

Friday 15 August 2014

FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

The new season sees a number of positive changes. This includes additions to racing structure, prize money and handicapping policy. A full analysis is available in the August NZTR magazine.

The Canterbury Jockey Club Winter carnival came to a close on Saturday. The carnival showcased the best winter gallopers and proved to be a popular spectacle. The support from participants around New Zealand was prominent. The track was well sustained with multiple meetings in a short timeframe.

Leda Beck's Gargamel was a popular winner of the Grand National Hurdle, despite not being admired on the tote. The steeplechase also proved to be a thrilling contest with Aaron Bidlake's Eric the Viking claiming the \$75,000 prestige jumping race. Congratulations to connections of winners throughout the carnival.

All eyes will be on the Foxbridge Plate this Saturday. The Plate obtained an International rating of 113.5 last season. Common sense indicates the race is outperforming its current Group Three status. The Pattern Review Committee will consider all options this Friday. Acceptances include Group one winners Veyron, Viadana, Xanadu and Pure Champion.

Racing Taupo host their first meeting of the season next week. Previous years, this meeting is proven to host future stars such as Atlante, El Roca and Puccini.

A special mention for first time dad Ocean Park, his first foal was born last week at Trelawney Stud.

2014 THOROUGHBRED HORSE OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS

Winners of this year's Thoroughbred Horse of the Year Awards, held at the Claudelands Events Centre, Hamilton on Thursday, 14 August 2014 were as follows:

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| 1. Grosvenor Award (Earnings In NZ) | O'Reilly |
| 2. Dewar Award (Earnings in NZ & Australia) | O'Reilly |
| 3. Centaine Award (Earnings Worldwide) | O'Reilly |
| 4. Broodmare Of The Year | Stareel (Dam Of Dundee) |
| 5. Breeder Of The Year | Kevin Hickman (Breeder Of Silent Achiever & Vespa) |
| 6. NZ Bloodstock Filly Of The Year | Costa Viva |
| 7. Media Award | Peter Earley |
| 8. Mcbeath Apprentice Jockey Of The Year | Rory Hutchings |
| 9. Jumps Jockey Of The Year | Mathew Gillies |
| 10. Jockey Of The Year | Matthew Cameron |
| 11. Dunstan Trainer Of The Year | Lisa Latta |

12. Owner Of The Year	Kevin Hickman (Silent Achiever, Sir Elmo And Vaporetto)
13. Champion Jumper	Rangatira
14. Champion Two Year Old	Vespa
15. Champion Three Year Old	Puccini
16. Champion Sprinter	Bounding
17. Champion Middle Distance Horse	Dundeel
18. Champion Stayer	Silent Achiever
19. Outstanding Contribution To Racing	David Walsh
20. Horse Of The Year	Dundeel

(Finalists for the NZTR Horse Of The Year Award comprise finalists in all horse categories)

Trackside 1 will show highlights of the Awards Dinner at 8pm on Monday

RACING STARS BACK INAUGURAL DAFFODIL RACE DAY

Some of the superstars of New Zealand Racing are uniting to support Kiwis affected by cancer. The Hawkes Bay Racing Club has declared the first Group One Race of the season – traditionally known as Makfi Stakes Day – Daffodil Race Day.

Lance O’Sullivan, James McDonald and Trackside presenters Brendan Popplewell and Aidan Rodley have backed the move, recording their cancer connections via video clip on Social Media. Former Champion Jockey and Trainer Lance O’Sullivan lost his sister Lisa this year to leukaemia. “Our family, like so many other Kiwis, have been touched by cancer and we fully support an event that brings hope to the community. Get along to Daffodil Race Day and support those who work endlessly to make a difference,” O’Sullivan said.

All proceeds of admission on the day will go to the Hawke’s Bay Cancer Society. Race goers can also make donations via collectors around the track or online at www.daffodilday.org.nz. For more information contact: Greg Howie, Hawkes Bay Racing 027 428 1318

Daffodil Race Day is the family day of the Spring Racing Carnival kicks off a spectacular month of Hawkes Bay racing, with the Windsor Park Plate on September 20 and the Spring Classic on October 4.

OTAKI-MAORI RC ON SATURDAY 16 AUGUST - TO BE HELD AT AWAPUNI

Following an inspection of the Otaki track this morning a decision has been made to transfer the Saturday, 16 August Otaki-Maori raceday to Awapuni. Following a very wet winter and 84ml of rain over the weekend, parts of the Otaki track had become waterlogged and an early decision has been made to change the venue to make sure the day can proceed. The programme will remain the same for the day at Awapuni. It will also remain an Otaki-Maori Licence.

WOODVILLE-PAHIATUA RACING CLUB – THURSDAY 21 AUGUST - FINAL RACE CONFIRMED

The following race has been added to the programme for the Woodville-Pahiatua Racing Club's race meeting on Thursday 21 August 2014.

Benchmark Rating 65 – 2100m

Of \$7,000. \$4,375, \$1,400, \$700, \$350, \$175.

All other races on the programme remain unaltered.

The Central Region Clubs are trialing an initiative where a number of days out from a midweek industry meeting the Central Regional Programming Committee & NZTR will confirm the additional race to be programmed based on recent nominations and a review of upcoming opportunities for those horses in the region. The flexibility to programme the extra race is designed to provide an opportunity for horses which might otherwise not be able to start.

TAUPO RC WEDNESDAY 20 AUGUST – TRIAL HEATS

NZTR, following consultation with the Club, the Northern Regional Programming Committee and the Trainers Association, confirms that there will be a trial opportunity for 'Stakes Performers Only' in the morning prior to the Taupo RC races taking place.

This decision has been made following numerous requests for exhibition gallops throughout the day at the Taupo RC meeting of which all could not be catered for.

The trial heat will be an OPN 1100m heat with the Special Condition of 'Stakes Performers only'.

Nominations will close with the National Racing Bureau at 12 Noon Friday 15 August.

SOUTH CANTERBURY RC - FRIDAY 22 AUGUST – EXTRA RACE PROGRAMMED

NZTR in conjunction with the Southern Regional Programming Committee have programmed a Benchmark Rating 75 1600m race at the South Canterbury meeting, Friday 22 August. This has been added to provide those horses and others with an opportunity following the deletion of the R75 1600m race at the Oamaru JC, 14 August.

Benchmark Rating 75 1600m \$8,000 – **added** to South Canterbury Friday 22 August.

All other races remain unaltered. Nominations close with the NRB at 12 Noon, Tuesday 19 August.

SOUTH CANTERBURY RC - MONDAY 22 SEPTEMBER – STAKE INCREASE

The South Canterbury RC have increased the stake of the Benchmark Rating 75 Hcp 1600m race at their Monday 22 September meeting.

Benchmark Rating 75 Hcp 1600m - increased from \$8,000 to \$10,000.

THOMAS RUSSELL

NZTR has provided the use of its nominated Raceday account so that donations can be channelled directly through to Thomas. Donations are placed in the account 01-0517-0063944-09 with reference T.Russell. NZTR will have an Authority to Deduct form available on the NZTR website (www.nzracing.co.nz) today to facilitate donations. All that needs to happen is the designated Racing Manager of a horse completes the form and sends it to NZTR and the agreed prize money deduction will be made.

The TAB is also helping Thomas. For the month of August the NZRB is donating 10% of total turnover on Jockey's Challenges to Thomas to assist with his on-going financial needs in the wake of his accident. This will include Jockey's Challenges at 26 thoroughbred race meetings. The Jockey's Challenge is currently sponsored by vehicle wholesaler Ezygo, however for the month of August the Jockey's Challenge will be known as the Thomas Russell Ezygo Jockeys Challenge and will be promoted through its broadcasting and social media channels.

TAB ROLLING OUT EARLY QUADDIES OVER NEXT THREE MONTHS

The TAB will be rolling out early quaddies on NZ racing (in addition to existing quaddies) over the next three months, with the following promotional guarantees.

- August launch Greyhound: Each of the 39 NZ Greyhound meetings in August to have a \$10,000 Early Quaddie and a \$10,000 Quaddie
- September launch Harness: Each of the 14 NZ Harness meetings in September to have a \$40,000 Early Quaddie and a \$40,000 Quaddie
- October launch Thoroughbred: Each of the 28 NZ Thoroughbred meetings in October to have a \$40,000 Early Quaddie and a \$60,000 Quaddie

After each month's launch promotion, the early quaddies will be a continuing part of the TAB's standard suite of bet types for each Code (ex-guarantees).

TARANAKI THOROUGHBRED RACING SERVICES FOR TENDER TO THREE STALLIONS

Taranaki Thoroughbred Racing (TTR) has services for tender to three stallions: Ekraar, Echoes of Heaven and Tiger Prawn. TTR thanks Linwood Stud and Gary and Jenny Hennessy for their generosity. Contact 06 7575 759 or email taranakiracing@xtra.co.nz for a tender form.

NZ BLOODSTOCK INSURANCE PEARL SERIES BONUS RACES TO NOVEMBER 2014

Total bonuses of almost \$2.6 million and prizemoney of nearly \$2.8 million are on offer across 200 individual races for each crop of enrolled fillies and mares over three seasons' racing. The scheme has been designed to benefit all owners, trainers and breeders of thoroughbred fillies racing in New Zealand.

CENTRAL		PEARL BONUS	
Woodville	Thur 21/8	Mdn 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Otaki	Thur 4/9	R65 1600 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Taranaki	Thur 11/9	R65 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Otaki	Thur 25/9	R65 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Taranaki (f)	Sat 27/9	R85 1200 F&M \$25k	\$20,000
Wanganui	Thur 2/10	Mdn 1600 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Wairarapa	Thur 9/10	Mdn 1000 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Woodville-Pah	Thur 16/10	Mdn 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Otaki	Tue 4/11	R65 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
SOUTHERN		PEARL BONUS	
South Canterbury	Mon 22/9	R85 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Gore	Fri 31/10	R65 1335 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Banks Peninsula	Sun 2/11	R75 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
NORTHERN		PEARL BONUS	
Taupo	Wed 20/8	3YO F HCP \$12k	\$11,500
Counties	Wed 3/9	Mdn 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Waikato	Wed 10/9	Mdn 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Counties (f)	Sat 20/9	R65 1600 F&M \$25k	\$20,000
Matamata	Wed 24/9	Mdn 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Taupo	Wed 8/10	Mdn 1300 F&M \$12k	\$11,500

Tauranga	Fri 17/10	Mdn 1600 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Counties	Wed 29/10	Mdn 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Rotorua	Fri 7/11	R65 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Matamata	Wed 12/11	Mdn 1600 F&M \$12k	\$11,500

NZTR REGIONAL MEETINGS

September 2014 Regional Meeting will be held as follows. All industry participants are welcome to attend.

Monday 22 September: 12pm – AUCKLAND at Ellerslie / 5.30pm – HAMILTON at Te Rapa
 Tuesday 23 September: 11.30am - INVERCARGILL at the Ascot Park Hotel / 5.30pm – DUNEDIN at Wingatui
 Wednesday 24 September: 12pm – CHRISTCHURCH at Riccarton Park
 Friday 26 September: 10.30am – PALMERSTON NORTH at Awapuni / 4.00pm – NEW PLYMOUTH at Pukekura Park

Other dates for the diary:

6 November 2014: Racing Club Conference and NZTR AGM, Room 4, Shed 6, Queen's Wharf, Wellington.

TURNOVER INFORMATION

Date	Club	On-Course (Tote & FOB combined)		Totalisator (Off & on-course combined)		Fixed Odds (Off & on-course)		Races		Starters	
		13-14	12-13	13-14	12-13	13-14	12-13	13-14	12-13	13-14	12-13
6-Aug	Canterbury	201,800	192,247	914,892	917,365	275,501	254,531	10	10	110	101
7-Aug	Hawke's Bay	26,163	20,368	596,150	534,234	247,269	199,307	9	7	80	61
8-Aug	Matamata	22,421	22,707	496,232	469,525	192,062	144,161	6	7	63	80
9-Aug	Counties	71,561	70,989	1,048,309	1,108,511	358,359	240,553	8	8	79	81
9-Aug	Canterbury	197,834	187,534	1,353,854	1,546,373	512,733	348,589	9	9	83	90
10-Aug	Te Aroha	38,284	29,752	584,115	613,118	273,387	178,005	8	8	84	97

NZ Thoroughbred Summary Full Season FY14	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/()	Variance +%/(%)
Meetings	9	10	(1)	(10.00%)
Races	74	80	(6)	(7.50%)
Total Starts	703	782	(79)	(10.10%)

Avg Field Size	9.50	9.78	(0.28)	(2.81%)
Number of races less than 8 starters	14	17	(3)	(17.65%)
Off-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	9,797,316	10,846,038	(1,048,721)	(9.67%)
On-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	764,961	794,708	(29,747)	(3.74%)
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	10,562,277	11,640,745	(1,078,468)	(9.26%)
Subtotal Totalisator Turnover	7,714,996	9,269,116	(1,554,120)	(16.77%)
Subtotal FOB Turnover	2,847,281	2,371,629	+475,652	+20.06%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	142,733	145,509	(2,776)	(1.91%)
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	15,025	14,886	+139	+0.93%
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	42,351,835	43,932,805	(1,580,970)	(3.60%)
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	10,162,737	6,923,195	+3,239,542	+46.79%
Total NZRB Turnover	52,514,572	50,856,000	+1,658,572	+3.26%

NZ Thoroughbred Export Turnover \$NZ (to -)	0	0	0	0.00%
Total Races (to -)	0	0	0	0.00%
NZ Thoroughbred Export turnover \$NZ per race	0	0	0	0.00%

Meeting details

- Hawke's Bay RI Thursday meeting was 9 races this season, 7 last season.
- Matamata RC Friday equivalent meeting was run on the following Monday in FY14; 6 races in FY15, 7 races in FY14.
- Racing Te Aroha Sunday equivalent meeting was on a Friday last season.

Turnover summary notes:

- Total NZ thoroughbred turnover is down 9.3% year to date.
- 6 less races have been run than to the same date last season.
- As a result, turnover per race is only down 1.9%.
- Total starts made by thoroughbreds in NZ are down 79, 10.1% less.
- Average field size is 9.50 in FY15, down from 9.78 in FY14.
- The number of races with less than 8 starters is 3 lower than the season prior.
- The decline in NZ thoroughbred totalisator turnover (down 16.8%) is partly offset by an increase in FOB turnover (up 20.1%).
- \$NZ export turnover figures for the new season are not yet available.