 1985, the minimum purse value for black-type races was established at $15,000 added (if the race was divided, each division must guarantee at least $15,000 added). A portion of this purse may be made up of the value of a stallion season as determined by the Breeders’ Cup eligibility fee for such stallion the preceding season. Starting in 1986, the track abbreviation where the race was run and the amount of money earned by the individual is carried in parentheses following the race name. Beginning January 1, 1989, the minimum purse value for black-type races increased to $20,000-added. The purse value for black-type races beginning January 1, 1990, was increased to $25,000-added or $35,000-guaranteed, and starting January 1, 1994, a black-type race must have a total purse value distributed on the day of the race of $25,000 or more. Beginning January 1, 2002, the minimum purse value distributed on race day must be $30,000 and the following types of races are no longer awarded black-type status: (1) stakes restricted to maidens, (2) stakes that limit eligibility to horses that have started for a claiming price, (3) stakes for horses entered to be claimed, (4) stakes that carry an optional claiming condition. The minimum purse value distributed on race day beginning January 1, 2003, must be $35,000 and the only restrictions allowed for black-type status are those races restricted to state-bred runners, non-winners of a sweepstakes, sales graduates and stallions’ progeny. Beginning January 1, 2004, the minimum purse value distributed on the day of the race must be $40,000. Beginning January 1, 2006, all entrants in a race must be eligible for the purse monies used to determine the purse value for black-type races. Effective January 1, 2007, the minimum purse value distributed on the day of the race must be $45,000 and races that contain a preference clause(s) based on criteria unrelated to the quality of the horse will not be awarded black-type if such preferences clause(s) could possibly exclude any horse(s) of superior quality from competing. The minimum purse value distributed the day of the race increased to $50,000 beginning January 1, 2008. Effective January 1, 2014, a race must have a purse value of $50,000 available for distribution on the day of the race and have a Black-Type Race Quality Score (RQS) equal to or above the established minimum Race Quality Score for its age/sex division. New races with a minimum purse of $75,000 available to all entries may be submitted to North American ICSC for review to determine if the inaugural running will receive black-type status. A list of stakes races and their non-Listed black-type status by year starting with 2014 is available at www.northamericanicsc.com.

**Graded Races**

Graded races in North America are classified by the American Graded Stakes Committee of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (TOBA) for races in the United States of America, and The Jockey Club of Canada’s Graded Stakes Committee for races in Canada. A Graded race is a non-restricted race which has been run at least twice under similar conditions, on the same surface and has been assigned graded stakes status for the year contested. Effective January 1, 2014, the minimum purse values for the American Graded Stakes Committee are:

- Grade 1, $300,000
- Grade 2, $200,000
- Grade 3, $100,000

and the minimum purse values for The Jockey Club of Canada’s Graded Stakes Committee are:

- Grade 1, $250,000 (CAN)
- Grade 2, 150,000 (CAN)
- Grade 3, $100,000 (CAN)

Graded race (group) designators (-G1, -G2, -G3) were inaugurated in 1971 and were applied to English, French, Irish, German and Italian races, but not applied to North American catalog pages until 1973. These same designators were inaugurated in 1973 for the United States and Canada. Beginning January 1, 1985, brackets [ ] replaced the dash preceding the designators. At this time, the designators could also be listed after a horse’s name, indicating its best finish, if there was no room on a catalog page to list a complete race name. Starting January 1, 2002, the track abbreviation where the race was run and the amount of money earned by the individual is carried in parentheses following the grade designators.
As stated above, the first three finishers in a race will receive black-type status, but beginning with races run January 1, 1985, fourth place finishes in graded races run in countries listed in Part 1 of the “International Cataloguing Standards” will be recognized as official placings and those horses will also earn black-type. This ruling was amended starting January 1, 1989, to award fourth placed finishers black-type status in Grade 1 races only. A subsequent ruling beginning January 1, 1990, no longer awards fourth place finishers any black-type status.

Listed Race

From 1983 through 2001, listed races in North America are those with an added money value of $50,000 or more, which have not yet received graded status. These races will receive the designator -L (or -LR if restricted) prior to 1985. For the year 1985, the designators were changed to [L] or [LR]. Beginning January 1, 1991, an “L” race may not be restricted. The minimum added money value to qualify as a listed race, beginning January 1, 2002 was changed to $75,000. Effective January 1, 2013, Listed status is assigned by the American Graded Stakes Committee of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association (TOBA) for races in the United States, and by the Jockey Club of Canada’s Graded Stakes Committee for races in Canada.

Restricted Races

Restricted races in North America are those which are restricted to certain runners as defined within the conditions of the race. These conditions tend to exclude runners of greater quality for consideration other than sex or age. These races receive the designator -R. Beginning January 1, 2002, the following types of restricted races are no longer awarded black-type status: (1) stakes restricted to maidens, (2) stakes that limit eligibility to horses that have started for a claiming price, (3) stakes for horses entered to be claimed, (4) stakes that carry an optional claiming condition. Beginning January 1, 2003, the only restrictions allowed for black-type status are those races restricted to state-bred runners, non-winners of a sweepstakes, sales graduates and stallions’ progeny. Beginning January 1, 2006, races that contain preference clauses based on criteria other than the quality of the horse in the race shall be considered restricted races and as of January 1, 2007, these races will no longer be allowed black-type.

Other Added Money Black-type Races

Other added money or black-type races received an [O] or [OR] designator for 1985 only.

[Q] Races

[Q] races are unrestricted allowance and handicap races with a purse value of $30,000 or more. These races received black-type status in 1985 only.

Hurdle or Jump Races

Hurdle and jump races were included in Parts I, II and III of the “International Cataloguing Standards” book and qualified for black-type status dependent upon their placement until January 1, 1986. Beginning with this date, these races were placed in Part IV of the publication and lost their black-type status for catalogs produced using ICSC guidelines in North America. Horses, which won or placed in a hurdle or jump race since January 1, 1986 are now identified by their names being carried in italic mixed case.