

Thursday 6 June 2013

From the Horse's Mouth

Last week I mentioned that a number of proposed amendments to the Rules of Racing have been redistributed for consultation. Many of the amendments are being presented for a second or third time following industry submissions and subsequent amendments. All these proposed amendments have been approved for industry consultation by New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR).

One of the proposed amendments has generated some comment, which is the requirement for horses to be named before trialling. Some have suggested that this is a revenue generation plan.

In fact, registrations/naming, Stud Book and licensing fees have not increased for the third consecutive season (apart from the export fee).

There are a number of factors which have led to this amendment. One issue is that when a horse isn't named no one knows who the owner is and this becomes an integrity issue. When a horse is un-named the trainer gets the bill and we know that some owners take a long time to pay, so the trainer has to carry this cost. If we knew the owners it would be their responsibility and we could chase them, not the trainer.

We think it is important that punters know if a horse has trialled, so naming earlier will mean they can get this detail in the form.

The reality is there are plenty of names. Ironically many NZ bred horses get named in New Zealand after they have been sold to Australia – why? Because our naming processes and protocols are easier.

While the period of consultation closes on Friday 7 June 2013, NZTR will accept submissions until close of business on Tuesday 11 June 2013. Then feedback on these proposed amendments will be reviewed by NZTR's Integrity Committee at its meeting on Wednesday 12 June 2013.

On a separate matter congratulations to Noel Harris on his wonderful achievement of riding 5 winners at Ellerslie last Saturday. It is no wonder that he has such a strong following right across the spectrum from the serious punters to the \$1 ew brigade.

Tony Direen – Apprentice Scholarship Australia

South island apprentice Tony Direen is currently on loan to Tony McEvoy in South Australia on a two week riding scholarship sponsored by NZTR. Toni is in the third year of her apprenticeship with Shane Anderton, Wingatui. Toni has had 60 career wins – including 23 wins this season.

Say No More Retired

Dual Group One winning mare Say No More has been retired after a brief stint with premier Sydney conditioner Chris Waller.

The winner of the Thorndon Mile and Breeders' Stakes when trained in New Zealand by Paul Duncan, Say No More won six of her 16 career starts. A daughter of emerging broodmare sire Pentire, she won over distances ranging from 1150m to 1600m.

"She is a nice mare with a good nature and obviously plenty of ability," Waller said. "However, as for racing, I think her best days are behind her and having been a great horse to her owners, now is the time to call it a day. I am sure she will make a lovely broodmare."

Terminating Pick6's Throughout June

Every weekend in June will see a Terminating Pick6 for each racing code.

Friday nights in June will see a \$100k Terminating Harness Pick6, Saturday's will have \$200k Terminating Thoroughbred Pick6, and Sunday's a \$50k Terminating Greyhound Pick6.

Flair Amateur Rider's Series 2013

After the latest Flair Amateur Rider's Series race at Ellerslie last weekend won, by Scott Wenn's mount Ted'll Do, Rebecca Goldsbury still leads on 15 points. Scott Wenn and Linda Wheeler are close behind on 13 points.

Turnover Information for the Period ending 26 May 2013

Date	Club	On-Course (Tote & FOB combined)		Totalisator (Off & on- course combined)		Fixed Odds (Off & on-course)		Races		Starters	
		12-13	11-12	12-13	11-12	12-13	11-12	12- 13	11- 12	12- 13	11- 12
27- May	Hawke's Bay	29,592		457,997		123,727		9		89	
28- May	Rotorua	22,066	31,005	483,309	467,248	135,852	100,430	7	7	73	77
29- May	Feilding	29,930	28,186	530,753	454,157	149,202	79,498	8	7	76	69
30- May	Canterbury	15,057	17,969	386,306	447,506	126,323	88,104	6	8	49	73
31- May	Counties	41,925	50,298	646,996	737,782	184,380	137,875	9	10	93	127
1-Jun	Wanganui	118,183	118,748	1,389,745	1,133,315	265,232	208,337	9	9	122	121
1-Jun	Auckland	112,568	124,009	1,349,087	1,437,947	304,974	268,766	9	9	95	106
2-Jun	Otago	30,615	34,925	411,327	596,496	96,309	99,800	7	8	55	89

(1) Hawke's Bay RI; last year this was an Otaki-Maori RC meeting with 7 races.

(2) Canterbury Racing; last year this meeting was held on the Friday.

(3) Counties RC; last year this meeting was held on the Thursday.

NZ Thoroughbred Summary	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/()	Variance +%/(%)
Meetings	308	300	+8	2.67%
Races	2,587	2,649	(62)	(2.34%)
Starters	26,785	27,966	(1,181)	(4.22%)
Avg Field Size	10.35	10.56	(0.20)	(1.93%)
Number of races less than 8 starters	378	436	(58)	(13.30%)
Off-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	343,301,905	333,237,249	+10,064,656	3.02%
On-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	33,927,977	36,080,134	(2,152,157)	(5.96%)
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	377,229,882	369,317,383	+7,912,499	2.14%
Subtotal Totalisator Turnover	292,181,384	310,007,000	(17,825,615)	(5.75%)
Subtotal FOB Turnover	79,369,034	59,310,384	+20,058,651	33.82%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	145,818	139,418	+6,400	4.59%

NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	14,084	13,206	+878	6.65%
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	1,263,907,273	1,167,975,157	+95,932,116	8.21%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	206,070,986	202,439,857	+3,631,129	1.79%
Total NZRB Turnover	1,469,978,259	1,370,415,015	+99,563,245	7.27%
NZ Thoroughbred Export Turnover (to 19 May)	311,820,609	302,538,197	+9,282,412	+3.07%
Total races (to 19 May)	2,464	2,535	(71)	(2.80%)
NZ Thoroughbred Export turnover per race	126,551	119,344	+7,206	+6.04%

Note: Meetings, races, starters and turnovers are totals of NZRB supplied meeting by meeting turnovers. Off-course turnover is totalisator and FOB combined. On-course turnover is totalisator and FOB racing combined, placed on-course at NZ thoroughbred meetings. Total NZRB racing turnover is NZ thoroughbred, harness, greyhound and all imported racing turnover; total NZRB turnover also includes sport. NZ thoroughbred export turnovers are now included, up to the most recently available meetings. All turnover figures are supplied by the NZRB, derived from various sources.

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