

Friday 8 August 2014

FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

It came down to the very last Metropolitan meeting of the season. James McDonald claimed the Sydney Jockeys' premiership. The 22 year old highlights the exceptional talent we have in our homegrown industry. The fact he rode a Kiwi bred horse for a New Zealand born trainer adds to the sentiment. In James's case, the stats do not lie: 126 wins Australia-wide; \$14.2m in prize money and 4 Group One victories in Australia.

Fellow Kiwi Chris Waller won his fourth consecutive TJ Smith Award for Sydney's leading trainer after preparing 158.5 winners for the 2013-14 season. It seems only recently he claimed his first Group One victory with New Zealand bred Triple Honor. Waller is an active buyer at Karaka, purchasing 8 lots for just over \$1m. His regular success continues to be a testament to our industry.

The excitement builds for the upcoming Hawke's Bay Spring Carnival. The Makfi Challenge Stakes nominations are the strongest in recent memory. Two time Group One winning mare Recite is joint favorite with the Kevin Myers trained Scapolo at \$8. The new season also marks an important time for our breeding Industry. Foal photos will begin flooding social media, stud staff will be sleep deprived and breeders will be anxious. During this demanding period, I sincerely wish everyone the best for the 2014-15 season.

NZ BLOODSTOCK INSURANCE PEARL SERIES BONUS RACES – AUGUST-NOVEMBER 2014

The NZ Bloodstock Insurance Pearl Series is programming 23 races for fillies and mares between August and November 2014 offering \$290k in bonuses. Total bonuses of almost \$2.6 million and prizemoney of nearly \$2.8 million are on offer across 200 individual races for each crop of enrolled 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.

CENTRAL

Woodville	Thur 21/8	Mdn 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Otaki	Thur 4/9	R65 1600 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Taranaki	Thur 11/9	R65 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Otaki	Thur 25/9	R65 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Taranaki (f)	Sat 27/9	R85 1200 F&M \$25k	\$20,000
Wanganui	Thur 2/10	Mdn 1600 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Wairarapa	Thur 9/10	Mdn 1000 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Woodville-Pah	Thur 16/10	Mdn 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Otaki	Tue 4/11	R65 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500

PEARL BONUS

SOUTHERN

Canterbury (f)	Wed 6/8	R75 1500 F&M \$25k	\$20,000 (already run)
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South Canterbury	Mon 22/9	R85 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Gore	Fri 31/10	R65 1335 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Banks Peninsula	Sun 2/11	R75 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500

NORTHERN

Taupo	Wed 20/8	3YO F HCP \$12k	\$11,500
Counties	Wed 3/9	Mdn 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Waikato	Wed 10/9	Mdn 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Counties (f)	Sat 20/9	R65 1600 F&M \$25k	\$20,000
Matamata	Wed 24/9	Mdn 1400 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Taupo	Wed 8/10	Mdn 1300 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Tauranga	Fri 17/10	Mdn 1600 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Counties	Wed 29/10	Mdn 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Rotorua	Fri 7/11	R65 1200 F&M \$12k	\$11,500
Matamata	Wed 12/11	Mdn 1600 F&M \$12k	\$11,500

PEARL BONUS

THOMAS RUSSELL

NZTR has provided the use of its nominated Raceday account so that donations can be channelled directly through to Thomas. Donations are placed in the account 01-0517-0063944-09 with reference T.Russell. NZTR will have an Authority to Deduct form available on the NZTR website (www.nzracing.co.nz) today to facilitate donations. All that needs to happen is the designated Racing Manager of a horse completes the form and sends it to NZTR and the agreed prize money deduction will be made.

The TAB is also helping Thomas. For the month of August the NZRB is donating 10% of total turnover on Jockey's Challenges to Thomas to assist with his on-going financial needs in the wake of his accident. This will include Jockey's Challenges at 26 thoroughbred race meetings. The Jockey's Challenge is currently sponsored by vehicle wholesaler Ezygo, however for the month of August the Jockey's Challenge will be known as the Thomas Russell Ezygo Jockeys Challenge and will be promoted through its broadcasting and social media channels.

Counties Racing Club is holding the NZ Spinal Trust race day this Saturday 9th August 2014. The New Zealand Spinal Trust is firmly focused on supporting independent living and improving the quality of rehabilitation through initiatives, projects and programmes that directly benefit people with spinal cord injuries.

Last year around \$13,000 was raised for the charity and Counties is aiming higher this year. There are a numerous ways you can be involved. Tickets to the function are \$70.00pp which includes race book, drink on arrival, buffet lunch with a glass of wine, dessert, tea and coffee, MC, silent auctions, losing tickets giveaways, cash bar, tote facilities in this prime viewing lounge. Tables of 10 are discounted to \$650.00

For more information on the day or to purchase tickets please contact the Club on 09 238 8049

FOXTON RC TRIALS 12 AUGUST – NOW WAVERLEY RC TRIALS

The Foxton RC Trials programmed for Tuesday, 12 August have been replaced by a set of Waverley RC Trials on the same date. Nominations for the Waverley RC 12 August Trials close with the NRB on Monday 11 August at 12 Noon.

NORTHERN REGION PROGRAMMING CHANGES

At the Whangarei RC meeting Wednesday, 13 August, the Apprentice Riders Only tag has been removed from the Maiden 1600m race.

The Maiden 1600m race at the Avondale JC will no longer take place at their upcoming meeting on Friday 15 August. Following a recent spell of wet weather in the region, the Avondale JC is carrying out some minor remedial work to parts of the surface in the chute. As a result, there has been a Maiden 1000m race programmed as a replacement to provide another opportunity for horses.

OTAKI-MAORI RC ON SATURDAY 16 AUGUST - TO BE HELD AT AWAPUNI

Following an inspection of the Otaki track this morning a decision has been made to transfer the Saturday, 16 August Otaki-Maori raceday to Awapuni. Following a very wet winter and 84ml of rain over the weekend, parts of the Otaki track had become waterlogged and an early decision has been made to change the venue to make sure the day can proceed. The programme will remain the same for the day at Awapuni. It will also remain an Otaki-Maori Licence.

TARANAKI THOROUGHBRED RACING SERVICES FOR TENDER TO THREE STALLIONS

Taranaki Thoroughbred Racing (TTR) has services for tender to three stallions: Ekraar, Echoes of Heaven and Tiger Prawn. TTR thanks Linwood Stud and Gary and Jenny Hennessy for their generosity. Contact 06 7575 759 or email taranakiracing@xtra.co.nz for a tender form.

TAB ROLLING OUT EARLY QUADDIES OVER NEXT THREE MONTHS

The TAB will be rolling out early quaddies on NZ racing (in addition to existing quaddies) over the next three months, with the following promotional guarantees.

- August launch Greyhound: Each of the 39 NZ Greyhound meetings in August to have a \$10,000 Early Quaddie and a \$10,000 Quaddie
- September launch Harness: Each of the 14 NZ Harness meetings in September to have a \$40,000 Early Quaddie and a \$40,000 Quaddie

28-Jul	Otago RC	8,048	16,409	266,174	473,123	128,400	176,130	7	10	57	96
30-Jul	Rotorua, Racing	51,566	47,235	684,078	592,831	236,065	193,761	10	7	117	65
31-Jul	Waverley RC	25,273	14,802	623,779	433,726	230,343	149,219	7	7	84	54
1-Aug	Avondale JC	21,609	35,577	473,795	558,364	206,790	158,090	7	7	61	70
2-Aug	Canterbury Racing	146,949	170,827	1,499,481	1,819,524	470,739	473,073	10	10	93	105
2-Aug	Whangarei RC	38,340	49,680	633,672	913,709	310,440	267,544	7	8	50	68

NZ Thoroughbred Summary Full Season FY14	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/-	Variance +%/(-%)
Meetings	345	358	(13)	(3.63%)
Races	2,875	3,007	(132)	(4.39%)
Total Starts	30,031	31,331	(1,300)	(4.15%)
Avg Field Size	10.45	10.42	+0.03	+0.25%
Number of races less than 8 starters	454	431	+23	+5.34%
Off-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	387,634,708	392,440,293	(4,805,586)	(1.22%)
On-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	35,052,040	37,001,690	(1,949,650)	(5.27%)
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	422,686,748	429,441,984	(6,755,236)	(1.57%)
Subtotal Totalisator Turnover	321,705,622	339,772,361	(18,066,740)	(5.32%)
Subtotal FOB Turnover	100,981,111	89,669,623	+11,311,489	+12.61%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	147,021	142,814	+4,207	+2.95%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	14,075	13,707	+368	+2.69%
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	1,527,098,531	1,480,392,271	+46,706,260	+3.15%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	315,863,282	246,090,295	+69,772,987	+28.35%
Total NZRB Turnover	1,842,961,813	1,726,482,566	+116,479,247	+6.75%

NZ Thoroughbred Export Turnover \$NZ (to 27 Jul)	306,481,279	363,289,913	(56,808,634)	(15.64%)
Total Races (to 27 Jul)	2,851	2,990	(139)	(4.65%)
NZ Thoroughbred Export turnover \$NZ per race	107,500	121,502	(14,002)	(11.52%)

Meeting details

- Otago RC Monday equivalent meeting was run at Oamaru last season, 7 races this season, 10 races last season.
- Racing Rotorua Wednesday meeting ran 10 races in FY14, 7 in FY13.
- Whangarei RC Saturday meeting ran 7 races this season, 8 last season.

Turnover summary notes:

Full Season 2013/2014

- Total NZ thoroughbred turnover was down 1.6%.
- 132 less races were run than FY13

- As a result, turnover per race actually increased, up 3.0%.
- Total starts made by thoroughbreds in NZ declined by 1,300, 4.2% less.
- Average field size was 10.45 in FY14, up from 10.42 in FY13.
- The number of races with less than 8 starters was 23 higher than the season prior.
- The decline in NZ thoroughbred totalisator turnover (down 5.3%) was partly offset by an increase in FOB turnover (up 12.6%).
- \$NZ export turnover per race to 27 July was down (11.5%). The variance in the \$NZ/\$A exchange rate was responsible for a large proportion of this decline. The remainder, 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.