

## Restricted vs. Non-Restricted Races

### Races that are NOT restricted

1. Races that split by breed. Paint only, Appaloosa only, QH only, QH & TB, Paint & Appaloosa are all examples of races that are NOT considered restricted.
2. Races that split by gender (F, C/G, F/M, H/G) EXCEPT for gelding only races. Non-restricted races are open to either males only, females only, or both. When you introduce the stipulation that any males entering must be castrated, you introduce a restriction. Gelding only races are almost NEVER carded in real life and the real life racing associations consider them to be restricted if/when they are. This is one of those areas where Express bends the realism rules a bit in order to encourage a more realistic balance of stallions to geldings.
3. Races that split by age. Races for 2yo only, 3yo only, 5 & under, 4/up are not considered to be restricted.
4. Races that set a minimum level of accomplishment to be eligible to enter. Examples would be races carded for horses that have won at least X amount of money, horses that are SpWs or better, horses with lifemarks of 1:59 or better, horses with a SI of 85 or better, etc. The horse must meet the minimum requirement(s), but has no limit on how far it may exceed that requirement.

### Restricted Races

1. Races for geldings only.
2. Races that set a cap on the maximum level of accomplishment of the entrants. Examples would be races for horses that have never won a stakes races, horses that have not won more than X number of races, horses that have not won since a particular date, horses that have not run better than SI 85, etc. There is no minimum requirement for the entrants, but they cannot exceed the stated limit(s).
3. Races that would exclude a horse because of its parentage. Limiting entrants to horses sired by nominated stallions, or to horses sired by stallions registered with a particular organization, or to horses whose sires were of a particular breed (Ex. "Only Appaloosas sired by an Appaloosa may enter" or "Entry limited to QHs sired by TBs".) make the race restricted. Therefore, by extension for Express purposes, limiting entries to those horses that do not have real parents or only one real parent makes the race restricted.
4. Races that would exclude a horse because of the place it was foaled or bred. Examples are races open only to horses bred in Texas, or only horses bred in the Northeast Region, or only horses foaled in Michigan.
5. Races that limit entrants to only those horses sold through a particular sale or by particular farms.
6. Races that require that any entrants must be a particular color. (Yes, there really is such a race in real life.)

### *Note on Conditioned Races for Standardbreds...*

Other than the Claiming Race, the staple race for Standardbreds is the Conditioned Race. A Conditioned Race is carded with very specific requirements that the entrants must meet. Some examples of this are "Non-winners of 2 races in last 6 starts", "Non-winners of \$7500 in last 3 starts", "Non-winners of 3 races or \$5000 lifetime", etc. Conditioned Races are automatically considered to be restricted by their conditions. You never see a Conditioned Race carded without any conditions. Therefore, to my knowledge, you will never see a "Restricted Conditioned Race".