



Tuesday 13 March 2012

Monday Racing Programme Continues Encouraging Start

The Egmont Racing Club meeting yesterday, 12 March 2012, provided further encouragement to a regular schedule of Monday and Tuesday thoroughbred race meetings.

Egmont's eight-race programme, with a minimum \$7,000 stake, produced an average field size of 10.4 after five scratchings. This is the second week of regular Monday fixtures.

The meeting produced aggregate New Zealand TAB sales of \$599,140 (as compared to \$596,454 last week), and Australian totalisator sales of \$NZ801,838 (as compared to \$1,238,241 last week).

New Zealand off-course totalisator sales were \$452,421 (as compared to \$430,380 last week), on-course totalisator sales were \$55,846 (as compared to \$47,329 last week), fixed odds sales were \$90,873 (as compared to \$118,745 last week), whilst Australian totalisator sales were NZ\$801,838 (as compared to NZ\$1,238,241 last week).

On-course sales were assisted by a public holiday in the Taranaki region (Taranaki Anniversary Day), whilst Australian export sales were impacted by an unusually high number of Australian race meetings due to the Labour Day public holiday in the states of Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and ACT (Labour Day). The four Australian meetings conducted (two last week), including three metropolitan meetings, resulting in only the first four Egmont races being broadcast in Australia on Sky 1, with races five to eight relegated to Sky 2 after 1 pm AEST.

A summary of New Zealand and Australian wagering on the Egmont meeting is set out below.

	Total Actual	Per Race Actual	Per Race Budget	Actual % of Budget
<i>New Zealand Racing Board</i>				
NZ – Off-course	\$452,421	\$56,553	\$50,000	113%
NZ – On-course	\$55,846	\$6,981	\$3,000	232%
Fixed Odds	\$90,873	\$11,359	\$5,000	227%
Total NZRB	\$599,140	\$74,893	\$58,000	129%

<i>Australian Totalisator Operators</i>				
Supertab	\$368,786	\$46,098	-	-
Tab Limited	\$273,015	\$34,127	-	-
Tatts	\$160,037	\$20,005	-	-
Total Export	\$801,838	\$100,230	\$80,000	125%

NZTR Chairman Matthew Goodson said that “*today's Egmont meeting exceeded budget expectations across all bet categories and continued the positive momentum of a continuity of Monday thoroughbred racing. NZTR remains cautiously optimistic about the performance of regular Monday fixtures and will be closely reviewing tomorrow's Waipa Racing Club meeting at Te Awamutu, the first of three months of regular Tuesday meetings.*”

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TrackWalk for CatWalk

A CatWalk Trust Fundraising Venture

At 6 am this Easter Monday, 9 April, a team of four, led by Lance O'Sullivan ONZM, will start an attempt to run around all 51 licensed thoroughbred racecourses in New Zealand in just 6 days, finishing at Ellerslie at 10.50 am on Saturday, 14 April, Easter Handicap Day.

The aim is to raise money for The CatWalk Spinal Cord Injury Trust www.catwalk.org.nz a charity committed to raising funds to support the body of scientific opinion which says a cure for spinal cord injury will be found. Many Jockeys and Track Riders in thoroughbred racing have suffered spinal injuries in the pursuit of their careers.

O'Sullivan, a Patron of the CatWalk Trust, is joined by three New Zealand racing administrators who came up with the idea – Simon Cooper, from NZ Thoroughbred Racing, Andre Klein from the Otago Racing Club and NZ Jumps Inc, and Jason Fleming from Hawke's Bay Racing.

"We recognise the potential dangers our Jockeys and Track Riders face every day and, with the support of all the Race Clubs around the country and a number of generous sponsors, we are keen to put back into the industry we are all passionate about."

"In doing this we want to make sure we get at least a dollar off everyone we meet on the way, by any means possible, and get people to donate at www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/TrackWalk/ for CatWalk."

"To our knowledge only the late, great Jack Glengarry has run round all the courses in New Zealand but he did it in stages - not in six days. For four guys between the ages of 37 and 52, it will be a great challenge."

A number of sponsors are supporting TrackWalk for CatWalk including JUCY Rentals, Cambridge Stud, TAB, Usher GroupBP 2go Service Stations, NZTR, Interislander, Evergreen Lodge in Queenstown, Hotel Coachman in Palmerston North and Accounts Office.

See full details of the whole route and timings attached and at www.nzracing.co.nz

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Turnover Information for the Period ending 11 March 2012

Date	Club	On-Course		Off-Course		Fixed Odds		Starters	
								11-12	10-11
5/3	Paeroa (1)	45,050		430,383		143,382		75	
7/3	Auckland	702,864	18.8%	2,278,643	2.9%	699,960	74.5%	124	5.3%
8/3	Canterbury (2)	20,036	44.3%	621,313	24.0%	147,137	4.7%	80	30.4%
9/3	Otaki-Maori (3)	31,245	23.2%	535,193	5.7%	130,063	40.7%	77	1.3%
10/3	Otago (4)	39,423	10.0%	861,929	19.1%	210,859	37.2%	110	7.6%
10/3	Auckland	362,785	4.5%	1,955,877	19.4%	662,183	61.6%	123	0.8%
11/3	Waverley (5)	90,784	22.8%	742,889	17.4%	289,001	65.2%	87	21.6%

- (1) Paeroa RC; 1st meeting of revamped Monday/Tuesday programme schedule. No equivalent meeting last year.
- (2) Canterbury Racing; 8 races this year, compared to 11 races last year.
- (3) Otaki-Maori RC; 7 races this year, compared to 8 races last year.
- (4) Otago RC; 9 races this year, compared to 11 races last year.
- (5) Waverley RC; 9 races this year, compared to 10 races last year.

NZ Thoroughbred Summary	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/()	Variance +%/(-%)
Races	1,927	1,945	(18)	(0.93%)
Starters	20,273	20,697	(424)	(2.05%)
Avg Field Size	10.52	10.64	(0.12)	(1.13%)
Off-Course Turnover	211,281,451	224,917,094	(13,635,643)	(6.06%)
On-Course Turnover	26,089,473	29,094,202	(3,004,729)	(10.33%)
Total Totalisator Turnover	237,370,924	254,011,296	(16,640,372)	(6.55%)
Fixed Odds	43,957,858	38,978,184	+4,979,674	+12.78%
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	281,328,782	292,989,480	(11,660,698)	(3.98%)
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	145,993	150,637	(4,644)	(3.08%)
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	13,877	14,156	(279)	(1.97%)
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	862,099,780	860,750,294	+1,349,486	+0.16%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	145,084,318	105,997,316	+39,087,002	+36.88%
Total NZRB Turnover	1,007,184,098	966,747,610	+40,436,488	+4.18%

Racing turnover was up 0.3% (+\$91k) for the week, Racing Tote was down 5.8% (-\$1.45m) with Domestic tote down 10.5% (-\$1.75m).

Domestic thoroughbreds turnover was down 9.0% (-\$864k) with one additional meeting and just one more race (+1.7%) with horse starts down 0.3%. The top betting race of the week was the Group 1 Stella Artois Auckland Cup with turnover (tote and fob) of \$1.28m, which was up 5.7% on last year (\$1.21m) with just the one extra starter than last year's edition. The other Group 1 features for the week were the New Zealand Stakes (up 6.9%) and the Diamond Stakes (down 1.8%).

Import tote turnover was up 3.4% on the same week last year (+\$295k). Overall 87 more races were taken last week (+10.7%), with 62 North American races taken. The largest import betting race for the week was the Newmarket Handicap which turned over \$267k, up 15.6% on last year (\$231k) with 22 starters versus just the 11 that competed against Black Caviar last year.

FOB Racing, with 99 Final Field Place options offered (\$797k) was up 44% (+\$1.54m) last week (up 50% or \$1.29m domestically), with 130 more options overall (+32%) available than in the same week last year. FOB Racing, with 23 Final Field Place options offered (\$223k) was up 26% (+\$772k) last week (up 25% or \$543k domestically), with 45 more options overall (+11.8%) available than in the same week last year.

Note: NZRB supplied On-course Turnover total represents On-course turnover placed on NZ thoroughbred meetings from all on-course venues. 'Total' NZ Thoroughbred turnover figure includes Off-course (including Pick 6), On-course (NZRB figure as commented above) and all Fixed Odds Turnover. All Turnover figures are supplied by the NZRB.

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