

**Thursday 9 October 2014**

## **FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH**

Large acceptances have accumulated across the country this weekend. Egmont has received a staggering 163 acceptances. Matamata and Winton have attracted 115 a piece, alongside 113 at South Canterbury on Friday.

The \$80,000 Rich Hill Stud Taranaki Breeders Stakes at Egmont is a compelling feature. The race contains the Lisa Chittick Foxbridge Plate trifecta of I Do, Pussy O'Reilly and The Filly. The race also features New Zealand Bloodstock Filly of The Year Costa Viva. Barriers will play a big role as I Do and Pussy O'Reilly have drawn 4 and 5 respectively.

It is pleasing to see the Kaponga Hotel Egmont Cup received generous support from stakeholders. The race is a part of our new Country Cup Series initiative. The club has contributed extra prize money towards the event to increase the stake to \$35,000.

The Melbourne Cup is one month away. Whoshot Thebarman earned an extra 1.5kg for the Caulfield Cup for his success in the Group 3 Bart Cummings at Flemington, but only 0.5kg for the Melbourne Cup. Lucia Valentina vindicated her Caulfield Cup hopes with a decisive victory in the Group One Turnbull Stakes.

We wish the best of luck to Johno Benner and connections of (Our) Vespa on Saturday. The Elusive City colt faces Australia's finest three year olds in the Group one \$1,000,000 Caulfield Guineas. Recite will contest the \$400,000 Toorak Handicap for John Bary. It is also wise to keep an eye on ex-patriots Sacred Falls and Kirramosa in the \$400,000 Group One Yalumba Stakes.

## **NZTR AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS TO PROMINENT APPRENTICE JOCKEYS**

New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing is pleased to award scholarships to two Apprentice Jockeys for the 2014-15 season, namely South Islanders Samantha Wynne and Courtney Barnes.

This initiative, introduced by NZTR in 2010, when James McDonald was among the inaugural winners, is aimed at providing opportunities for prominent Apprentice Jockeys to work for a trainer in Australia and ride there for a period of two weeks. All expenses for travel, accommodation and a small living allowance are provided by NZTR.

The NZTR Training and Development Committee has identified these two Apprentice Jockeys based on the following criteria:

1. Number of wins for the season
2. Attendance and participation at the Apprentice Jockey School
3. A clean riding record, or only minor infringements

Samantha Wynne, apprenticed to Canterbury trainer Neil Coulbeck, rode 43 winners in the 2013-14 season and in doing so chalked up an impressive strike-rate, while Otago apprentice Courtney Barnes had two black type winners among her 33 wins for the season. Courtney is indentured to Wingatui trainer Shane Anderton.

Willy Harnett, who has an apprentice mentoring role in the South Island, endorses the selection of these Apprentices. "Both these young women have shown continuous improvement in their craft and have exhibited both commitment and passion over the last 12 months. I am sure they will be very good ambassadors for the Industry"

## **CUP WEEK SELLING FAST**

Five weeks out from New Zealand Cup and Show Week and interest in the events at Riccarton Park are at an all-time high.

Corporate packages for Christchurch Casino New Zealand Cup and NZ Bloodstock 1000 Guineas day, Saturday November 15<sup>th</sup> are all but sold out with limited options remaining for either Sothys New Zealand 2000 Guineas, Saturday November 8<sup>th</sup> or Coupland's Bakeries Mile day, Wednesday November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Chief Executive Tim Mills says the interest and enthusiasm for the various offers has been exceptional. Early purchase general ticket pricing available for November 15<sup>th</sup> ends soon too. Currently an entrance ticket is available at \$20 and the entrance and members area combo at \$75. These allocations are nearly exhausted.

Spaces in 'The Edge Carriage Carpark' are also selling at a 'fast gallop' and an early purchase to secure one of these options is strongly recommended to avoid disappointment. "We want true racing fans to have every opportunity to attend so now is the best time to secure tickets", says Mills.

Last year "sold out" and in all probability will do so again this year. To avoid missing out buy your tickets now.

## **2014 NZTR PERFORMANCE REPORT AVAILABLE ONLINE**

The 2014 NZTR Performance Report, which records NZTR's performance against the 44 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in the 2014-2016 NZTR Business Plan, is available on the NZTR website (together with the 2012 and 2013 Performance Reports) at <http://www.nzracing.co.nz/NZTR/Resources/NZTR-Publications.aspx>

NZTR's Business Plan 2015-17, which sets out key improvement strategies for New Zealand thoroughbred racing over the next three years focusing on the 2014-15 season will be published shortly. This is required to be approved by the NZ Racing Board before publication.

## **TAB ROLLING OUT EARLY QUADDIES**

In October the TAB will be rolling out early quaddies on NZ Thoroughbred racing (in addition to existing quaddies). Each of the 28 NZ Thoroughbred meetings in October will have a \$40,000 Early Quaddie and a \$60,000 Quaddie

## RACING CLUB CONFERENCE/AGM

The annual Racing Club Conference and NZTR AGM will be held from 10.30am on 6 November 2014 at Room 4, Shed 6, Queen's Wharf, Wellington. Clubs and Sector Organisations are requested to return their attendance forms.

## 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
1-Oct	Whangarei RC	56,848	360	668,138	345	297,313	-	8	-	79	-
2-Oct	Wanganui JC	34,933	37,493	778,087	775,947	284,284	223,526	8	9	107	120
3-Oct	Waikato RC	51,436	77,416	1,033,005	1,144,417	379,929	464,372	9	11	113	141
4-Oct	Hawke's Bay RI	828,082	646,361	3,425,926	2,840,646	1,016,603	771,942	10	10	136	134
4-Oct	Canterbury Racing	46,604	76,643	1,079,986	880,774	383,751	226,630	9	8	97	89
5-Oct	Waipa RC	42,537	57,217	689,647	651,107	261,182	208,382	9	9	88	103

NZ Thoroughbred Summary FY15	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/-	Variance +%/(-%)
Meetings	57	60	(3)	(5.00%)
Races	470	474	(4)	(0.84%)
Total Starts	4,759	4,760	(1)	(0.02%)
Avg Field Size	10.13	10.04	+0.08	+0.83%
Number of races less than 8 starters	78	89	(11)	(12.36%)
Off-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	64,269,632	61,075,705	+3,193,927	+5.23%
On-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	4,374,311	4,270,936	+103,375	+2.42%
<b>Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover</b>	<b>68,643,943</b>	<b>65,346,641</b>	<b>+3,297,302</b>	<b>+5.05%</b>
Subtotal Totalisator Turnover	50,057,067	51,298,404	(1,241,337)	(2.42%)
Subtotal FOB Turnover	18,586,876	14,048,222	+4,538,654	+32.31%

<b>NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race</b>	146,051	137,862	+8,189	+5.94%
<b>NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter</b>	14,424	13,728	+696	+5.07%
<b>Total NZRB Racing Turnover</b>	278,025,421	250,206,194	+27,819,227	+11.12%
<b>Total NZRB Sports Turnover</b>	65,625,930	47,011,934	+18,613,996	+39.59%
<b>Total NZRB Turnover</b>	<b>343,651,351</b>	<b>297,218,128</b>	<b>+46,433,223</b>	<b>+15.62%</b>

<b>NZ Thoroughbred Export Turnover \$NZ (to 28 Sep)</b>	49,467,064	47,117,727	+2,349,337	+4.99%
<b>Total Races (to 28 Sep)</b>	417	421	(4)	(0.95%)
<b>NZ Thoroughbred Export turnover \$NZ per race</b>	118,626	111,919	+6,707	+5.99%

#### Meeting details:

- Whangarei RC Wednesday meeting ran 8 races; the equivalent meeting was abandoned last season due to sand blown onto the course proper by high winds.
- Wanganui JC Thursday meeting ran 8 races in FY15, 9 in FY14.
- Waikato RC Friday meeting ran 9 races this season, 11 races last season.
- Canterbury Racing Saturday meeting ran 9 races in FY15, 8 races in FY14.

#### Turnover summary notes:

- Total NZ thoroughbred turnover is up 5.1% year to date.
- 3 less meetings and 4 less races have been run than to the same date last season.
- Turnover per race is up 5.9%.
- Total starts made by thoroughbreds in NZ are down 1, 0.02% less.
- Average field size is 10.13 in FY15, up from 10.04 in FY14.
- The number of races with less than 8 starters is 11 less than the season prior (78 v 89).
- The decline in NZ thoroughbred totalisator turnover (down 2.4%) has been offset by an increase in FOB turnover (up 32.3%).
- Export turnover per race (\$NZ) is up 6.0% to 28 September.

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.