



**Thursday 27 March 2014**

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

Last Saturday was a special day for leading owner and breeder Kevin Hickman with Silent Achiever taking out the \$500,000AU Group 1 Ranvet Stakes at Rosehill Gardens and Emerald Queen's win in the \$70,000 Listed Valachi Downs South Island Thoroughbred Breeders Stakes at Riccarton on the same day.

Silent Achievers win was a great result for the New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeding Industry and franked the Group 1 form of the \$200,000 Lindauer New Zealand Stakes run at Ellerslie on 8 March.

This weekend all eyes will be on the Group 1 \$225,000 The Oaks Stud Manawatu Sires Produce Stakes for 2YO's over 1400m. The Stephen McKee trained O'Marilyn currently holds favouritism with NZRB bookmakers at \$4.20 ahead of Passing Shot \$7.50 and Platinum Balos at \$8.00.

### **TRACKSIDE CHANNEL EXCLUSIVELY ON SKY FROM 14 APRIL 2014**

From 14 April 2014 Trackside channel will be exclusively on SKY. Information on the change, including frequently asked questions, is publicly available on the [TAB website](http://www.tab.com.au), while details of the SKY deal are provided at [www.skytv.co.nz/tab](http://www.skytv.co.nz/tab).

This change will enable Trackside to offer enhanced content across both channels, including an additional 5,000 races which are not currently broadcast on television. Premier events such as the Melbourne Cup, the New Zealand Trotting Cup, New Zealand Galloping Cup, Wellington Cup, Karaka Million, Waikato Sprint, Auckland Cup, Harness Jewels and the Great Northern Steeplechase will continue to be broadcast on Prime.

### **SOUTHLAND RC – SATURDAY 29 MARCH JULY 2014 – OPEN HANDICAP 1400M**

NZTR confirms that in conjunction with the upgrading of the Southland RC race meeting on Saturday 29 March 2014 to Feature status, Apprentice Allowances cannot be claimed in the Open Hcp 1400m

## **WOODVILLE PAHIATUA RC – MONDAY 31 MARCH 2014 - MEETING CANCELLED**

The Woodville Pahiatua Racing Club race meeting programmed for Monday 31 March 2014 has been cancelled due to the surface being too firm to race on and the absence of an irrigation system at the venue.

The programming of a replacement licence at an alternative venue was considered by NZTR, the Regional Programming Committee and the NZ Trainers' Association. It was agreed to be unnecessary given the significant volume of alternative opportunities in the region in the next fortnight.

One additional race has been programmed for the Otaki Maori RC race meeting on Thursday 3 April: **Maiden 3YO SW 1200m \$7,000 \$4,375, \$1,400, \$700, \$350, \$175**

NZTR will consider dividing races in the region in the next fortnight based on nomination numbers.

## **THOROUGHBRED RACING CONNECTIONS FIGURE PROMINENTLY AT HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW**

Thoroughbred racing connections figured prominently at last week's NRM Horse of the Year Show in Hastings.

These included Mark du Plessis's daughter, Isabelle, who won the Showing Pony of the Year Award; Aliasha Moroney won the Dressage Level Three Horse of the Year title class with Sinderella FE; and Natacha Otto took the Bates Saddles Supreme Park Hack of the Year title she won in 2013 aboard 12-year-old Cuvée, a former racehorse. Also in support of the Thoroughbreds in Equestrian Sport (TiES) initiative, the big Jumping class – the Norwood Gold Cup - was won by Luke Dee and his 13-year-old chesnut Thoroughbred Ombudsman and the Bayer Lady Rider of the Year crown was won by Lucy Akers on Thoroughbred Cortaflex Tinapai.

Gold medal-winning paralympian Jo Jackson won three times in Para Equestrian Dressage competitions on her ex-racehorse Nonchalant. The 16-year-old Thoroughbred mare suffered a life-threatening paddock injury in 2011. It was a long road back, but in 2013, Jackson and Nonchalant won the Grade Four Para-dressage Championship at Horse of the Year. Jackson has been riding Nonchalant for about four years. Longer term, Jackson has her eye on riding for New Zealand at the Rio Olympics.

At the NRM Horse of the Year Show Dinner Catriona Williams of Little Avondale Stud and founder of Catwalk, a charity involved in trying to find a cure for spinal cord injury, was inducted into the Hall of Fame by Sir Mark Todd. CatWalk patron Zara Phillips sent her congratulations, saying how impressed she always has been with Williams tenacity and total commitment. "She inspires people in so many ways," she wrote. Lance O'Sullivan, who is also involved with Catwalk, was interviewed by radio personality Jamie Mackay, entertaining the dinner guests with stories of people and horses over his career.

## **SUPPORT FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES IN RACING**

Tim Mills, CE of the Canterbury Jockey Club, is taking part in the St John's Ambulance Challenge on Thursday, 10 April. He is also taking the opportunity to fundraise for St John. Please help thoroughbred racing, through Tim, to support St John during their Appeal. His fundraising link can be found below: [http://www.everydayhero.co.nz/tim\\_mills](http://www.everydayhero.co.nz/tim_mills)

## **NEW ZEALAND BLOODSTOCK INSURANCE PEARL SERIES BONUS RACES – APRIL-JULY 2014**

NZTR confirms the following races have been programmed as **NZB Insurance Pearl Series Bonus Races**:

|                        |                          |                               |              |              |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Otaki Maori RC</b>  | <b>Thursday 3 April</b>  | <b>Maiden Two Year Old SW</b> | <b>800m</b>  | <b>\$7K</b>  |
| <b>Counties RC</b>     | <b>Monday 14 April</b>   | <b>Maiden Two Year Old SW</b> | <b>1200m</b> | <b>\$7K</b>  |
| <b>Taranaki TRI</b>    | <b>Saturday 10 May</b>   | <b>Maiden Two Year Old SW</b> | <b>1200m</b> | <b>\$10K</b> |
| <b>Racing Te Aroha</b> | <b>Monday 14 May</b>     | <b>Two Year Old Hcp</b>       | <b>1000m</b> | <b>\$7K</b>  |
| <b>Avondale JC</b>     | <b>Wednesday 11 June</b> | <b>Maiden Two Year Old SW</b> | <b>800m</b>  | <b>\$7K</b>  |
| <b>Avondale JC</b>     | <b>Wednesday 2 July</b>  | <b>Maiden Two Year Old SW</b> | <b>1200m</b> | <b>\$7K</b>  |

These races will be published in the THOROUGHBRED RACING MONTHLY.

## **POSITION VACANT - GROUP TRACKS MANAGER FOR RACE INCORPORATED**

Applications are invited for the position of Group Tracks Manager for RACE Incorporated. RACE Incorporated manages three premium racing venues at Awapuni, Otaki and Trentham. Further details can be found on the NZTR website. Applications close Friday 4 April. To discuss or apply in confidence contact Al Robertson [alasdair@raceinc.co.nz](mailto:alasdair@raceinc.co.nz) 021 827 479

## **ADDITIONAL NORTHERN REGION TRIALS MEETING – TUESDAY 1 APRIL – AVONDALE**

There has been an additional trials meeting programmed in the Northern Region at Avondale Jockey Club on Tuesday, 1 April 2014. Nominations for the meeting will close noon, Monday 31 March 2014.

## **NORTHERN REGION MEETING TRANSFER – FRIDAY 4 APRIL – WAS DARGAVILLE RC NOW WHANGAREI RC**

The Dargaville Racing Club race meeting programmed for Friday 4 April has been transferred and will now be a Whangarei Racing Club licence, to be run at Ruakaka. The decision to move the meeting was made after an inspection of the track by the NZTR Venue Inspector following recent drought-like conditions experienced in the region. The outcome of the inspection was that the track would not be in a position to be raced on by 4 April.

The programme for the new Whangarei Racing Club licence remains almost the same as was previously programmed for Dargaville, but with three minor distance changes. These are:

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Benchmark R85 Hcp       | was 1800m, is now 1600m |
| Benchmark Rating 65 Hcp | was 1800m, is now 2100m |
| Maiden SW               | was 2000m, is now 2100m |

Please contact the Racing Bureau if any further detail is required.

#### **WAIKATO RC @ PAEROA RACE MEETINGS CANCELLED – 7 APRIL & 21 JULY 2014**

The following race meeting licences in the Northern Region have been relinquished and will not be replaced:

|                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Waikato RC @ Paeroa</b> | <b>Monday 7 April 2014</b> |
| <b>Waikato RC @ Paeroa</b> | <b>Monday 21 July 2014</b> |

Please contact the Racing Bureau if further details are required.

#### **NORTHERN REGION TRIALS – TUESDAY 22 APRIL – WERE PAEROA NOW WAIPA**

The trials programmed for Tuesday 22 April 2014 have been moved from Paeroa to Waipa. Nominations for the meeting close noon, Monday 21 April 2014.

#### **NORTHERN REGION RACE MEETING – WEDNESDAY 30 APRIL 2104 – WAS COUNTIES RC NOW AVONDALE JC**

The race meeting licence previously programmed for Counties Racing Club on 30 April 2014 has been transferred to the Avondale Jockey Club. The meeting details remain unchanged including race distances.

#### **WAIKATO RACING CLUB – SATURDAY 3 MAY – DISTANCE CHANGE TO HURDLE**

There has been a change in distance to the Open Entry Hurdle race at the Waikato Racing Club race meeting on Saturday 3 May 2014. The race was previously programmed for 2400m but has been amended to 2800m. Consequently, the amended details of the race are: **Sp Cond Open Entry Hurdle 2800m. Stake to be confirmed.** The change will not appear in the Regional Programming Booklet but will be in the April THOROUGHBRED RACING MONTHLY.

#### **WOODVILLE PAHIATUA RACING CLUB – THURSDAY 15 MAY 2014 - CHANGE TO PROGRAMME**

There has been a change to the programme for the Woodville-Pahiatua Racing Club race meeting on Thursday 15 May 2014. The Benchmark R75 Hcp 1200m has been deleted & replaced by: **Benchmark R85 Hcp 1400m \$8,000, \$5,000, \$1,600, \$800, \$400, \$200. Nom \$57.50. Acc \$69.00.** This change will be in the April 2014 edition of the THOROUGHBRED RACING MONTHLY.

#### RANGITIKEI RACING CLUB – SATURDAY 17 MAY 2014 - CHANGE TO PROGRAMME

There has been a change to the programme for the Rangitikei Racing Club race meeting on Saturday 17 March 2014. The Benchmark R85 Hcp 1400m has been deleted and replaced by a **Benchmark R75 Hcp 1200m DUNSTAN FEEDS AUTUMN SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIER \$17,500. \$10,935, \$3500, \$1,750, \$875, \$440. Nom \$57.50. Acc \$150.94**

This change will be in the April 2014 edition of the THOROUGHBRED RACING MONTHLY.

#### TURNOVER INFORMATION (FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 23 MARCH 2014)

| 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 |
| 17-Mar | Whakatane   | 23,383                          | 27,025  | 285,644                                | 484,610   | 154,180                      | 217,014 | 7     | 8     | 50       | 59    |
| 19-Mar | Counties    | 31,811                          | 36,301  | 575,037                                | 535,279   | 233,869                      | 208,808 | 8     | 8     | 78       | 72    |
| 20-Mar | South Canty | 11,877                          | 22,047  | 395,208                                | 556,334   | 155,992                      | 145,572 | 7     | 9     | 63       | 99    |
| 21-Mar | Waipukurau  | 14,505                          | 46,351  | 153,983                                | 591,907   | 66,737                       | 192,125 | 3     | 8     | 24       | 79    |
| 22-Mar | Tauranga    | 195,295                         | 193,823 | 1,650,879                              | 1,445,997 | 538,925                      | 436,974 | 9     | 9     | 93       | 85    |
| 22-Mar | Canterbury  | 107,926                         | 72,408  | 1,084,684                              | 995,688   | 300,214                      | 215,629 | 9     | 9     | 105      | 103   |
| 23-Mar | Waverley    | 63,868                          | -       | 534,375                                | -         | 188,141                      | -       | 8     | -     | 65       | -     |

| NZ Thoroughbred Summary | This Season, Year to Date | Last Season, Year to Date | Variance +/- | Variance +%/(-%) |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Meetings                | 232                       | 235                       | (3)          | (1.28%)          |

|  |                      |                      |                    |               |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| <b>Races</b>                                       | 1,916                | 1,981                | (65)               | (3.28%)       |
| <b>Total Starts</b>                                | 19,865               | 20,462               | (597)              | (2.92%)       |
| <b>Avg Field Size</b>                              | 10.37                | 10.33                | +0.04              | +0.38%        |
| <b>Number of races less than 8 starters</b>        | 318                  | 293                  | +25                | +8.53%        |
| <b>Off-Course Turnover (Totalisator &amp; FOB)</b> | 274,946,392          | 276,828,357          | (1,881,965)        | (0.68%)       |
| <b>On-Course Turnover (Totalisator &amp; FOB)</b>  | 27,793,201           | 29,270,335           | (1,477,134)        | (5.05%)       |
| <b>Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover</b>              | 302,739,593          | 306,098,691          | (3,359,098)        | (1.10%)       |
| Subtotal Totalisator Turnover                      | 231,515,039          | 241,707,930          | (10,192,890)       | (4.22%)       |
| Subtotal FOB Turnover                              | 71,224,538           | 64,390,762           | +6,833,777         | +10.61%       |
| <b>NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race</b>           | 158,006              | 154,517              | +3,489             | +2.26%        |
| <b>NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter</b>        | 15,240               | 14,959               | +280               | +1.87%        |
| <b>Total NZRB Racing Turnover</b>                  | 1,015,144,147        | 993,928,843          | +21,215,304        | +2.13%        |
| <b>Total NZRB Sports Turnover</b>                  | 176,025,298          | 151,253,274          | +24,772,024        | +16.38%       |
| <b>Total NZRB Turnover</b>                         | <b>1,191,169,445</b> | <b>1,145,182,117</b> | <b>+45,987,328</b> | <b>+4.02%</b> |

|   |             |             |              |          |
|---|-------------|-------------|--------------|----------|
| <b>NZ Thoroughbred Export Turnover \$NZ (to 23 Feb)</b> | 200,654,596 | 238,501,880 | (37,847,284) | (15.87%) |
| <b>Total Races (to 23 Feb)</b>                          | 1,720       | 1,781       | (61)         | (3.43%)  |
| <b>NZ Thoroughbred Export turnover \$NZ per race</b>    | 116,660     | 133,915     | (17,255)     | (12.89%) |

#### Meeting details

- Whakatane RC Monday equivalent meeting was a Thursday in early April 2013. Meeting ran 7 races this season, 8 in FY13.
- South Canterbury RC Thursday equivalent meeting was in mid-April last season. Meeting ran 7 races in FY14, 9 races in FY13.
- Waipukurau JC Friday meeting was abandoned after 3 races due to an inconsistent racing surface. 8 races were run last season.
- Waverley RC Sunday meeting ran 8 races this season, was abandoned in FY13.

#### Turnover summary notes:

- Total NZ thoroughbred turnover is down 1.1% year to date.
- With 65 less races than run over the same period last season, turnover per race has actually increased, up 2.3%.
- Total starts made by thoroughbreds in NZ are down 597, 2.9% less.
- Average field size is up from 10.33 in FY13 to 10.37 in FY14, 0.04 starters per race (0.4%) more.
- The number of races with less than 8 starters is now 25 higher than a season ago.
- Decline in NZ thoroughbred totalisator turnover (down 4.2%) has been partly offset by an increase in FOB turnover (up 10.7%).
- \$NZ export turnover per race to 23 February is down (12.9%). The variance in the \$NZ/\$A exchange rate is responsible for 11.7% of this decline. The remainder of this decline (1.2%), as well as the absence of any growth, appears to have resulted from the loss of coverage on Sky 1 in Australia for midweek races run after 2pm.

