



Wednesday 21 December 2011

Earlier Withdrawal Times from 14 January

The withdrawal time for ALL race meetings has been brought forward and will now close at 10 am. This change will be effective from **Saturday 14 January, 2012** when withdrawals are taken for the **Wednesday 18 January Whangarei RC** meeting and will be applicable to all thoroughbred meetings from this date.

The withdrawal times have been brought forward one hour from 11 am after consultation by NZTR with the three Regional Programming Committees and the NZ Trainers Association to assist with the printing and distribution schedules for the NZRB Turf Digest/Best Bets publications.

NZTR Regional Meeting in New Plymouth on 23 December

New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR) is conducting seven Regional Meetings, following its Annual General Meeting, to present its proposed Business Plan and development of its long term strategic objectives. These are open to all industry participants.

The remaining Regional Meeting is scheduled for:

New Plymouth 4.00 pm on Friday **23 December** at Pukekura Raceway

Regional Meetings have already been held in Christchurch on 7 December, Cambridge on 8 December, Auckland and Palmerston North on 9 December, and Dunedin and Invercargill on 15 December.

“Christmas at the Races” Wraps Up Major Award

The people have spoken: Christmas at the Races is the country’s best way to celebrate the festive season.

Christmas at the Races, a unique and innovative partnership between the New Zealand Racing Board and participating racing clubs, has been named the country’s best nationwide Christmas celebration at the 2011 People’s Choice Awards.

The partnership sees the NZ Racing Board assisting clubs to stage festive celebrations on-course at selected thoroughbred and harness summer race meetings the length and breadth of the country, from metropolitan hotspots to quintessential country meetings.

NZ Racing Board On-course Marketing and Events Manager Janice Hill said the People’s Choice Award reflected Kiwis’ strong interest in summer racing and was testament to the benefit of co-operation between clubs and the NZ Racing Board.

“It’s very much a partnership that benefits everyone involved – the clubs attract bigger crowds and more people get to come together in a festive environment to experience the thrill and atmosphere of racing.

“Christmas at the Races is gaining in popularity every year and this award is proof that people really enjoy it.”

Auckland RC & South Canterbury RC 28 December – Amended Withdrawal Date/Time

For the Auckland RC & South Canterbury RC meetings on 28 December 2011 the withdrawal dates have been amended as follows:

Auckland RC

Nominations: Friday 23 December 2011 at 12 noon
Weights: Friday 23 December 2011
***Withdrawals: Friday 23 December 2011 at 2 pm**
Declaration of Riders: Monday 26 December 2011 at 1 pm

South Canterbury RC

Nominations: Friday 23 December 2011 at 12 noon
Weights: Friday 23 December 2011
***Withdrawals: Friday 23 December 2011 at 2 pm**
Declaration of Riders: Monday 26 December 2011 at 1 pm

This change has been necessary to facilitate inclusion of the fields for these race meetings in the various racing publications.

Westland Racing Club, Wednesday 11 January 2012 - Distance Changes

Westland Racing Club, in conjunction with the NZTR Venue Inspector, has confirmed that there will be minor amendments to the distances of the staying events at this meeting. The changes will be as follows:

The Rating 75, Rating 65 and Maiden (Special Conditions) 2160m events will now be run over a distance of 2180m.

Looking for the Perfect Gift for a Racing Fan?

The 40th Anniversary edition of the Thoroughbred Racing Annual features all the highlights from the 2010-11 season including New Zealand-bred champion So You Think (NZ), Champion juvenile Anabandana, Filly of the Year King's Rose (NZ), star three-year-old Jimmy Choux (NZ) and much more!

The Racing Annual is available at the special price of **\$40** plus postage and handling.

To purchase visit NZTM or phone NZTM on (07) 849 7230

First Media Bulletin in 2012

The first Media Bulletin in 2012 will be published on Tuesday 10 January.

Season Greetings

NZTR wishes all readers a safe and enjoyable festive season, and best wishes for 2012.

Turnover Information for the Period ending 18 December 2011

Date	Club	On-Course		Off-Course		Fixed Odds		Starters	
								11-12	10-11
14/12	Counties	57,771	23.9%	711,369	16.2%	125,237	14.5%	98	11.7%
15/12	Levin (1)	9,930		65,531		12,817		16	
16/12	Canterbury	66,323	22.2%	774,498	16.2%	151,221	2.6%	97	21.1%

17/12	Manawatu	344,692	21.5%	1,984,734	27.6%	371,358	33.6%	138	24.3%
17/12	Waikato (2)	170,244	17.9%	1,351,767	19.6%	235,049	17.7%	111	19.6%
18/12	Tapanui (3)	79,282	3.2%	855,020	10.4%	133,775	41.9%	124	3.3%

- (1) Levin RC; meeting was abandoned after race 1 due to unsafe track conditions.
- (2) Waikato RC; 10 races this year, in comparison with 11 races last year.
- (3) Tapanui RC; 11 races this year, in comparison with 10 races last year.
- (4) Domestic thoroughbreds total turnover for this week was down 13.4% (-\$1.04m) with ten less races (-16.1%). Horse starts were down 21.7% last week, with average field sizes of 12.0 for the week resulting in field sizes 0.8 starters a race greater than in the same week last year. The Group 3 Manawatu Cup at Awapuni was the largest betting race for the week with turnover (tote and fob) of \$396k up 60% on last year (\$248k) with 18 starters vs 10 last year, while the other Group 3 at the meeting the Challenge Stakes (\$303k) was up (+\$102k or 51%) on last year.

Thoroughbred Summary – 11/12 Year to Date 1 August 2011 – 18 December 2011

NZ Thoroughbred Summary	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/-	Variance +%/(-%)
Races	1,175	1,193	(18)	(1.51%)
Starters	12,439	12,694	(255)	(2.01%)
Avg Field Size	10.59	10.64	(0.05)	(0.51%)
Off-Course Turnover	123,366,054	134,091,585	(10,725,531)	(8.00%)
On-Course Turnover	13,497,483	15,133,670	(1,636,187)	(10.81%)
Total Totalisator Turnover	136,863,537	149,225,255	(12,361,718)	(8.28%)
Fixed Odds	24,103,648	22,673,199	+1,430,449	+6.31%
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	160,967,185	171,898,454	(10,931,269)	(6.36%)
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	136,993	144,089	(7,096)	(4.92%)
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	12,941	13,542	(601)	(4.44%)

Total NZRB Racing Turnover	522,964,507	534,701,257	(11,736,750)	(2.20%)
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	98,246,670	67,781,091	+30,465,579	+44.95%
Total NZRB Turnover	621,211,177	602,482,348	+18,728,829	+3.11%

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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