

Frequently Asked Questions About 2024 NHC Format Changes

Question: Why change the mix of mandatory and optional plays required on Friday and Saturday at the NHC?

Answer: *In most years, Saturday has proven to offer better and more competitive racing than what is offered on Friday. At the suggestion of horseplayers, we are tweaking the number of races required to be played on each day. The win/place format remains unchanged and the total number of required plays over the first two days of the contest (36 races) remains unchanged. We can always return to the old way of doing things if participants don't like these changes, but we're hopeful that the changes will be viewed as an improvement. In looking at the big picture, it is only a shift of 11% of the total NHC bankroll from Friday to Saturday, and traditionally Saturday racing offers much more competitive fields and quality of races as we would all agree. What will be interesting will be to see how it affects the "cut" total or what we call the money line. Theoretically, more players will have a chance to make up ground on Saturday – and making the NHC more competitive is always a plus, in our view.*

Question: Why add partial cards from Turfway Park to the contest menu on Friday and Saturday?

Answer: *We are striving to present the best racing available throughout the competition (Turfway does not race on Sunday, March 17). The racing at Turfway Park is markedly improved from almost every metric in the last few years, whether it be quality of the racing, field size, or other factors. The number of races offered will be limited due to the time changes and racing dates, but we view the addition of racing from Turfway as being positive in terms of the overall quality of racing offered to NHC participants. In addition, adding an eastern track with a synthetic surface makes Golden Gate Fields less of an anomaly. And, it's always a good hedge in terms of weather and track conditions.*

Question: Why can't people at the NHC play in both the new Silver Sunday Contest added on day three and the online contest offered to participants who aren't in attendance at the NHC?

Answer: *The Silver Sunday Contest is an entirely new contest added to the NHC. Our goal is to reward NHC participants with participation in a free-to-play contest that offers a lucrative purse while also keeping them engaged during Sunday's Semi-Final and Final Table rounds. We are hopeful that the format change will result in additional excitement and energy in the Event Center on Sunday. In addition to five berths to the 2025 NHC, the Silver Sunday Contest will offer onsite NHC Tour Points. The Silver Sunday Contest – celebrating our 25th Anniversary NHC ---- will make the NHC a truly three-day event for all participants, once again raising the reward for qualifying to the NHC and increasing the value to all Tour players in the years to come.*

The online version, what we are calling the "First Five Online Contest" is a free-to-play event EXCLUSIVELY for non-NHC participants and will offer five berths to the 2025 NHC and online Tour Points. This way five players who did NOT qualify this year will be guaranteed to punch their ticket to Las

Vegas very early in the NHC Tour season. In the future, we hope to continue to grow the NHC total purse, the Silver Sunday Contest and the accompanying on-line First Five Online Contest, so each year as we celebrate our new Champion, we launch the Tour with a big bang. The growth of the NHC will not come from more participants in the NHC in Las Vegas, it will come from the growth of the overall NHC Tour, and these are new steps to stimulate continued growth. There will still be an additional 15 NHC berths awarded during the year in other Free-To-Play Contests.

Question: If I have two entries in the NHC and both entries make it to the Semi-Final Round do I still receive an entry in the Silver Sunday Contest?

Answer: *Yes, you will be able to play your two entries (with corresponding player cards) in the Semi-Final Round, and you will receive an entry (with a separate Silver Sunday Contest card) for the Silver Sunday Contest.*

Question: If I have two entries in the NHC and neither entry makes it to the Semi-Final Round do I receive two entries in the Silver Sunday Contest?

Answer: *No, the Sunday Silver Sunday Contest is a stand-alone contest and all NHC participants will receive a maximum of one entry.*

Question: I saw where NHC participants will be able to make their contest plays from their desktop, mobile or tablet device so long as they are within the Event Center at the Horseshoe Las Vegas. Can I still play on a self-service unit within the Event Center?

Answer: *Self-service units offering contest play only will continue to be available in the Event Center. There also will be live tellers available for live money wagers on horse racing and sports. Geo-fencing will prevent NHC participants from making contest selections outside of the Event Center where the NHC is held.*