



Wednesday 19 March 2014

FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

It was a fantastic day's racing at Trentham last Saturday with Miss Mossman taking out the \$300,000 New Zealand Wellfield New Zealand Oaks in good style. Trained by John Sargent and Hayden Allen the filly provided a well deserved Group 1 success for leading Central District jockey Jonathon Parkes.

Other feature races winners included the:

- Warren Bolton owned and trained Neena Rock accounting for Zurella in the \$70,000 Group 3 Hiremaster Cuddle Stakes;
- Kevin Gray trained Sir Gus in the \$50,000 Hyland Racing Colours New Zealand St Leger; and,
- Paul Richard's trained Natuzzi in the \$50,000 Listed Sakhee's Secret Lightning Handicap.

We have three Group 1 races remaining for the season with the:

- \$225,000 Oaks Stud Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes at Awapuni on 29 March 2014;
- \$200,000 Fiber Fresh New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders Stakes at Te Aroha on 5 April 2014; and
- \$200,000 Manco Easter Handicap at Ellerslie on 12 April 2014.

There is plenty of interest across the Tasman with our some of our country's best horses racing in Sydney over the ATC Autumn Carnival with Dundeel, Atlante, El Roca, Puccini, Silent Achiever, Rising Romance and Miss Mossman all expected to perform well.

Despite a number of weather and track related race meeting issues over recent weeks at Paeroa, Dargaville and Wyndham, the good news is that Riccarton Park will resume racing this Saturday following the successful completion of major drainage works to the course proper and 1200 metre shute.

2014-2015 Draft Race Dates

The NZRB has provided a draft of 2014-2015 race dates to race clubs for review. The flow of the New Zealand thoroughbred Calendar has been reshaped to provide an appropriate number of meetings and races for the code for future seasons.

The major recommended changes included in the Calendar are:

- An allocation of 335 meetings and 2,776 races, representing an overall reduction of 29 meetings and 179 races from those scheduled in the FY14 Calendar.
- Of the 29 fewer meetings, 41 will be removed from Mondays, with 12 to be redistributed across the Calendar onto other days of the week (the majority onto Sundays);
- An increase (0.5%) in the proportion of races held in the Northern Region, and a decrease in races run in the Central Region (0.1%) and the South Island (0.4%);
- An increase in meetings and races held at Strategic, Significant and Supporting venues by a combined 4.1%;
- With the balance of meeting reductions, the loss of Paeroa as a racing venue has been able to be absorbed by the remaining venues in the Northern Region.

The reduction to 2,776 races had already been signaled in NZTR's Business Plan 2014-2016 for the FY16 Season. With the decline in the number of horses available to race, we have in effect brought forward the timing of this consolidation of races. Although the number of races has decreased, the total number of meetings scheduled for FY15 actually is five more than the 2010/2011 Season, the last full season where no regular pattern of Mondays was scheduled.

NZTR will be undertaking a series of teleconferences with the sector groups and race clubs from each region on Thursday this week. Club submissions are due back to the NZRB and NZTR by 17 April 2014.

NOTIFYING NZTR OF DE-REGISTRATION OR DEATH OF A THOROUGHBRED

Owners, Trainers and Breeders are reminded to register the death of a horse (a requirement under Rule 417) or de-register a horse when selling or permanently gifting the horse to another Owner who no longer intends to use the horse for Thoroughbred racing or breeding (Rule 411).

The form for notification of death or de-registration (Form SR24) can be downloaded from the NZTR website (under *NZTR* and then *Forms*): <http://www.nzracing.co.nz/Downloads/Forms/SR24.pdf>

In cases of de-registration the form will register the transfer of ownership and details of the new owner out of the racing or breeding population. This also provides the opportunity to prevent any subsequent Owner racing or breeding a horse for whatever reason (for example, age or previous serious injury).

Form SR24 provides NZTR, Owners, Trainers and Breeders more traceability and transparency for their Thoroughbreds retiring from racing or breeding. It also provides greater protection for Owners gifting or selling horses out of racing or breeding.

The Register of Deaths and De-registered Horses sits with NZTR's Registrations Department.

NZTR will be alerted in the event a de-registered horse is entered in a race or application is made to re-register a broodmare/stallion.

A person may apply to NZTR to re-register a de-registered horse for racing or breeding. Each case will be considered on its merits.

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**:

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

These races will be published in the THOROUGHBRED RACING MONTHLY.

THOROUGHBRED WINS NOORWOOD CUP AT HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW

In support of the Thoroughbreds in Equestrian Sport (TiES) initiative, aimed at stimulating uptake of ex-racehorses for second careers, the big Jumping class held today at the Horse of the Year Show in Hawke's Bay was won by Luke Dee and his 13-year-old chesnut Thoroughbred horse Ombudsman (by Omnicorp out of Doll).

SUPPORT FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES IN RACING

This year Tim Mills, CE of the Canterbury Jockey Club, is taking part in the St John's Ambulance Challenge. He will be going out on a 12-hour night shift with St John paramedics and ambulance officers on Thursday, 10 April. Alongside taking part in this challenge he is also fundraising in competition with other participants to raise money for St John which goes directly to supporting the ambulance services. His fundraising link can be found below: http://www.everydayhero.co.nz/tim_mills
Please help thoroughbred racing, through Tim, to support St John during their Appeal.

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 021 827 479

BEAUMONT RACING CLUB – MONDAY 24 MARCH – ADDITIONAL RACE ADDED

There has been a change to the programme for the Beaumont Racing Club race meeting on Monday 24 March 2014. An additional race has been added to the programme following the abandonment of the Wyndham RC race meeting on Sunday 16 March 2014. The race is: **Benchmark R65 Hcp 1400m \$7,000. \$4,375, \$1,400, \$700, \$350, \$175.**

WANGANUI JOCKEY CLUB – THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2014 - FINAL RACE CONFIRMED

A Jumpers Flat race will be added to the programme for the Wanganui Jockey Club race meeting on Thursday 27 March. All other races on the programme remain unaltered. The added race is: **Jumpers Flat Hcp – 2040m Of \$7,000. \$4,375, \$1,400, \$700, \$350, \$175. Minimum weight 54kg.**

The Central Region Clubs are trialing a new initiative where 10 days out from a mid-week industry meeting the Central Regional Programming Committee will consider an additional 8th race based on recent nominations and a review of upcoming opportunities for horses in the region. The flexibility to programme an extra race is designed to provide an opportunity for horses which might otherwise not be able to start.

NORTHERN LICENCE CHANGE – FRIDAY 28 MARCH 2014 – WAS WAIKATO RC @ PAEROA NOW COUNTIES RC

The Waikato Racing Club race meeting, originally programmed to be held at Paeroa on Friday 28 March, has been transferred to a Counties Racing Club meeting at Pukekohe Park. This has also resulted in some distance changes as follows:

Benchmark R75 Hcp	1350m to 1300m
Benchmark R65 F&M Hcp (F&M Bonus Race)	1670m to 1600m
Benchmark R65 Hcp	1150m to 1200m
Mdn SW	2100m (unchanged)
Mdn F&M SW	1670m to 1600m
Mdn SW	1150m to 1200m
Mdn F&M SW	1150m to 1200m
Mdn 3YO SW	1350m to 1300m

All other details relating to the previously published programme remain unaltered.

WYNDHAM TRAINERS PAYMENT AND CUP RACES

Due to the abandonment of the Wyndham Racing Club's annual race day last Sunday consultations through Gallop South between the Wyndham Racing Club, Southland Racing Club and the Invercargill Licensing Trust resulted in the Southland Club agreeing to accommodate the Wyndham Club and give them the opportunity to run their two Feature Cup races on their ILT sponsored race day Saturday 29 March.

The Southland RC programmed races on March 29 will now be:

\$15,000	Open 1400m	RD PETROLEUM FIRESIDE CUP
\$12,000	BM R85 2100m	PGG WRIGHTSON AON INSURANCE BROKERS WYNDHAM CUP

The Wyndham Racing Club appreciate this kind gesture and would like to thank the Southland Racing Club and ILT for the opportunity to run their two time honoured events on this race day.

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:

Waikato RC @ Paeroa
Waikato RC @ Paeroa

Monday 7 April 2014
Monday 21 July 2014

Please contact the Racing Bureau if further details are required.

NORTHERN REGION TRIALS – TUESDAY 22 APRIL – WERE PAEROA NOW WAI PA

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.

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 16 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
10-Mar	Egmont	54,158	47,356	404,577	299,150	162,077	160,438	8	7	66	50
12-Mar	South Waikato @Matamata	101,426	94,833	740,270	713,986	289,958	306,717	9	8	101	89
14-Mar	Ashburton	33,499	28,352	595,131	518,541	211,357	173,112	9	8	92	76
15-Mar	Waikato	59,225	68,820	1,049,467	910,301	363,547	284,598	9	9	86	72
15-Mar	Wellington	228,752	293,954	2,258,489	2,096,527	823,727	647,925	10	10	121	118
16-Mar	Wyndham	162	22,288	162	339,160	-	112,828	-	8	-	78

NZ Thoroughbred Summary	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/-	Variance +%/(-%)
Meetings	225	228	(3)	(1.32%)
Races	1,865	1,928	(63)	(3.27%)
Total Starts	19,387	19,948	(561)	(2.81%)
Avg Field Size	10.40	10.35	+0.05	+0.47%
Number of races less than 8 starters	305	283	+22	+7.77%
Off-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	268,897,478	271,201,350	(2,303,871)	(0.85%)
On-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	27,344,536	28,869,079	(1,524,543)	(5.28%)
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	296,242,014	300,070,429	(3,828,415)	(1.28%)
Subtotal Totalisator Turnover	226,655,520	237,071,266	(10,415,746)	(4.39%)
Subtotal FOB Turnover	69,586,480	62,999,163	+6,587,316	+10.46%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	158,843	155,638	+3,205	+2.06%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	15,280	15,043	+238	+1.58%
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	987,446,273	968,732,545	+18,713,728	+1.93%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	170,239,622	146,430,626	+23,808,996	+16.26%
Total NZRB Turnover	1,157,685,895	1,115,163,171	+42,522,724	+3.81%

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

Meeting details

- Egmont RC Monday meeting ran 8 races this season, 7 in FY13.
- South Waikato RC meeting at Matamata ran 9 races in FY14, 8 races in FY13.
- Ashburton RC ran 9 races this season, 8 races last season.
- Wyndham RC was abandoned due to a slippery track this season; was 8 races Monday 22 April in FY13.

Turnover summary notes:

- Total NZ thoroughbred turnover is down 1.3% year to date.
- With 63 less races than run over the same period last season, turnover per race has actually increased, up 2.1%.
- Total starts made by thoroughbreds in NZ are down 561, 2.8% less.
- Average field size is up from 10.35 in FY13 to 10.40 in FY14, 0.05 starters per race (0.5%) more.
- The number of races with less than 8 starters is now 22 higher than a season ago.
- Decline in NZ thoroughbred totalisator turnover (down 4.4%) has been partly offset by an increase in FOB turnover (up 10.5%).
- \$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.