



Tuesday 17 April 2012

NZTR Producing A Three-Episode Pilot TV Programme Series On Racing

New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing, in conjunction with the social media company Socialize, is producing a three-episode pilot TV programme series that will take you inside New Zealand's thoroughbred racing industry.

The series will offer a rare behind-the-scenes insight into the lives of some of New Zealand racing's leading personalities.

The three episodes kick off on Wednesday 18 April 2012, and will be shown on the Trackside channel, Sky 36, at the following times:

Episode 1	7.30 pm on Wednesday, 18 April 2012
Episode 2	7.30 pm on Wednesday, 25 April 2012
Episode 3	7.30 pm on Wednesday, 2 May 2012

The pilot series will follow the fortunes of racehorse trainer John Bary and his Telecom New Zealand Derby winner, Jimmy Choux; Trelawney Stud; and jockey, Lisa Allpress.

NZTR Chief Executive Greg Purcell said: "This is an exciting development for the thoroughbred industry and we will be looking at options to produce a regular series in the future."

Patrick MacFie from Socialize added: "There are just so many interesting characters and incredible tales to tell in New Zealand thoroughbred racing and we're really excited to have the opportunity to get in behind the scenes and tell these stories."

NZTR has been working with Socialize to develop video content for publication on the NZTR Facebook and Twitter pages. In addition to the three above-mentioned subjects, a number of 3-minute videos have been produced and posted onto the NZTR Facebook page. These have included videos on James McDonald, Stephen Marsh and Graham Richardson.

TrackWalk for CatWalk

The 6-day adventure in which Lance O'Sullivan, Simon Cooper, Andre Klein and Jason Fleming commenced running round 52 thoroughbred racecourses (including the late addition of the Bulls Racecourse) in New Zealand in 6 days has raised, to date, in excess of \$20,000 for the CatWalk Spinal Cord Injury Trust.

Congratulations to all concerned; in particular the 4 participants who together ran over 100 km in the 6 days, whilst travelling over 4,500 km. Thanks are also due to the principal sponsors: Cambridge Stud, the TAB, Jucy Rentals, Jonathan Usher BP2Go, NZTR, Interislander, Evergreen Lodge and Hotel Coachman as well as the generous hosts who watered and fed the participants at the end of each day. And last but not least, the many individuals who joined in the activities that took place at each of the venues.

Riding Master - Central Districts Apprentice Academy

Working alongside the Apprentice Jockey Mentor and the Apprentice Academy Director, the Riding Master will play an important role in the development of the riding skills of our Apprentices.

A hands-on role, you will undertake instruction on the sprung horse, providing feedback and guidance on riding technique. You will also review race day footage and ensure Apprentices are aware of new riding techniques and changing race day requirements.

This role contributes to the overall success of our Apprentices and the thoroughbred racing industry as a whole. This paid position requires the commitment of attending Apprentice Academy on a fortnightly basis.

For further information or to submit your application, please contact Deb Bragger on 04 576 6271 or email deb.bragger@nzhorse.co.nz

The Great Kiwi Rural Expo Raceday

The Woodville-Pahiatua Racing Club is holding the inaugural "Great Kiwi Rural Expo Raceday" at the Woodville racecourse on Thursday 19 April 2012.

Aimed at the farming community the day will feature all sorts of rural activities including Trade Stalls, Jack Russell racing, a Designer Gumboot Competition and much more. Other attractions include fashion displays, children's entertainment and of course 8 exciting races.

Entry to the course and all the attractions are free, as is entry to the Members stand where patrons will be kept entertained with spot prizes, raffles and a Punters Club, with guest selector local racing expert Brent Wall.

The indoor activities will be hosted by well known racehorse syndicator Albert Bosma, who will also be syndicating racing shares in a very exciting filly to be trained at Woodville by Stephen Marsh, plus the Tui girls will be there to serve things up with a smile.

So be sure to hang up the working boots for the day, give the kids something to do in the school holidays and head along to the Great Kiwi Rural Raceday – Thursday 19 April 2012 at the Woodville racecourse.

The action starts from 12 noon.

Amateur Riders Races 2012

This year's Amateur Riders races commence at Riverton on Thursday 3 May (not Paeroa on Monday 14 May as inadvertently advised in last week's *Media Bulletin*) and will culminate with the running of the prestigious Duke of Gloucester Cup for amateur riders on National Jumps Day at Te Rapa on Sunday 30 September.

NZTR is keen to see the amateur riders series gain a higher profile and will provide an opportunity for interested and potential amateur riders to attend a series of amateur rider's workshops.

The workshops will be held regionally at NZTR's apprentice academies and will be run by jockey mentors Tommy Hazlett and Will Harnett, along with the input of the Riding Master in each region. This will provide a valuable opportunity for all current and prospective amateur riders to hone their riding skills.

Workshops will be held between 5 pm and 7 pm as follows:

- Tuesday 24 April Pukekohe
- Tuesday 1 May at Cambridge
- Monday 7 May at Awapuni
- Monday 28 May at Riccarton (2.30 - 4.30 pm)
- Tuesday 29 May at Wingatui

All those wishing to attend are asked to **RSVP by 18 April** to the National Racing Bureau on 0508 722 464 to confirm session times and arrangements.

NZTR Amateur Rider Races Scheduled (Updated):

Riverton RC

Thu 3 May

Rating 65 1600m

Paeroa RC	Mon 14 May	Rating 65 2200m
Hawke's Bay RI	Thu 24 May	Rating 65 2000m
Otago RC	Sun 10 Jun	Maiden 1600m
Racing Te Aroha	Wed 13 Jun	Maiden 2200m
Wanganui JC	Thu 12 Jul	Rating 65 2040m
PaeroaRC	Wed 25 Jul	Rating 65 2100m
Oamaru JC	Mon 30 Jul	Rating 65 & Jumpers 2200m
Egmont RC	Thu 16 Aug	Rating 65 & Jumpers 2100m
Pakuranga Hunt	Sat 25 Aug	Rating 65 & Jumpers 2200m
Rotorua BOP Hunt	Wed 19 Sep	Rating 65 & Jumpers 1950m
Waikato RC	Sun 30 Sep	Rating 75 & Jumpers 2100m - Duke of Gloucester Cup

NZTR Handicapping Blog

The NZTR Handicappers have created a Handicapping Blog. Brett Scelly, Senior Handicapper, is working in conjunction with Dean Nowell to update interested people with their thoughts and issues in the world of handicapping.

They will endeavour to relay basic information for those who are new to the racing industry as well as some explanations to those who have been involved for many years.

People are invited to email any general questions to brett.scelly@nzracing.co.nz.

Specific horse enquiries should still be directed to either Brett or Dean for a specific explanation.

Dargaville RC 20 April Meeting – Stake Increase for Maiden 1200m Race

There has been an increase to \$8,000 for the stake for the Maiden SW 1200m race at the Dargaville RC meeting on Friday 20 April 2012.

Trentham Punter's Challenge – Saturday 26 May 2012

This is your chance to back yourself and show that you are the Wellington Racing Club's champion punter.

Enter on your own, or get a group of up to 5 of the best punters together! You only need a \$600 betting fund to start, and you're off!

Your day at Trentham includes a buffet lunch, beverage vouchers, dedicated Punter's Challenge Room, MC, Large Screen and Totes. A discounted cash bar will be in operation.

1st Prize: Entry to the 2012 NZ Punter of the Year Competition at Hastings in October 2012; a \$2,000 Betting Fund PLUS \$500 cash, PLUS a corporate box for 12 people at Trentham including lunch, race books, PLUS the Trentham Punters Challenge Trophy.

2nd Prize: \$500 cash PLUS Gold Members guest tickets to the Champagne Lounge for each team member on Wellington Steeplechase Day 14 July 2012.

3rd Prize: Table for four in the Terrace Restaurant at Trentham on a remaining race day of your choice (subject to availability) for the 2011/2012 season; PLUS Gold Members guest tickets to the Champagne Lounge for each team member on Wellington Steeplechase Day 14 July 2012.

There are also fabulous prizes for the **Highest Turnover** and **Competition Leader after 3 Races**.

Cost: \$50 for one or two person teams. \$50 for each additional member. Maximum of 5 per team. \$600 betting fund for the team deposited on the day as per [competition rules](#). For more information call 0800 TRENTHAM or email info@trentham.co.nz *Conditions apply

Turnover Information for the Period ending 15 April 2012

Date	Club	On-Course		Off-Course		Fixed Odds		Starters	
								11-12	10-11
9/4	Riverton (1)	92,692		714,056		130,304		96	
9/4	Auckland (2)	116,544		1,136,758		317,137		90	
10/4	Otaki-Maori (3)	19,616	50.7%	472,906	32.6%	126,061	5.6%	82	20.4%
11/4	Rotorua (4)	44,422		596,944		185,768		77	
12/4	Otago (5)	14,969		530,661		107,618		78	
13/4	Manawatu (6)	58,394	15.5%	810,264	10.6%	238,478	57.7%	102	9.7%
14/4	Canterbury (7)	107,756	72.5%	1,062,794	1.2%	248,360	53.8%	104	14.0%
14/4	Auckland (8)	199,112	13.1%	1,753,964	16.1%	461,008	44.3%	123	10.8%

- (1) Riverton RC; Easter Monday fell later in April last year; comparative figures are unavailable.
(2) Auckland RC; Easter Monday fell later in April last year; comparative figures are unavailable.
(3) Otaki-Maori RC; 7 races this year, compared to 9 races last year. Raced on a Wednesday last year.
(4) Racing Rotorua; raced on a Friday last year; comparative figures are unavailable.
(5) Otago RC; raced on a Sunday last year; comparative figures are unavailable.
(6) Manawatu RC; 8 races this year, compared to 10 races last year.
(7) Canterbury Racing; 9 races this year, compared to 10 races last year.
(8) Auckland 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	2,226	2,242	(16)	(0.71%)
Starters	23,403	23,909	(506)	(2.12%)
Avg Field Size	10.51	10.66	(0.15)	(1.41%)
Off-Course Turnover	239,166,544	254,061,147	(14,894,603)	(5.86%)
On-Course Turnover	28,547,767	31,513,375	(2,965,608)	(9.41%)
Total Totalisator Turnover	267,714,311	285,574,522	(17,860,211)	(6.25%)
Fixed Odds	52,247,332	44,143,892	+8,103,440	+18.36%
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	319,961,643	329,718,414	(9,756,771)	(2.96%)
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	143,738	147,064	(3,326)	(2.26%)
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	13,672	13,791	(119)	(0.86%)
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	989,176,645	984,129,513	+5,047,133	+0.51%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	167,018,569	127,251,751	+39,766,818	+31.25%
Total NZRB Turnover	1,156,195,215	1,111,381,264	+44,813,950	+4.03%

Overall turnover was up 19.4% (+\$5.60m) last week on the same week last year (+\$4.82m on Easter Monday), +4.0% season to date. Racing turnover was up 21.8% (+\$5.27m) for the week.

Domestic thoroughbreds turnover was up 27.5% (+\$1.67m) with the two extra meetings and eight more races (+13.6%) with horse starts also up 15.5%. Import tote was up 20.3% on the same week last year (+\$1.85m). Overall 100 more races were taken last week (+11.8%), with 60 North American races taken, including 11 harness races. FOB Racing, with 241 Final Field Place options offered (\$901k), was up 66.2% (+\$1.85m) last week.

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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