

Thursday 18 December 2014

FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

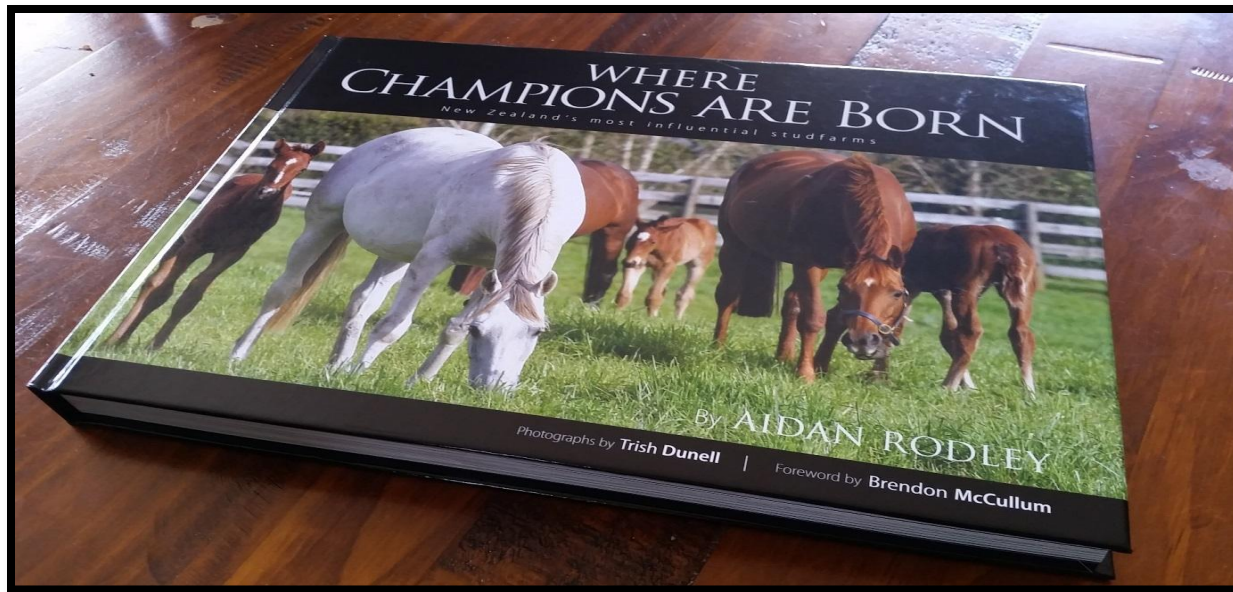
The feature meeting of the week is at Awapuni Racecourse on Saturday. The high quality card includes the \$100,000 Hotel Coachman Manawatu Cup and \$70,000 Kamada Park Manawatu Challenge Stakes. The \$50,000 Rich Hill Stud Three Year Old Premier was added due to the Levin R.C abandonment on the 28th of November. Ransomed will have his chance to re-enter the winners circle; however he concedes 5kg to his nearest rival. Perhaps value could be found in the weights for wary punters in the Cup. The weight for age event provides a quality contest. Pure Champion, Scapolo and Diademe are top class and tactics will play a big part in the nine horse field.

Aerovelocity provided ex-pat Paul O'Sullivan a famous win in the Group One Hong Kong Sprint on Sunday night. The Pins gelding lead all the way in arguably the World's premier sprint race and held off a determined Peniaphobia. The horse was sourced by Windsor Park Stud farm for \$120,000 at the 2010 New Zealand Bloodstock Premier Yearling Sale. Another New Zealand bred Criterion performed admirably in the Group One Hong Kong Cup (2000m). He raced against his natural pattern and finished a gallant third behind the local pair of Designs In Rome and Military Attack. To put his performance in perspective, he finished half a length ahead of the six-time Group One winner Cirrus Des Aigles, who has famously defeated the likes of So You Think, St Nicholas Abbey and two-time 'Arc' winner Treve.

WHERE CHAMPIONS ARE BORN – THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT

Aidan Rodley and the Waikato Racing Club are launching his book *Where Champions Are Born* tomorrow, 19 December. *Where Champions Are Born* is the first book on the New Zealand breeding industry in many years. It is a high-quality hardcover 216-page book at just \$39.90.

Written by racing broadcaster and journalist Aidan Rodley and with a foreword from New Zealand cricket captain Brendon McCullum, exquisite Trish Dunell photographs and stunning layout, *Where Champions Are Born* is a study of 17 of New Zealand's leading stud farms, documenting the history and success of some of our most important breeding establishments.



ANONYMOUS RACING INTEGRITY LINE – 0800 RIU 123

The Racing Integrity Unit (RIU) has launched an anonymous 0800 number for the racing industry to report integrity concerns.

Based on the NZ Police Crimestoppers 0800 number, the **0800 RIU 123** Integrity line gathers information volunteered anonymously from industry participants, employees, punters and anyone with an interest in racing with guaranteed anonymity.

The service is run through the Crimestoppers operation. All calls are received by trained call takers. They record the information offered and the intelligence provided is then forwarded on to the RIU for investigation.

As a new service based on anonymity, the integrity line will add to the Racing Integrity Unit's intelligence gathering. "The guarantee of absolute anonymity provides a way for people to feel safe about passing on what they know, so we are likely to receive information we haven't had before and from people who in other circumstances would not normally come forward" says Neil Grimstone, Manager of Integrity Assurance for the Racing Integrity Unit.

There is no visibility or record of the phone number the call is being made from, so it cannot be traced back. However the caller is given the opportunity to leave contact details if they wish to be contacted further about the concerns they raise.

From the Committee and staff of the Otago Racing Club, we wish you a Merry Christmas and prosperous holiday period, especially if you are planning on having a flutter at one of the outstanding race days around the Otago region in the next few weeks!

All we want for Christmas at Wingatui is a beautiful sunny day for our popular Interislander Summer Festival race meeting on Boxing Day. It's been a few years...but we must be due one soon!

BOXING DAY RACES

Wingatui will open its gates at midday on Boxing Day and admission is only \$10 per adult or \$35 for a car with a maximum of 4 adults. Children under 18 are free. It is a BYO event, so feel free to bring along a hamper.

The key races for the day, include the BP to Go Alco Motors Stakes, which is a 1200m race with prizemoney of \$50,000 and the \$25,000 Allied Security Otago Cup, over 2200m.

All the Interislander Summer Festival Race Days are about the family and there will be kids activities galore all of which are free. The Kids Go Racing area will have fun games taking place such as the horse shoe toss, swing ball, jockey silk designing, jumps and slides and pin the tail on the donkey. There will be on-track races for children including the More FM Sack Race and the Interislander Tug of War, free pony rides, giant bouncy castles, go karts and a lot more. Call Charlotte on 03 489 6233 or email; charlotte@wingatui.co.nz

CHRISTMAS AT THE RACES DATES/VENUES 2014

Date	Club	Race Course
Friday, 19 December 2014	Ashburton RC	Ashburton
Saturday, 20 December 2014	Manawatu RC	Awapuni
Saturday, 20 December 2014	Waikato RC	Te Rapa
Sunday, 21 December 2014	Tapanui RC @ Gore	Gore
Monday, 22 December 2014	Taranaki TRI	Pukekura Raceway

TURNOVER INFORMATION

Date	Club	On-Course (Tote & FOB combined)	Totalisator (Off & on-course combined)	Fixed Odds (Off & on-course)	Races	Starters

		14-15	13-14	14-15	13-14	14-15	13-14	14-15	13-14	14-15	13-14
10 Dec	Otago	34,132	20,902	384,989	383,319	166,477	163,101	7	8	69	86
10 Dec	Auckland	189,962	183,221	852,274	839,454	361,972	353,133	6	6	74	65
11 Dec	Hawke's Bay	52,330	85,048	437,187	683,435	230,850	294,834	8	8	54	77
12 Dec	Tauranga	168,468	167,045	937,945	948,813	392,545	290,925	8	9	107	115
13 Dec	Waikato	339,153	475,552	2,213,440	2,213,120	793,336	734,115	10	10	121	119
13 Dec	Manawatu	144,425	192,197	1,219,698	1,300,442	404,616	352,038	9	9	92	105
13 Dec	Southland	243,951	213,440	953,290	896,691	292,644	197,967	11	9	109	90
14 Dec	Auckland	72,981	88,204	755,098	1,000,269	392,656	509,796	8	8	63	87

NZ Thoroughbred Summary FY15	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/-	Variance +%/(-%)
Meetings	123	130	(7)	(5.38%)
Races	1,046	1,085	(39)	(3.59%)
Total Starts	11,291	11,581	(290)	(2.50%)
Avg Field Size	10.79	10.67	+0.12	+1.13%
Number of races less than 8 starters	129	156	(27)	(17.31%)
Off-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	154,747,793	149,547,011	+5,200,782	+3.48%
On-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	13,121,799	13,405,257	(283,458)	(2.11%)
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	167,869,592	162,952,268	+4,917,324	+3.02%
Subtotal Totalisator Turnover	122,031,521	125,839,921	(3,808,400)	(3.03%)
Subtotal FOB Turnover	45,759,137	37,112,332	+8,646,805	+23.30%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	160,487	150,186	+10,301	+6.86%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	14,868	14,071	+797	+5.66%
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	645,641,801	578,004,922	+67,636,879	+11.70%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	130,119,559	101,413,190	+28,706,369	+28.31%
Total NZRB Turnover	775,761,360	679,418,112	+96,343,248	+14.18%
NZ Thoroughbred Export Turnover \$NZ (to 7	126,806,326	122,429,024	+4,377,302	+3.58%

Dec)				
Total Races (to 7 Dec)	979	1,018	(39)	(3.83%)
NZ Thoroughbred Export turnover \$NZ per race	129,526	120,264	+9,262	+7.70%

Meeting details:

- Otago RC Wednesday meeting equivalent was run on a Monday last season; 7 races this season, 8 last.
- Racing Tauranga Friday meeting ran 8 races in FY15, 9 races in FY14.
- Southland RC Saturday meeting ran 11 races this season, 9 races last season.

Turnover summary notes:

- Total NZ thoroughbred turnover is up 3.0% year to date.
- 7 less meetings and 39 less races have been run than to the same date last season.
- Turnover per race is up 6.9%.
- Total starts made by thoroughbreds in NZ are down 290, 2.5% less.
- Average field size is 10.79 in FY15, up from 10.67 in FY14.
- The number of races with less than 8 starters is 27 less than the season prior (129 v 156).
- The decline in NZ thoroughbred totalisator turnover (down 3.0%) has been offset by an increase in FOB turnover (up 23.3%).
- Export turnover per race (\$NZ) is up 7.7% to 23 November.

Note: Turnovers are provided by the NZRB from various reports. On-course is totalisator turnover on the meeting and on intertrack meetings, plus FOB racing turnover on the meeting only (FOB intertrack is not provided from these reports at present). Total NZRB racing turnover is NZ thoroughbred, harness, greyhound plus all imported thoroughbred, harness and greyhound turnover; combined with sports this provides the total NZRB turnover. NZ thoroughbred export turnovers are stated in \$NZ, generally up to a week or two behind other turnover numbers.



PUNCHESTOWN FESTIVAL RACING TOUR

April 24 to May 4, 2015

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 THE CURRAGH - IRISH NATIONAL STU D & MUSEUM
 STABLE TOURS - DUBLIN TOURS - WICKLOW

includes return flights: NZ to Dublin
 All internal travel - Race Day Tickets - Side Tours
 Accommodation & breakfast 9 nights
 \$6250pp twin share

FLIGHT CENTRE
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Info & Bookings: Travel Broker: Tracey Stephens
 Email: tracey.stephens.nz@flightcentre.co.nz
 Telephone: 027 6053506