

# **DRAFT MINUTES**

OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NEW ZEALAND
THOROUGHBRED RACING INCORPORATED HELD IN THE
RANGIMARIE ROOMS 1 & 2 AT THE TELSTRACLEAR CENTRE,
LEVEL 3 AT TE PAPA, CABLE STREET IN WELLINGTON AT 3.00PM
ON TUESDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2011

# 2011 NZTR AGM ATTENDEES, APOLOGIES, PROXIES AND GUESTS

#### **NEW ZEALAND THOROUGHBRED RACING BOARD**

NZ Thoroughbred Racing Matthew Goodson Chairman

NZ Thoroughbred Racing Con Anastasiou Board Member

NZ Thoroughbred Racing Greg McCarthy Board Member

NZ Thoroughbred Racing John Stace Board Member

NZ Thoroughbred Racing Joe Walls Board Member

## **RACING CLUBS**

Amberley RC Alastair Deans Committee member

Ashburton RC PROXY

Auckland RCRussell WarwickPresidentAuckland RCChris WeaverChief ExecutiveAvondale JCRon MurphyPresidentBanks Peninsula RCAnthony GrayPresident

Beaumont RC NOT ATTENDING

Cambridge JC George Simon President
Canterbury JC Jeff McCall Chairman
Canterbury JC Tim Mills Chief Executive
Central Otago RC Alister Eckhoff President
Counties RC Darryl Butson Chairman

Counties RC Greg Mitchell Secretary / General Manager

Dargaville RC NOT ATTENDING

**Egmont RC** Steve Quinnell President Feilding JC John MacDonald President Foxton RC Jim Jaggard President Foxton RC John Creaven Vice President President Gore RC Ellis Winsloe Greymouth JC Jill Bennington President

Hawke's Bay RI Jason Fleming General Manager

Kumara RC NOT ATTENDING

Kurow JCSimon WilliamsonPresidentLevin RCBruce McCarrisonPresidentManawatu RCRex FellVice PresidentManawatu RCDarin BalcombeGeneral Manager

Marlborough RC NOT ATTENDING

Marton JC PROXY

Masterton RCBruce PerryPresidentNorth Canterbury RCBill CottonTreasurerOamaru JCBevan CrombiePresidentOtago RCDean LawrenceVice PresidentOtago RCAndre KleinChief Executive

Otaki Maori RC PROXY
Paeroa RC PROXY

Pakuranga Hunt RC NOT ATTENDING

Poverty Bay Turf Club PROXY

Racing Matamata Dennis Ryan Vice President

Racing Rotorua PROXY

Racing Taupo Marie Leicester President
Racing Tauranga Murray Gibson President
Racing Tauranga Campbell Moncur Chief Executive

Racing Te Aroha PROXY
Rangitikei RC PROXY

Reefton JC NOT ATTENDING

Riverton RC Neil McCrostie Committee member

Rotorua & BOP RC PROXY

South Canterbury RC Kevin Brosnahan Chairman

South Waikato RC NOT ATTENDING

Southland RC Len Insall Committee member

Stratford RC NOT ATTENDING

Tapanui RC PROXY

Taranaki TR John Gray President

Taranaki TR John Wheeler Committee member
Taranaki TR Carey Hobbs Chief Executive

Taumarunui RC PROXY
Thames JC PROXY

Waikato RC Kristine Clark Deputy Chairman Waikato RC Tony Enting General Manager

Waikouaiti RC Jim Lawson President
Waimate RC Lyle Green President

Waipa RC PROXY
Waipukurau JC PROXY

Wairarapa RC Warran Robinson Vice President

Wairio JC PROXY
Wairoa RC PROXY

Wanganui JC Kerry O'Connor Vice President

Waverley RC PROXY

Wellington RC John Fokerd President

Westland RC NOT ATTENDING

Whakatane RC PROXY

Whangarei RC Kristine Jones Racing Manager
Winton JC Gregory Crowe Committee member
Woodville – Pahiatua RC John Shannon Committee member

Wyndham RC David McKenzie President

# **RACING CLUB COMMITTEE MEMBER APOLOGIES**

Hawke's Bay RI Mick Ormond Chairman

Marton JC John Henderson Otaki Maori RC Doug Logan

Pakuranga Hunt RC Ivan Bridge President

Rangitikei RC David Wilson

South Waikato RC Kevin Piper President

Tapanui RC Nikki Blatch

Wairarapa RC Selwyn Donald President Wairoa RC Paul Toothill President

Waverley RC Bill Thurlow

Westland RC John Englefield President

# **CLUB APOLOGIES**

Ashburton RC

Beaumont RC

Dargaville RC

Kumara RC

Marlborough RC

Marton JC

Otaki Maori RC

Paeroa RC

Pakuranga Hunt RC

Poverty Bay Turf Club

Racing Rotorua

Racing Te Aroha

Rangitikei RC

Reefton JC

Rotorua & Bay of Plenty Hunt

South Waikato RC

Stratford RC

Tapanui RC

Taumarunui RC

Thames JC

Waipa RC

Waipukurau JC

Wairio RC

Wairoa RC

Waverley RC

Westland RC

Whakatane RC

# **NEW ZEALAND THOROUGHBRED RACING MEMBERS' COUNCIL**

NZTR Members' Council Peter Francis NZTR Members' Council Bill Cotton NZTR Members' Council **Bruce Perry** NZTR Members' Council **Danny Moss** NZTR Members' Council **David Haworth** NZTR Members' Council **David Smith** NZTR Members' Council John Wheeler NZTR Members' Council John Wood NZTR Members' Council Murray Acklin NZTR Members' Council Neil Oldfield Victoria Carter NZTR Members' Council NZTR Members' Council Wayne Guppy

Chairman

# **NEW ZEALAND THOROUGHBRED RACING**

NZ Thoroughbred Racing Greg Purcell
NZ Thoroughbred Racing Simon Cooper
NZ Thoroughbred Racing David Jewell
NZ Thoroughbred Racing Deborah Bragger
NZ Thoroughbred Racing Greg Binning

Chief Executive Company Secretary GM Racing & Operations

HR Manager Finance Manager NZ Thoroughbred Racing Simon Lang **Business Analyst** 

NZ Thoroughbred Racing Julie Walker Studbook & Registrations NZ Thoroughbred Racing **Racing Services Manager** Ross Gove

NZ Thoroughbred Racing James Preston Website Administrator / Projects

Assistant

NZ Thoroughbred Racing Amanda Fensom Finance & Admin Assistant NZ Thoroughbred Racing George Strickland National Racing Bureau

# **GUESTS**

**Bell Gully** Mike Colson **Partner** 

**Bell Gully** Kate Redgewell Senior Associate Deloitte Andre Cribb Senior Manager **Greyhound Racing NZ** Chief Executive Jim Leach Harness Racing NZ Pat O'Brien President Patricia Pearce NZ Equine Health Association Chairman NZ Equine Research Foundation Margaret Evans Chairman **NZ Racing Board** Michael Stiassny Chairman **NZ Racing Board Chief Executive** Bill Colgan

Racing Planning & Performance NZ Racing Board Martin Burns **NZ Racing Board David Craig** 

General Manager Sales and Marketing

NZ Thoroughbred Breeders'

Association

Racing Integrity Unit Mike Godber Racing Integrity Unit Cameron George

RIU Board & NZTR Integrity Cte

Michael Martin

Peter Hutt **Bernard Kelly**  **Operations Manager** 

Chief Executive

Chief Stipendiary Steward

Former Chairman for NZ Racing

Conference

# **GUEST APOLOGIES**

**Guy Sargent** Former NZTR Chairman

Harness Racing NZ Edward Rennell Chief Executive

Life Clinic Dr Phil White NZTR Medical Advisor

**NZ Racing Board** Alan Jackson **Board Member** 

**Martin Saunders** NZ Racing Board Wagering General Manager

NZ Racing Laboratory Services **Geoff Beresford** General Manager

Chief Executive NZ Thoroughbred Marketing **Andrew Birch** 

NZTR General Trust Fund **Keith Neylon** Trustee

**Auckland Veterinary Centre Andrew Grierson** NZTR Veterinary Advisor

# **CLUB PROXIES**

<u>Club appointing Proxy</u> <u>Club appointed as Proxy</u>

Ashburton RC

Marton JC

Otaki-Maori RC

Paeroa RC

Pakuranga Hunt RC

Banks Peninsula RC

Manawatu RC

Manawatu RC

Waikato RC

Auckland RC

Poverty Bay Turf Club Hawke's Bay Racing Inc

Racing Rotorua Racing Tauranga Racing Te Aroha Racing Tauranga Rangitikei RC Manawatu RC Rotorua & Bay of Plenty Hunt Racing Tauranga Tapanui RC Wyndham RC Taumarunui RC Waikato RC Thames JC Racing Tauranga Waipa RC Waikato RC

Waipukurau JC Hawke's Bay Racing Inc

Wairio JC Winton JC

Wairoa RC Woodville – Pahiatua RC

Waverley RC Taranaki TR Whakatane RC Waikato RC

#### INTRODUCTION

The Chairman, Mr Matthew Goodson, welcomed representatives of clubs and guests to the 2011 Annual General Meeting of New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing Inc. and in particular:

Mr Michael Stiassny, Mr Bill Colgan and Mr Martin Burns from the Racing Board, Mr Pat O'Brien from Harness Racing New Zealand, Mr Jim Leach from the Greyhound Racing Association, Mr Bernard Kelly, former Chairman of the New Zealand Racing Conference, Mr Michael Martin from the New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, Mr Mike Godber and Mr Cameron George from the Racing Integrity Unit,

Mrs Patricia Pearce from the New Zealand Equine Health Association,

Mrs Margaret Evans from the New Zealand Equine Research Foundation,

Mr Mike Colson and Mrs Kate Redgewell from NZTR's legal advisers, Bell Gully, and

Mr Andre Cribb from NZTR's Auditors, Deloitte.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Board had just concluded a full and frank meeting with NZTR Members' Council as part of its commitment to be accountable and transparent to members and wider stakeholders.

# **AGENDA ITEM 1: APOLOGIES / PROXIES / GUESTS**

The Chairman asked for any apologies in addition to the list of all apologies, together with attendees and proxies, tabled for the meeting.

The following were added from the floor:

Mr Alan Jackson, Mr John Henderson, Mr John Englefield, Mr Ivan Bridge, Ms Nikki Blatch, Mr Doug Logan, Mr David Wilson and

Mr Bill Thurlow.

# **AGENDA ITEM 2: IN REMEMBRANCE**

The Chairman asked everyone present to take a moment to remember those who have given much to New Zealand racing and who had passed away since the last AGM in January this year.

## AGENDA ITEM 3: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman stated his report on last season is set out on pages 8 to 14 in the 2010-11 Annual Report and that much of this period was under the governance of the former Board, some of whom are attending the meeting as members of the Members' Council. He added that the Chairman of the former Board, Mr Guy Sargent, could not be at the meeting as he is travelling overseas.

The Chairman took this opportunity to thank the previous Board for all their work and progress made in the period prior to 25 May this year, when the current Board took office.

There were no comments on his report in the 2010-11Annual Report.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**

The Chief Executive presented to members on the inter-code funding arrangement, including variances between 2009-10 and 2010-11 based on projected funding, 2011-12 first quarter wagering performance, and NZTR progress in amending proposed Asian Pattern Committee Ground Rules to protect New Zealand pattern races and ensuring New Zealand pattern races are fairly and equitably assessed.

There were no questions on the Chief Executive's presentation.

## AGENDA ITEM 5: ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2011

The Chairman invited discussion on the minutes of the last AGM, held on 15 December 2011.

The Chairman then sought agreement to the adoption of the minutes of the previous AGM as a true and correct record of the last AGM.

This was moved by Mr David Smith and seconded by Mr Rex Fell.

#### Carried

# AGENDA ITEM 6: TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE 2010-11 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD

The Chairman moved the adoption of the 2010-11 Annual Report. This was seconded by Mr John Stace.

The Chairman then invited members to raise anything in the Annual Report for discussion.

Mr Chris Weaver (Auckland Racing Club) stated the table of Group 1 winners in the inside front cover had some inaccuracies around the categorization of races.

The Chairman sought agreement to adopt the Annual Report.

#### Carried

# AGENDA ITEM 7(A): TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER NZTR'S ACCOUNTS

The Chairman thanked the Chairman of the Audit & Risk Committee, Mr Greg McCarthy, and his Committee members, Mr Con Anastasiou and Mr Dean McKenzie, for their exacting work over the past few months, in particular.

The Chairman proposed and Mr John Stace seconded adoption of the statement of financial position and statement of accounts for New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing for the year ended 31 July 2011, as published.

# Carried

# AGENDA ITEM 7 (B): TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE GENERAL TRUST FUND ACCOUNTS

The Chairman stated that the General Trust Fund is overseen by former Board members Keith Neylon, John Rattray and Colin Jenkins and thanked them for all the help they provide to current and former licensees who are injured or find themselves in difficulty for whatever reason.

The Chairman invited any discussion on the financial statements of the General Trust Fund.

There being no discussion, he proposed and Mr Con Anastasiou seconded adoption of the financial statements of the General Trust Fund for the year ended 31 March 2011, as published.

## Carried

# AGENDA ITEM 7 (C): TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE APPRENTICE JOCKEYS' FUND ACCOUNTS

The Chairman invited any discussion on the financial statements of the Apprentice Jockeys' Fund.

There being no discussion, he proposed and Mr Con Anastasiou seconded adoption of the financial statements of the Apprentice Jockeys' Fund for the year ended 31 March 2011, as published.

#### Carried

# AGENDA ITEM 8: TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE BOARD'S ESTIMATES FOR 12 MONTHS ENDING 31 JULY 2012

The Chairman invited any discussion on the NZTR budget for 2011-12.

Mr Chris Weaver (Auckland Racing Club) asked for more information around two provisions in the budget, namely Special Projects – Business Development (\$500,000) and Special Projects – Other Industry Support (\$60,000). Mr Greg McCarthy stated that these provisions had been included in the budget to allow NZTR to progress some projects set out in the proposed Business Plan 2012-14, subject to timing.

The Chairman moved and Mr Joe Walls seconded adoption of the budget for 2011-12.

#### Carried

# **AGENDA ITEM 9: APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

The Chairman invited any discussion on the reappointment of Deloitte as auditors at a fee to be arranged by the Board.

There being no discussion, he proposed and Mr Joe Walls seconded reappointment of Deloitte as auditors at a fee for their services for 2011-12 to be arranged by the Board.

#### **Carried**

#### AGENDA ITEM 10: TO FIX THE AMOUNT PAYABLE AS DIRECTORS' FEES

The Chairman stated item 6 on page 30 in the 2010-11 Annual Report details the Board's fees at a total of \$157,000 and that the Members' Council has recommended directors' fees remain at the same amount for 2011-12.

The Chairman moved and Mr Peter Francis, Chairman of the Members' Council, seconded the motion that the Board's fees remain at the budgeted \$157,000 for 2011-12.

#### Carried

#### **AGENDA ITEM 11: GENERAL BUSINESS**

The Chairman opened general business by stating that he and the Chief Executive would present the proposed NZTR Business Plan for 2012-2014. The NZTR Board appreciated members' patience. The new Board had only been in place for six months and the proposed Business Plan, written by the Executive of NZTR with the active involvement and endorsement of the Board, set out a programmed delivery of NZTR improvement strategies designed to redefine the parameters and future opportunities for NZTR and its many stakeholders. He emphasised

The Chairman added that the proposed Business plan was a 'living' document setting out how the Board sees the key steps to improving the industry and he emphasised that it was subject to the approval of the Racing Board.

The Chairman and Chief Executive presented the proposed NZTR Business Plan for 2012-2014.

At the conclusion of the presentation the Chairman invited discussion on any items including the proposed NZTR Business Plan for 2012-2014.

Mr Rex Fell (Manawatu Racing Club) asked who represented New Zealand on the Asian Pattern Committee. The Chairman informed him that the Chief Executive represented New Zealand on the Asian Pattern Committee.

Mr Neil McCrostie (Riverton Racing Club) informed the meeting that he had not received information for this meeting and asked whether Listed races would be deleted. The Chief Executive informed him that Listed races would not be deleted and would continue to be determined by the Graded Stakes Committee, which was to be re-titled from 1 January 2012 the New Zealand Pattern Committee.

[Secretary's Note: The agenda for this meeting together with the minutes from the previous AGM had been emailed and mailed to all clubs on Thursday, 24 November 2011 and the 2010-11 Annual Report had been emailed to all racing clubs on Friday, 25 November 2011 and two copies mailed to each club the following Wednesday.]

Mr Jason Fleming (Hawkes Bay Racing) asked what progress had been made with a proposed collective industry insurance plan. Mr John Stace stated that the NZTR Board would consider at its meeting in January 2012 a presentation it had received from Marsh, which covered the current insurance market environment, advantages and disadvantages to collective insurance buying, and proposed options for NZTR, and the Board would be looking to conclude a plan by no later than 30 June 2012.

Mr Simon Williamson (Kurow Jockey Club) asked whether race meetings would be running only 8 races over the Christmas period, bearing in mind the need for some clubs to maximise their profit during the summer months. The Chief Executive stated there would be variations in the number of races but generally meetings will conduct 9 races. The Chairman added that NZTR would monitor the restructured race programme and adapt it to meet the best interests of the industry.

Mr Tony Enting (Waikato Racing Club) asked whether or not the Racing Board had agreed to the statement on page 23 of the proposed Business Plan 2012-14, namely 'NZTR will stimulate increases in starts and field sizes by...maintaining the same number of races conducted while increasing the total number of race meetings by transferring those races, historically run on weekdays prior to 12.30pm and Saturdays prior to noon, to support the additional new Monday and Tuesday race meetings.' The Chairman emphasised the statement he had made earlier in the meeting, before presenting the proposed Business Plan 2012-14, that the Racing Board had not yet approved the Plan, and that this element had featured prominently in all discussions with the Racing Board on inter-code arrangements and NZTR was not anticipating any material change to the agreement. The Chief Executive added that NZTR is committed to the agreement with Tabcorp and if NZTR does not meet that commitment it would come back to its members to explain.

Mr Michael Martin (New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Association) congratulated NZTR on the proposed Business Plan 2012-14, warned that some targets in the Plan around horse numbers would be difficult to meet, taking into account the lag between breeding and racing, and asked if there was a fall-back plan. The Chairman acknowledged the lag and stated that the fall-back plan is the large number of initiatives in the Plan around this particular issue and that the terms of the inter-code agreement included market share impact penalties for not meeting the commitment.

Mr John Wheeler (Taranaki Thoroughbred Racing) asked NZTR to look at career paths for all areas of industry skills including handicappers, administrators, stewards and others to avoid the need to look for skills offshore. The Chief Executive explained that NZTR now has a practical suite of over 50 training resource textbooks which will be expanded to around 100 to cover a wider range of skills; NZTR will be pushing forward with more accreditations at level three; the Racing Integrity Unit provides an ideal platform for better training of stewards; and the Equine Industry Training Organisation (ITO) is in the process of being amalgamated into the much better resourced Agriculture ITO, which will further enhance the industry's ability to offer a wider range of training and development to industry participants.

Mr Rex Fell (Manawatu Racing Club) congratulated NZTR on the proposed Business Plan 2012-14 and advised NZTR to be more proactive with the media. The Chairman thanked Mr Fell for his comments and assured him that NZTR would work hard to improve its internal and external communications.

Mr Peter Francis (Chairman, NZTR Members' Council) stated that the Members' Council had met with the Board today and, on behalf of the Council, endorsed the work of the Board, in particular its proposed Business Plan 2012-14, and the Directors it had appointed, and was looking forward to the implementation of the Plan and its progress.

Mr Chris Weaver (Auckland Racing Club) reverted to the question asked by Mr Tony Enting (Waikato Racing Club) earlier in the meeting and emphasised that the critical element was race day start times and the impact on turnover - whether or not clubs would be moving from ten-race programmes to nine-race programmes starting at a later time or nine-race programmes starting at the time currently set for ten-race programmes. The Chairman repeated the statement he had made on two occasions earlier in the meeting, that the Racing Board had not yet approved the Plan, and that this element had featured very early and prominently in all discussions with the Racing Board on inter-code arrangements and NZTR was not anticipating any material change to the agreement.

Mr David Ellis sought to make a statement to the meeting concerning Trackside TV, in particular a proposal to seek the Racing Board's agreement to broadcasting only thoroughbred racing on Sky Channel 36.

Mr Bruce Perry (Masterton Racing Club & Members' Council) endorsed the comments of Mr Ellis and sought an undertaking, through the NZTR Board, that the Racing Board would respond to Mr Ellis's comments.

Mr Michael Martin endorsed the comments of Mr Ellis and added that the Ford Report, a breeding programme shown on Trackside TV, had also been lost.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 12: CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The Chairman thanked Mr Dean McKenzie, who had stepped down from the NZTR Board the previous month, for his considerable contributions to the Board and NZTR over the last six months.

He also thanked his four fellow Board members – Messrs John Stace, Joe Walls, Greg McCarthy and Con Anastasiou - for their work on behalf of the thoroughbred Code over these six months, in particular the three chairmen of Board committees – Greg McCarthy, who chairs the Audit and Risk Committee, John Stace, who chairs the Appointments and Remuneration Committee and Con Anastasiou, who chairs the Integrity Committee.

He added his appreciation for the support of Alan Jackson, NZTR's appointee on the Racing Board, and Peter Hutt, who sits on the RIU Board on behalf of the thoroughbred code, as well as serving on the Integrity Committee and chairing Training and Development.

He concluded by stating that the Board has faced many challenges in its first six months and many would be faced in the future. He acknowledged members' support and patience in that period, and gave the Board's assurance that it will do whatever it can to ensure the objectives set out in the proposed NZTR Business Plan 2012-14, and presented at this meeting, will be met.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 5.05pm