

Friday 28 November 2014

FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

Age group racing is the theme of the weekend with the \$50,000 Trevor Eagle Memorial Three Year Old at Ellerslie. Tavy and Midnitemagician look prominent with previous form on the track. The \$70,000 Eagle Technology Stakes is also a highlight with Veyron, Graphic and Deane Martin looking to start big campaigns over the summer.

NZTR, in conjunction with the Wellington Racing Club, released a BETA version of the first weather station and track camera at Trentham race course on Monday night. The vision and data will provide in depth information for trainers and punters for the preceding seven days before a race meeting. Importantly for the club it will also give race goers the ability to see the weather at the track on race day, as conditions between Wellington city and the Hutt Valley can vary greatly.

Installations at various other tracks throughout the country will follow over the upcoming months.

Following an inspection of the Ashburton track by NZTR National Venue Inspector Garry Foskett on Wednesday 19 November and subsequently by the RIU on Thursday, 27 November trials have been scheduled for Wednesday 3 December.

MCDONALD RARING TO GO IN LONGINES INTERNATIONAL JOCKEYS' CHAMPIONSHIP

James McDonald is gearing up for the 2014 LONGINES International Jockeys' Championship (IJC) on 10 December. He was the LONGINES IJC runner-up on debut in 2011 and comes to the 2014 Happy Valley challenge in stellar form.

McDonald was denied by Green Moon and Brett Prebble when runner-up in the 2012 Melbourne Cup on Fiorente when he was also just 20 but few jockeys have matched his impact on Australian racing at such a young age.

"It's going to be great. I've really enjoyed my previous stints in Hong Kong and as a youngster I dreamed of winning a big international race there and I've been lucky enough to do that," McDonald said in reference to winning the 2012 G1 Champions Mile at Sha Tin aboard Xtension.

McDonald, who was runner-up to Frankie Dettori in the IJC three years ago, has enjoyed a fruitful 2014. He began the Melbourne spring with victory in the G1 Caulfield Guineas and closed it with five winners at Flemington during Melbourne Cup week.

His past four G1 wins have come in million-dollar races with his Australian autumn victories on It's A Dundeel (Queen Elizabeth Stakes); Mossfun (the Golden Slipper) and Rising Romance (Australian Oaks) preceding his Guineas win on Shooting To Win.

LOOKING TO RE-HOME AND PROVIDE A SECOND CAREER FOR YOUR THOROUGHBRED?

There are currently over 60 people from equestrian sports registered on its database interested in receiving information on Thoroughbreds who have finished their racing careers and are looking for new homes/second careers.

If you have a Thoroughbred you are looking to re-home please send to Nicky McBride at nicky@nzequestrian.org.nz at ESNZ: the horse's details (particularly age, sex and breeding); your preferred contact details; the location of the horse; and photos of the horse.

Once these details are received they will be sent out to the group. Group members are asked to contact you directly for more information and possible viewing.

TOUR TO PUNCHESTOWN

After six trips to the Cheltenham Festival and journeys to Aintree and Royal Ascot, Andre Klein, CE of Otago Racing Club, is hosting a tour to Punchestown next year, regarded as the best jump racing Festival in Ireland.

Guests can depart from New Zealand or decide to just join in the tour in Ireland, if wanting to enjoy an extended holiday in Europe. The dates of the Punchestown Festival Tour itself are 24 April to 4 May. The Punchestown Tour will take in five days of racing, a trip to the Curragh and the Irish National Stud, several side tours in Dublin and also a day tour to lovely coastal town of Wicklow.

"It's not all about the racing." Andre Klein explains "We find plenty of time for non-racing activities as well. We are staying at a great hotel in the centre of Dublin for the duration of the trip, so if you want a skip a day's racing, and there are five in succession at Punchestown, you won't be short on things to do."

For a full itinerary and more information, please contact Tracey Stephens, Flight Centre Broker on 027 6053506 or email andre@wingatui.co.nz.



PUNCHESTOWN FESTIVAL RACING TOUR
 April 24 to May 4, 2015

5 DAYS OF THE BEST RACING IN IRELAND
 THE CURRAGH - IRISH NATIONAL STUD & MUSEUM
 STABLE TOURS - DUBLIN TOURS - WICKLOW

Includes return flights: NZ to Dublin
 All internal travel - Race Day Tickets - Side Tours
 Accommodation & breakfast 9 nights
 \$6250pp twin share

FLIGHT CENTRE
Unbeatable

Info & Bookings: Travel Broker: Tracey Stephens
 Email: tracey.stephens.nz@flightcentre.co.nz
 Telephone: 027 6053506

CHRISTMAS AT THE RACES AT CROMWELL

One of the highlights of the Central Otago calendar takes place a week on Sunday, 30 November, at Cromwell's Roundhill Racecourse.

Gates open at 10.30am and the **first race is at** 12.10pm (10 Races including the AWS Legal Queenstown Cup and 1791Diamonds.com Wanaka Cup). **Admission is \$15** (includes a free racebook or pen) and under 18s are free.

There are a few mini marquees still available if you are heading to the races in a group of up to 15 and a few other options. [Check website for specifics.](#)

Entertainment includes the third running of the New Zealand Sheep Derby in aid of Otago Hospice, live music from Maggie Ruddenklau, Fashions on the Field (Theme: Blue Christmas) with a huge pool of prizes for Ladies and Gents, Helicopter flights over the Racecourse by Helitour Flights, free pony rides, face painting and more

Supporters of Cromwell Racing Club, NZ Ski, has extended the Treble Cone Early Bird Season Pass Sale exclusively for patrons of the Cromwell Christmas at the Races until Wednesday, 3 December. Visit the Treble Cone promotion marquee on-course today or head on-line to www.treblecone.com

Buses from Queenstown have been arranged at \$35 return, including admission to the course or \$25 for ticket holders - 03 489 6233.

The race meeting is no longer BYO.

CHRISTMAS AT THE RACES DATES/VENUES 2014

Date	Club	Race Course
Friday, 28 November 2014	Levin RC	Otaki
Saturday, 29 November 2014	Auckland RC	Ellerslie
Saturday, 29 November 2014	Wanganui JC	Wanganui
Saturday, 29 November 2014	Geraldine TC	Orari
Sunday, 30 November 2014	Otago RC @ Cromwell	Cromwell
Thursday, 4 December 2014	Taranaki TRI	New Plymouth

Friday, 5 December 2014	Canterbury Racing	Riccarton Park
Saturday, 6 December 2014	Auckland RC	Ellerslie
Saturday, 6 December 2014	Wellington RC	Trentham
Sunday, 7 December 2014	Waipukurau JC	Waipukurau
Wednesday, 10 December 2014	Otago RC @ Wingatui	Wingatui
Thursday, 11 December 2014	Hawke's Bay RI	Hastings
Friday, 12 December 2014	Racing Tauranga	Gate Pa
Saturday, 13 December 2014	Manawatu RC	Awapuni
Saturday, 13 December 2014	Waikato RC	Te Rapa
Saturday, 13 December 2014	Southland RC	Invercargill
Sunday, 14 December 2014	Auckland RC	Ellerslie
Wednesday, 17 December 2014	Matamata RC	Matamata
Thursday, 18 December 2014	Levin RC	Otaki
Friday, 19 December 2014	Ashburton RC	Ashburton
Saturday, 20 December 2014	Manawatu RC	Awapuni
Saturday, 20 December 2014	Waikato RC	Te Rapa
Sunday, 21 December 2014	Tapanui RC @ Gore	Gore
Monday, 22 December 2014	Taranaki TRI	Pukekura Raceway

NZTR 2015-17 BUSINESS PLAN & NZTR 2014 PERFORMANCE REPORT AVAILABLE ONLINE

The 2015-2017 NZTR Business Plan and 2014 NZTR Performance Report are available on the NZTR website at <http://www.nzracing.co.nz/NZTR/Resources/NZTR-Publications.aspx>

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
19 Nov	Woodville	33,559	16,147	749,602	350,610	330,880	143,477	10	7	121	65
20 Nov	Southland	17,483	25,427	431,287	568,032	186,463	174,040	8	9	60	94
21 Nov	Taranaki	120,312	100,896	877,002	805,509	343,497	279,735	8	8	83	81
22 Nov	Counties	183,392	245,058	2,097,771	2,136,517	801,468	758,447	10	10	125	121
22 Nov	Rangitikei	124,080	107,018	1,275,051	962,741	448,362	227,373	10	8	108	91
23 Nov	Cambridge	89,142	95,010	804,670	774,980	403,521	322,268	10	8	109	93

NZ Thoroughbred Summary FY15	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance /()	Variance %/(%)
Meetings	102	109	(7)	(6.42%)
Races	868	908	(40)	(4.41%)
Total Starts	9,287	9,610	(323)	(3.36%)
Avg Field Size	10.70	10.58	0.12	1.09%
Number of races less than 8 starters	110	132	(22)	(16.67%)
Off-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	127,375,436	123,730,111	3,645,325	2.95%
On-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	10,260,978	10,388,180	(127,203)	(1.22%)
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	137,636,414	134,118,291	3,518,123	2.62%
Subtotal Totalisator Turnover	100,359,467	103,987,455	(3,627,988)	(3.49%)
Subtotal FOB Turnover	37,276,947	30,130,821	7,146,126	23.72%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	158,567	147,707	10,860	7.35%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	14,820	13,956	864	6.19%
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	545,988,175	488,748,100	57,240,075	11.71%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	110,621,286	87,119,155	23,502,131	26.98%
Total NZRB Turnover	656,609,461	575,867,255	80,742,206	14.02%
NZ Thoroughbred Export Turnover \$NZ (to 16 Nov)	103,563,522	101,413,947	2,149,575	2.12%
Total Races (to 16 Nov)	812	856	(44)	(5.14%)
NZ Thoroughbred Export turnover \$NZ per race	127,541	118,474	9,067	7.65%

Meeting details:

Woodville-Pahiatua RC Wednesday meeting ran 10 races; last season the equivalent meeting was on a Monday and ran 7.

Southland RC Thursday meeting ran 8 races in FY15. The equivalent meeting was run on a Wednesday at Winton in FY14 with 9 races.

Rangitikei RC Saturday meeting ran 10 races this season, 8 last season.
Cambridge JC Sunday meeting ran 10 races in FY15, 8 in FY14.

Turnover summary notes:

- Total NZ thoroughbred turnover is up 2.6% year to date.
- 7 less meetings and 40 less races have been run than to the same date last season.
- Turnover per race is up 7.3%.
- Total starts made by thoroughbreds in NZ are down 323, 3.4% less.
- Average field size is 10.70 in FY15, up from 10.58 in FY14.
- The number of races with less than 8 starters is 22 less than the season prior (110 v 132).
- The decline in NZ thoroughbred totalisator turnover (down 3.5%) has been offset by an increase in FOB turnover (up 23.7%).
- Export turnover per race (\$NZ) is up 7.7% to 16 November.

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). 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.