

## **THURSDAY 2 APRIL 2015**

### **FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH**

Fiber Fresh NZ Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes day features New Zealand's exclusive fillies and mares Group one event. We have a proud history of the fairer sex performing on the world stage with Sunline, Ethereal and Silent Achiever.

The quality of the \$200,000 Fiber Fresh NZ Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes field is evident again this year. Diademe, The Diamond One, Pussy O'Reilly, Abidewithme, Fix and Pondarosa Miss all have performed admirably at Group One level.

In previous years the race has seen Viadana, Xanadu and Barinka as victors. The race features twenty acceptances and four ballots, and race time is at 4.25pm.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the Riverton Carnival was upgraded to feature status following the abandonment of Southland R.C. on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March. The \$60,000 Listed Carriers Arms Hotel Riverton Cup will highlight the two day festival and 300 acceptances across both racedays will ensure plenty of betting over the holiday period.

### **NOEL HARRIS TO JOIN NZTR TEAM**

Noel Harris is set to take up a Riding Master and Mentoring role with New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR) following his retirement from raceday riding.

Noel will be based in the Waikato region and starts in the role after the Easter break.

Noel retires from a stellar career as a jockey on Saturday, 4 April nearly 45 years after riding his first winner at Foxton on 16 May, 1970.

During his career Noel rode 2,163 New Zealand winners as well as experiencing significant success offshore.

Commencing after Easter, Noel will be working primarily with probationers and apprentice jockeys.

Noel's role will be to develop technical riding expertise in apprentice jockeys as well as reviewing individual riding skills and providing guidance and advice for all riders starting out in the industry.

"Noel brings a wealth of experience to this specialised field and is held in high regard across all sectors of the thoroughbred industry," said NZTR Chief Executive Greg Purcell.

"His longevity and riding record are a credit to both him and the New Zealand thoroughbred industry."

Noel is looking forward to giving back to an industry in which he has been most successful.

“Racing has been good to me and I am looking forward to helping out the younger riders going forward” said Harris.

## JCA PENALTY GUIDE

The new JCA Penalty Guide will come into effect on 1 May 2015.

The JCA completed the stakeholder consultation process and the Guide has been approved by the JCA Board. The parties consulted included the JCA panelists, RIU, NZTR, HRNZ, Jockeys’ Association, Trainers’ Association, and Trainers’ & Drivers’ Association.

The JCA has drawn particular attention to the use of the whip starting point changes (Rule 638 (3) (b)) and the position for careless riding for South Island riders (Rule 638 (1) (d)) as well as the starting points for Rules 534(2) – Scratching Horses; 606 – Riders Present; 610 & 614 – Identification, Racing Gear and Riding Gear; 636 – Running Races; and 649 – Weighing in. The Guide provides explanations of the above including ‘starting points.’

<b>RULE</b>	<b>OFFENCE DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>STARTING POINT (FINE OR SUSPENSION)</b>
<b>Rule 534 (2) (b)</b>	Scratching after 7.30am deadline	\$400 fine - no horse denied a start \$600 fine - horse denied a start (previously \$400 fine)
<b>Rule 606</b>	Rider leaving Jockey’s area or racecourse without permission	\$300 fine (new)
<b>Rule 610 (4)</b>	Rider wearing modified body protector	\$600 fine (new)
<b>Rule 614 (2)</b>	Neglect in saddling	\$750 fine – where there are consequences for bettors & owners, or horse or rider safety; \$50 fine - incorrect saddlecloth; \$200 fine - affixing gear incorrectly; \$300 fine - omitting a towel; \$500 fine - failing to attach a lead bag (previously \$750 fine for neglect in saddling)
<b>Rule 636 (1) (d)</b>	Failure to ride out to the end of a race	1 <sup>st</sup> place - 5 weeks; 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 4 weeks; 3 <sup>rd</sup> - 3 weeks; 4 <sup>th</sup> - 2 weeks; 5 <sup>th</sup> - \$300 fine; 6 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> - \$350 fine (previously 3 calendar weeks with regard to placing). In regard to the lower fine for 5 <sup>th</sup> place compared to 6 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> places, for the few races where there are stakes for 6 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> place, these stakes in dollar terms are significant and invariably much higher than the stake for 5 <sup>th</sup> in all other races.
<b>Rule 638 (1) (d)</b>	Careless riding (Northern & Central Regions)	5 riding days
	Careless riding (Southern Region)	3 riding days (previously 5 riding days)
<b>Rule 638 (3) (b)</b>	Excessive, unnecessary or improper whip use	\$500 fine or 2 day suspension for 1 <sup>st</sup> breach (previously \$300 fine)

	Excessive, unnecessary or improper whip use	3-5 day suspension for 2 <sup>nd</sup> breach within 6 months with a reset period of 6 months (previously \$500 fine or 2 day suspension within a year having regard to number of rides)
<b>Rule 649 (1) (b)</b>	Non-accidental touching another person prior to weighing-in	\$250 fine (new)
	Non-accidental touching another person prior to weighing-in – disqualified from non-dividend bearing position	\$500 fine (new)
	Non-accidental touching another person prior to weighing-in – disqualified from dividend bearing position	\$750 fine (new)
<b>Rule 801 (1) (s) (ii)</b>	Offensive, insulting, abusive language or behaviour to Racing, Integrity and Administration Officials	\$1500 fine (new)

## NEW CONCUSSION TESTING FOR RIDERS

The new concussion testing process is now in operation, including baseline testing using 'Axon Sports'. Riders failing a concussion test are still required to gain clearance from a doctor prior to undertaking the Axon concussion test. The test results are then emailed to NZTR's medical advisor prior to the jockey being advised if they can resume riding. NZTR has implemented an appropriate internal administrative process to cater for this procedure.

## TURNOVER INFORMATION

Date	Club	On-Course (Tote & FOB combined)		Totalisator (Off & on-course combined)		Fixed Odds (Off & on-course)		Races		Starters	
		14-15	13-14	14-15	13-14	14-15	13-14	14-15	13-14	14-15	13-14
23-Mar	Beaumont RC	38,119	39,012	354,952	389,668	161,134	118,460	7	8	70	84
25-Mar	Avondale JC	35,527	42,980	514,137	628,356	226,404	271,390	8	8	74	74
26-Mar	Wanganui JC	25,152	36,808	469,181	654,277	251,429	209,231	8	8	71	94

<b>27-Mar</b>	<b>Rotorua, Racing</b>	36,069	18,046	627,917	444,644	331,859	175,090	8	6	89	53
<b>28-Mar</b>	<b>Auckland RC</b>	91,827	116,783	1,063,538	893,446	483,108	294,225	9	9	83	77
<b>28-Mar</b>	<b>Manawatu RC</b>	229,806	224,010	2,028,557	2,039,544	926,745	696,160	10	10	119	133
<b>28-Mar</b>	<b>Southland RC</b>	17,874	39,664	251,104	710,932	95,219	201,136	4	10	40	114

<b>NZ Thoroughbred Summary FY15</b>	<b>This Season, Year to Date</b>	<b>Last Season, Year to Date</b>	<b>Variance +/(-)</b>	<b>Variance +%/(%)</b>
<b>Meetings</b>	230	239	(9)	(3.77%)
<b>Races</b>	1,928	1,975	(47)	(2.38%)
<b>Total Starts</b>	19,976	20,494	(518)	(2.53%)
<b>Avg Field Size</b>	10.36	10.38	(0.02)	(0.15%)
<b>Number of races less than 8 starters</b>	320	325	(5)	(1.54%)
<b>Off-Course Turnover (Totalisator &amp; FOB)</b>	288,759,521	282,301,842	+6,457,680	+2.29%
<b>On-Course Turnover (Totalisator &amp; FOB)</b>	27,211,687	28,310,502	(1,098,815)	(3.88%)
<b>Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover</b>	<b>315,971,208</b>	<b>310,612,344</b>	<b>+5,358,864</b>	<b>+1.73%</b>
Subtotal Totalisator Turnover	224,776,330	237,422,097	(12,645,767)	(5.33%)
Subtotal FOB Turnover	90,768,073	73,190,231	+17,577,842	+24.02%
<b>NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race</b>	163,885	157,272	+6,613	+4.21%
<b>NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter</b>	15,818	15,156	+661	+4.36%
<b>Total NZRB Racing Turnover</b>	1,153,686,918	1,042,584,002	+111,102,916	+10.66%
<b>Total NZRB Sports Turnover</b>	263,593,678	181,651,411	+81,942,267	+45.11%
<b>Total NZRB Turnover</b>	<b>1,417,280,596</b>	<b>1,224,235,413</b>	<b>+193,045,183</b>	<b>+15.77%</b>
<b>NZ Thoroughbred Export Turnover \$NZ (to 22 Mar)</b>	236,466,088	221,877,052	+14,589,036	+6.58%
<b>Total Races (to 22 Mar)</b>	1,874	1,908	(34)	(1.78%)
<b>NZ Thoroughbred Export turnover \$NZ per race</b>	126,183	116,288	+9,895	+8.51%

Meeting details:

- Beaumont RC Monday meeting ran 7 races this season, 8 last season.
- Racing Rotorua Friday meeting ran 8 races in FY15; the equivalent meeting ran 6 races at Pukekohe in FY14.
- Auckland RC Saturday meeting ran 9 races this season, 10 last season.
- Manawatu RC Saturday meeting ran 10 races in FY15, 9 in FY14.
- Southland RC Saturday meeting was abandoned after 4 races this season due to the unsafe nature of the track; 10 races were run last season.

Turnover summary notes:

- Total NZ thoroughbred turnover is up 1.7% year to date.
- 9 less meetings and 47 less races have been run than to the same date last season.
- Turnover per race is up 4.2%.
- Total starts made by thoroughbreds in NZ are down 518, 2.5% less.
- Average field size is 10.36 in FY15, down from 10.38 (0.2%) in FY14.
- The number of races with less than 8 starters is 5 lower than the season prior (320 v 325).
- The decline in NZ thoroughbred totalisator turnover (down 5.3%) has been offset by an increase in FOB turnover (up 24.0%).
- Export turnover (\$NZ) is up 8.5% per race to 22 March.

Note: Turnovers are provided by the NZRB from various reports. On-course is totalisator turnover on the meeting and on intertrack meetings, plus FOB racing turnover on the meeting only (FOB intertrack is not provided from these reports at present). On-course self service turnover is also not currently included. Total NZRB racing turnover is NZ thoroughbred, harness, greyhound plus all imported thoroughbred, harness and greyhound turnover; combined with sports this provides the total NZRB turnover. NZ thoroughbred export turnovers are stated in \$NZ, generally up to a week or two behind other turnover numbers.

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