

NZ TRAINERS ASSOCIATION

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BY WENDY COOPER

NEW ZEALAND TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION



BRANCH AGM'S

The branch Annual General Meetings were held recently and whilst it was pleasing to see a few new faces, the attendance at most was disappointing.

The Trainers' Association was originally set up with a focus on the regional branches so it is of concern that so many trainers don't feel a need to come along.

Apart from local affairs being discussed, there was also a national update, covering many important issues, in particular the Racing Industry Bill and stakes levels for the new season.

All meetings had Bernard Saundry (apart from Otago) and Martin Burns from NZTR in attendance, either in person (at the CD meeting) or by telephone. An update was provided on subjects including: the revised quarterly Programming Booklet, Trainer-Owner reforms, Welfare Guidelines and horse traceability, Immigration and potential Apprentice Subsidies. It was also a great opportunity for trainers to contribute and ask questions so that Bernard and Marty were able to really understand the subject at hand and offer responses.

BRANCH EXECUTIVE

Elections at the meetings saw very little changing of the guard – however there will be more emphasis on branch operations, so the elected Vice Presidents will take a more active role in the Association. Should you have anything you wish raised, please contact your local Track Representative or Branch Executive. If you have a particular programming issue, please contact the Programming representatives listed below.

NORTHERN

Branch President: Andrew Forsman
Vice President: Robert Wellwood

TRACK REPRESENTATIVES

Matamata..... T Autridge
Cambridge Stephen Marsh
Tauranga Jim Pender
Te Aroha Gavin Opie or Scott Wenn
Waipa Keith Hawtin
Counties N Tiley
Byerly Park D Williams
Ruakaka C Gibbs

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

T Pike, S Marsh, A Forsman, J Richards, L Laing, R Wellwood

CENTRAL DISTRICTS

Branch President: Gary Vile
Vice President: Roydon Bergerson
Secretary (for life): Paul Claridge

TRACK REPRESENTATIVES

Waverley Bill Thurlow
Wanganui JJ Rayner
Awapuni..... Roydon Bergerson
Woodville Shane Brown
Levin Sylvia Kay
Otaki Johnno Benner
Opaki Roger Allen
Tauherenikau Aaron Bidlake
Hastings Lee Somervell

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Mike Breslin, Mathew Eales & Gary Vile

CANTERBURY

Branch President: Andrew Carston
Vice Presidents: Matthew Pitman & Anna Furlong

TRACK REPRESENTATIVES

Riccarton Matthew Pitman
Ashburton TBC
Timaru Michael Daly
Rangiora Robyn Mauger

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

M & M Pitman, A Furlong, John Blackadder

SOUTHLAND

Branch President: Sally McKay
Vice President: Robert Dennis

TRACK REPRESENTATIVES

Ascot Park S McKay
Gore E Winsloe
Wyndham Robert Dennis
Riverton G Eade
Winton J Phillips

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Sally McKay & Robert Dennis

OTAGO SUB-BRANCH

Sub-Branch President: Jim Burns
Wingatui Track Rep & Programming Committee Rep: Terry Kennedy