



Wednesday 7 December 2011

Goodson re-appointed Chairman of NZTR

The Board of New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR) announced today the re-appointment of Mr Matthew Goodson as its Chairman. Mr Joe Walls was appointed Deputy Chairman.

The election took place after the Annual General Meeting held in Wellington on Tuesday 6 December 2011. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman are appointed annually by the Board from among its directors.

The other three directors are Con Anastasiou, Greg McCarthy and John Stace.

The Members' Council is currently seeking applications for the vacant sixth seat on the Board.

On his re-appointment Mr Goodson stated: "I appreciate the confidence and support of the Board."

"Together with my fellow Directors, I look forward to continuing our plans to grow thoroughbred racing, as set out in our proposed Business Plan, unveiled at the AGM, before presenting it at regional meetings around the country over the next two weeks. The Board also looks forward to working collaboratively over the next 12 months with all our stakeholders, the Racing Board, Harness Racing and the Greyhound Racing Association."

The proposed NZTR Business Plan 2012-14 is available at www.nzracing.co.nz

Increase Minimum Weight Open Handicaps

The NZTR Board has increased the minimum declared weight from 53kg to 54kg for all Open Handicap races run at Feature, Tier Two Feature and Industry meetings.

The change to the minimum declared weight in Feature Open races and all lower key Open type races is to be implemented from Monday 11 December, 2011.

As a result of the amendment to NZTR Standard Racing Regulation 8.1 a 54kg Open Handicap minimum weight will now apply to the Canterbury Jockey Club's \$12,000 Open 1400m Handicap on Friday, 16 December and the two \$20,000 Open Handicap races being run at 1600m and 2100m at the Waikato Racing Club's Saturday 17 December Feature meeting.

The change is being implemented immediately to support the busy upcoming Christmas/New Year racing period. In Open races with a 54kg minimum handicap the minimum topweight at release of weights remains at 59kg with a 58kg minimum topweight required still at withdrawal time.

Open Handicap races conducted at Premier meetings will continue to have a 53kg minimum. The minimum weight for Listed and Group Three Handicaps will also remain at 53kg.

Transfer Horses to Another Race After Weights Have Been Released

The NZTR Board has also supported a change to section 6.2 of the NZTR Standard Racing Regulations that will allow a horse to now be transferred to another race, prior to the advertised withdrawal time, where that horse may otherwise not have had an opportunity to start when a race is cancelled, or the horse would have been eliminated from a race, or placed on the ballot.

The change to the Regulations will become effective from Monday 11 December. Under current regulations a horse can only be transferred into another race that is not a Group or Listed race, in circumstances where that race is a set weight race, or where weights have not been released. In part this has been due to the perception that once weights have been declared, a horse being transferred may unduly influence the handicap.

Under the existing ratings based handicapping system, an R72 horse nominated for a R75 1600m Handicap could not be transferred into (say) the R75 2000m Handicap if at withdrawal time the Rating 1600m race was going to be deleted due to a lack of entries.

As a result of this change to the regulations, that horse will now be able to be transferred into any other race in which it is eligible to start. The weight to be carried will be determined by the handicapper and will reflect the position of that horse in the ratings relative to the weights that have already been declared for that race.

For the purpose of field selection, a horse transferred into another race in accordance with this regulation will be deemed to be late nominated for that race.

Regional Meetings to present the proposed NZTR Business Plan 2012-14

New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR) is conducting a series of Regional Meetings to present its proposed Business Plan and development of its long term strategic objectives. These are open to all industry participants.

The first Regional Meeting was held in Christchurch today and the remaining meetings have been scheduled for:

Waikato:	1pm Thursday 8 December at the Cambridge Jockey Club
Auckland:	10.00am Friday 9 December at Ellerslie Racecourse
Palmerston North:	3.30pm Friday 9 December at Awapuni Racecourse
Dunedin	10.30am Thursday 15 December at Wingatui Racecourse
Invercargill	4.00pm on Thursday 15 December at Ascot Racecourse

A date for New Plymouth is yet to be finalised.

Looking for the perfect gift for a racing fan?

The 40th Anniversary edition of the Thoroughbred Racing Annual features all the highlights from the 2010-11 season including New Zealand-bred champion So You Think (NZ), Champion juvenile Anabandana, Filly of the Year King's Rose (NZ), star three-year-old Jimmy Choux (NZ) and much more!

The Racing Annual is available at the special price of **\$40** plus postage and handling.

To purchase visit [NZTM](http://www.nztm.co.nz) or phone NZTM on (07) 849 7230

Biggest Christmas Party week yet!

This week plays host to some of the largest Christmas at the Races events around the country! Taranaki TRI will host New Plymouths Christmas at the Races this Thursday and is followed by three huge events on Saturday at Ascot Park, Awapuni and Te Rapa!

This is a huge weekend for racing and Christmas celebrations throughout the nation. See you on-course for the party.

Follow us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com///#!/TheRaces.co.nz>

Visit www.theraces.co.nz for more information.

Asian Racing Federation Pattern Races Website

The Asian Racing Federation Pattern Races website has been developed by the Asian Pattern Committee (APC) as an online resource for feature races within major Asian Racing Federation (ARF) countries.

The site includes a search function for all ARF Group 1 races and other selected Group races, prospectus information along with news, results, selected video replays and race reviews. The site is designed to assist owners, trainers, stakeholders and media in researching Group race information and results.

The site contains information from 1 August 2011 and will expand to include a wider historical reference and cover a greater number of countries within the ARF region.

The Asian Racing Federation Pattern races website can be viewed at www.arfpatternraces.com

Ashburton Trials Meeting now to be held on Tuesday 13 December

The Ashburton trials were cancelled on Tuesday due to unsafe track conditions. The Banks Peninsula RC has also advised that it is not in a position to hold its scheduled trials on Tuesday 20 December.

Accordingly a separate trials meeting has now been rescheduled for Tuesday 13 December to be held at Ashburton. Nominations close with the National Racing Bureau at 12 noon on Monday 12 December.

Auckland RC & South Canterbury RC 28 December – Amended Withdrawals Deadlines

For the Auckland RC and South Canterbury RC 28 December meetings withdrawals will now close at 2 pm on Friday 23 December (following closing of nominations at 12 noon). This is necessary to ensure the race fields are included in appropriate media publications.

Waikouaiti RC – Stake Increases and Distance Changes for 1 January 2012 Meeting

The Waikouaiti RC has announced the following stake increases for its meeting on 1 January 2012.

Waikouaiti Cup, Open Handicap, 2000m, and the Open handicap 1250m are now to be run for a stake of \$13,120 (previously \$12,000), \$7,500, \$2,400, \$1,200, \$600, \$300, horses placed 6th-12th \$160.

Following an inspection of the Waikouaiti course, the 1150m distance has been changed to 1125m, and the 2000m distance has been changed to 1975m. This is necessary to safely accommodate the new starting gates which will be in use at this meeting.

Feature Race Early and Late Nominations

Auckland RC

1st withdrawals for the Blandford Lodge Railway Stakes, Waiwera Water City of Auckland Cup and Dunstan Feeds Stayers Championship close with the National Racing Bureau at 11 am on Thursday 8 December 2011.

Wellington RC

1st withdrawals and 1st late nominations for the Wellington Cup and Telegraph Handicap close with the National Racing Bureau at 11 am on Wednesday 7 December 2011.

Turnover Information for the Period ending 4 December 2011

Date	Club	On-Course		Off-Course		Fixed Odds		Starters	
								11-12	10-11
30/11	Counties (1)	63,308	29.4%	833,413	17.3%	203,360	1.0%	108	15.6%
1/12	Rotorua (2)	55,958	21.2%	648,022	28.0%	197,938	27.7%	93	32.1%
2/12	Ashburton (3)	50,098	7.0%	554,023	25.5%	97,868	23.8%	97	10.2%
3/12	Wellington	270,825	5.1%	1,822,416	15.9%	370,057	2.0%	129	6.5%
3/12	Auckland	185,704	6.0%	1,411,511	1.5%	309,722	13.0%	104	10.6%
4/12	Waipukurau (4)	130,060	20.9%	839,032	3.3%	170,861	21.1%	102	14.3%

- (1) Counties RC; 10 races this year, in comparison with 11 races last year.
 (2) Racing Rotorua; this was a Racing Matamata meeting last year; 9 races this year, in comparison with 10 races last year.
 (3) Ashburton RC; 9 races this year, in comparison with 11 races last year.
 (4) Waipukurau JC; 9 races this year, in comparison with 11 races last year.

Thoroughbred Summary – 11/12 Year to Date 1 August 2011 – 4 December 2011

NZ Thoroughbred Summary	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/-	Variance +%/(-%)
Races	1,062	1,070	(8)	(0.75%)
Starters	11,150	11,258	(108)	(0.96%)
Avg Field Size	10.50	10.52	(0.02)	(0.21%)
Off-Course Turnover	110,116,759	119,326,185	(9,209,426)	(7.72%)
On-Course Turnover	11,507,817	13,002,699	(1,494,882)	(11.50%)
Total Totalisator Turnover	121,624,576	132,328,884	(10,704,308)	(8.09%)
Fixed Odds	21,492,617	20,138,331	+1,354,287	+6.72%
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	143,117,193	152,467,215	(9,350,021)	(6.13%)
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	134,762	142,493	(7,731)	(5.43%)
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	12,836	13,543	(707)	(5.22%)
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	468,698,094	480,085,732	(11,387,637)	(2.37%)
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	92,376,303	62,740,750	+29,635,553	+47.23%
Total NZRB Turnover	561,074,397	542,826,482	+18,247,916	+3.36%

Note: NZRB supplied On-course Turnover total represents On-course turnover placed on NZ thoroughbred meetings from all on-course venues. 'Total' NZ Thoroughbred turnover figure includes Off-course (including Pick 6), On-course (NZRB figure as commented above) and all Fixed Odds Turnover. All Turnover figures are supplied by the NZRB.

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