

Thursday 14 March 2013

"From the horse's mouth ..."

Sometimes we think one voice won't make a difference but if every person in racing reminded their MP that just one Australian corporate bookmaker returns anything to the industry, and that we need a law change, we might get some traction.

Every time anyone bets offshore with a bookmaker on a kiwi thoroughbred race owners and trainers are ultimately missing out on potential revenue. Significantly, tote betting by Aussie operators on kiwi thoroughbred racing has grown by a compound average rate of 9 per cent per annum over the past five years. Whilst Australian totalisator operators are paying the NZRB \$21 million in fees, Australian corporate bookmakers are not.

If a kiwi punter bets on a New Zealand race with the New Zealand TAB it returns 11.7 per cent from every \$1 spent (excluding overheads) to the New Zealand racing codes.

So \$100 bet with:

- New Zealand TAB on a totalisator bet results in about \$11.70 going back into NZ racing.
- New Zealand TAB on a fixed odds bet results in \$6.70 going back into NZ racing.
- Australian totalisator operator on a totalisator bet results in about \$2.70 going back into NZ racing.
- Australian corporate bookmaker provides NOTHING back to NZ thoroughbred racing.

Offshore betting agencies are getting more aggressive with their marketing techniques to encourage kiwis to bet with them. But the more high value customers bet offshore the more leakage there is and the poorer our industry will be.

Market research shows that there is more than \$33 million of deposits by New Zealand citizens with offshore gambling operators each year.

Australian corporate bookmakers, bar one, pay New Zealand racing no fee. If you know someone who uses Aussie corporate bookmakers remind them they aren't actually aren't helping the support of thoroughbred racing in New Zealand.

So if you are have a chance to talk to your local MP or you see one on track and you want to see better returns to thoroughbred racing participants, then please ask them what are they doing about protecting the intellectual property or 'free riding' that Aussie bookmakers are making on our product.

If you know your local MP please feel free to share this information with them and help us lobby for fairer returns to those who are paying to put the races on.

NZB Insurance Pearl Series Reminder

First nominations for the NZB Insurance Pearl Series 2013 close 31 March with the New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders Association.

This new scheme for fillies and mares offers bonuses of almost \$2.6 million and prizemoney of nearly \$2.8 million across 200 individual races for fillies and mares over three seasons' racing.

The scheme has been designed to benefit all owners, trainers and breeders of thoroughbred fillies racing in New Zealand. Bonuses are available throughout all regions of the country. The series is administered by the NZTBA.

The NZB Insurance Pearl Series 2013 is open to fillies which are of the 2011 crop (2012 yearlings).

Eligibility for the scheme is restricted to fillies nominated for the scheme as yearlings in 2013. Bonuses will be provided on 215 2YO, 3YO and 4YO races for each series comprising: 15 specified open sex 2YO races in the 2013-14 racing season; 180 mid-week fillies' and mares' races through the term of the Series, along with 20 Saturday fillies' and mares' races.

These races will be open to NZB Insurance Pearl Series-nominated and non NZB Insurance Pearl Series-nominated fillies and mares. Only fillies and mares nominated for the NZB Insurance Pearl Series are eligible for bonuses.

The early nomination fee for the NZB Insurance Pearl Series 2013, paid prior to 31 March 2013 is: \$690.00* per filly.

For more information and an entry form [click here](#).

Prizemoney Boost for 2013 Prestige and Feature Jumps Races

New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR) has announced an increase in prizemoney across 16 feature races for the upcoming 2013 jumps season to support NZTR's 2013-15 Business Plan objective to maximize the exposure of the signature Prestige Jumping Races (PJR) races and our major jumping carnivals.

As a result of changes to the programming and structure of the 2013 jumps season, which will see the introduction of Open Entry Jumping races this year to support the regular pattern of weekend PJR races, NZTR in consultation with NZ Jumps Inc. has lifted prizemoney across the 16 designated races by \$150,000.

NZTR has budgeted to pay out just over \$2 million in prizemoney across an estimated 109 jumping races this season.

The Wellington Hurdles and Steeples and the CJC Grand National Hurdles and Grand National Steeple will all now be run for a stake of \$70,000. The Rodd & Gunn Great Northern Steeplechase and the Great Northern Hurdle at Ellerslie in September will continue to be run for \$100,000 each.

Beginning with the Waikato Hurdles and Steeples at Te Rapa in May, prizemoney for all of the remaining PJR races this year will be increased to a minimum of \$40,000 each. In the South Island, the Great Western Steeple and Hurdle at Riverton will be run for \$30,000, while the Koral Steeple and Sydenham Hurdles, run on the first day of the Canterbury Racing Club's Grand National carnival, will be increased to \$30,000 each.

2013 schedule of PJR and feature jumping races:

Sun May 12	Riverton	Great Western Steeplechase & Great Western Hurdle	\$30,000 each
Sat May 18	Waikato	Waikato Steeplechase & Waikato Hurdle	\$40,000 each
Mon June 3	Auckland	McGregor Grant Steeplechase & K S Browne Hurdle	\$40,000 each
Sat June 15	Manawatu	Manawatu Steeplechase & Awapuni Hurdle	\$40,000 each
Sat June 29	Hawke's Bay	Hawke's Bay Steeplechase & Hawke's Bay Hurdle	\$40,000 each
Sat 13 July	Wellington	Wellington Steeplechase & Wellington Hurdle	\$70,000 each
Sat 3 August	Canterbury	Koral Steeplechase & Sydenham Hurdle	\$30,000 each
Wed 7 August	Canterbury	Grand National Hurdle	\$70,000
Sat 10 Aug	Canterbury	Grand National Steeplechase	\$70,000
Sat 24 August	Auckland	Pakuranga Hunt Cup Steeple & Pakuranga Hunt Hurdle	\$40,000 each
Sat 9 Sept	Auckland	Great Northern Steeplechase & Great Northern Hurdle	\$100,000 each

Racing Safety Development Fund

Clubs are reminded that applications to the second round of the Racing Safety Development Fund for the 2012/13 racing year close at the end of March.

There is up to \$1.0 million (GST excl.) available annually to fund projects that improve racecourse health and safety and all racing clubs have the opportunity to make an application that supports the objectives of the fund.

The RSDF application form outlines the criteria to be used to assess applications, and the supporting information that is required. Each project seeking funding requires an application form.

Please note that projects that are retrospective or have already been completed are not eligible for consideration and that late applications will not be considered.

Applications should be completed and received by the Department of Internal Affairs by 5.00pm on 31 March 2013.

Please contact the Department of Internal Affairs (phone: (04) 495 6834 or email: rsdf@dia.govt.nz) for any further advice on the Fund. An application form can also be downloaded from <http://www.dia.govt.nz/>

NZ Stud Book Now Available

Volume XXXIII (2012) of the NZ Stud Book contains the complete breeding records of 10,880 mares with pedigrees stated to three generations and progeny named overseas are shown.

Also includes:

- imported mares and horses
- stallions at stud in NZ and fertility figures
- broodmares listed under their sires
- Volume VIII of the Non Stud Book Register

Click here to download the [order form](#)

Send to:

NZ Stud Book

PO Box 38386

Wellington Mail Centre

Fax: 04 568 8866

Email: studbook@nzracing.co.nz

Canterbury Racing - Hororata 129 Years of History

Saturday 23 March 2013 marks the 129th year of racing for the Hororata Racing Club, now "Canterbury Racing-Hororata."

The Hororata Racing Club was one of the earliest provincial Clubs to be formed following a meeting of 26 interested people at Hororata on 20 September 1884 who organised a Committee to run a race meeting at Hororata on 6 January 1885. Run under the Canterbury Jockey Club ('C.J.C.') rules the meeting was an eight race programme for stakes of 135 sovereigns. The inaugural Hororata Cup was won by Mr T Quill's GRAND DUKE and was run for a purse of 40 sovereigns.

These early meetings at Hororata did not have full running rails, they being only in the straight and on the bend to it. The rest of the course was marked with manuka stakes. A running rail for the full course was only installed in the 1920's. During the 129 years history of the Club there have only been 14 Presidents: Sir John Hall, Mr HA Knight, Major L D G Ackland, Mr W Deans, Mr Gilbert Grigg, Mr J F Thwaites, Mr G F Hutton, Mr D J Stuart, Mr R L Bennetts, Mr G E J Hutton, Mr M R Murchison, Mr T C Grigg, Mr N K Rainey, and the current president Mr D G Watson.

After the first meeting at Hororata the railways manager was approached and he offered to put on an excursion train at special rates from Christchurch. This ran to Coalgate and brought both horses and patrons, who then walked the few miles to the course, before returning to the "young" city, leaving Coalgate at 5:30pm.

A "Ladies Bracelet" race was run at the very first meeting, and this was revived at the Centennial meeting in 1984. For that year and every year since Petersens Jewellers have kindly donated a gold bracelet for a race, which is usually for two or three year olds. This year will be the 30th bracelet; there have been thirty proud and happy winners!

Hororata raced on its own course for the first 80 years, when because of the requirement for extensive course improvements, and encouragement from the Racing Conference for centralisation, the Club arranged to rent the Riccarton Racecourse for its future meetings. The first meeting to be held on the new venue was in 1965.

For the next 21 years Hororata retained its own Secretary, and independence, paying a rental fee to the C.J.C. for each meeting run. By this time there were two meetings each year and on one occasion three, which struck a very wet day and proved to be quite serious on the finances.

In 1986 on the retirement of the Secretary, discussions were held with Dr J M Louisson the Chairman of the C.J.C. and his Committee, and it was decided to operate from the Riccarton headquarters and engage the C.J.C. as the secretariat for the Hororata Club.

By the time the "Canterbury Racing" amalgamation between the C.J.C. and Amberley, North Canterbury, Hororata Racing Clubs and the Riccarton Turf Club took place in 2003 Hororata was a well established segment of racing at Riccarton Park.

The Club is an integral part of "Canterbury Racing". It continues to be run by an enthusiastic and experienced Committee, which has strong links to its "home district" from which it continues to receive solid support.

This year's renewal of the Hororata annual racemeeting will be held on Saturday 23 March 2013 at the Riccarton Park Racecourse with the first race scheduled to start at 12:18 pm. Entry is Free.

Central Districts Trainers' Association Golf Tournament - Wednesday 27 March

Central Districts Trainers' Association Golf Tournament - Wednesday 27 March at the Palmerston North Golf Club.

Entry - \$40 per person (teams of up to 4), Stableford Competition.

Entry includes complimentary food and beverage throughout the event and a ticket into a Sweepstake to be run on The Oaks Stud Manawatu Sires Produce Stakes.

Entries to Paul Claridge on 021 322 300. Entries close Monday 25 March.

"Fiber Fresh NZ Thoroughbred Breeders Stakes Day" - Saturday 6 April

Feature Races

"Fiber Fresh NZ Thoroughbred Breeders Stakes" Group 1, WFA Fillies & Mares, \$200,000.

"J Swap Contractors Te Aroha Cup" \$40,000. "Team Wealleans Open Handicap" \$40,000.

Hospitality

Gates Open - 9.30 am. Admission - Free. Free Children's Entertainment. Two Super Screens to catch all of the racing action, on & off course.

Win a trip for two to the Sunshine Coast with accommodation at the "Centrepont Holiday Apartments" in Caloundra & Airfares Courtesy of Travelselect Paeroa.

Hospitality Package - 'Under the Trees' at the end of the main straight has always been one of the top party spots on-course.

Reserve your front row spot right on the fence-line now for unobstructed views of the racing action! Only \$50 for 10 people.

Book on line at theraces.co.nz or call Racing Te Aroha 07 8849 822.

Turnover Information for the Period ending 10 March 2013

Date	Club	On-Course		Off-Course		Fixed Odds		Starters	
								12-13	11-12
6/3	Auckland	698,307	0.6%	1,928,235	15.4%	808,770	4.8%	108	12.9%
7/3	Canterbury	22,179	10.7%	465,336	25.1%	160,950	9.4%	73	8.8%
8/3	Otaki-Maori (2)	28,615	8.4%	483,859	9.6%	164,860	23.9%	76	1.3%
9/3	Otago	34,395	12.8%	903,480	4.8%	221,260	4.9%	98	10.9%
9/3	Auckland	378,580	4.4%	1,767,618	9.6%	789,344	13.7%	100	18.7%

(1) Waikato RC, 4 March; meeting scheduled to be held at Paeroa was abandoned due to drought conditions which detrimentally affected nominations and would have provided very firm track conditions. Last year there was a Paeroa RC meeting at which there were 8 races.

(2) Otaki-Maori RC; there were 8 races this year, compared to 7 races last year.

NZ Thoroughbred Summary	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance /()	Variance %/(%)
Races	1,895	1,918	(23)	(1.20%)
Starters	19,641	20,186	(545)	(2.70%)
Avg Field Size	10.36	10.52	(0.16)	(1.52%)
Off-Course Turnover	205,756,071	210,538,562	(4,782,491)	(2.27%)
On-Course Turnover	24,910,557	25,998,996	(1,088,439)	(4.19%)
Total Totalisator Turnover	230,666,628	236,537,558	(5,870,930)	(2.48%)
Fixed Odds	61,670,694	43,703,670	17,967,024	41.11%
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	292,337,322	280,241,228	12,096,094	4.32%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	154,268	146,111	8,157	5.58%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	14,884	13,883	1,001	7.21%
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	946,083,032	858,223,761	87,859,271	10.24%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	142,518,430	143,977,807	(1,459,377)	(1.01%)
Total NZRB Turnover	1,088,601,463	1,002,201,569	86,399,894	8.62%

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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