



Tuesday 16 October 2012

Grandstand Demolition – Riccarton Park

The Members Grandstand (or 'Old' Members Stand as it was commonly known) at the Riccarton Park Racecourse has been brought to ground over the past 11 days.

The Grandstand (built in 1962) suffered damage in the Canterbury earthquakes and the Canterbury Jockey Club, having this confirmed by a Detailed Engineering Evaluation only a little over a month ago. The Club subsequently reached an agreement with its insurers NZI and Vero on Friday 5 October, the end result of which was a decision by the Club to demolish the building.

The Club's insurance broker and sponsor of the feature sprint on the first day of the Cup Meeting, Yesberg Insurance Services, played a tremendous hand in achieving a result which was critical to meet a deadline dictated by the date of the Christchurch Casino New Zealand Cup Meeting.

MackKay Leigh's Demolition have worked since that date to bring the building down and will have the site cleared and levelled for use by the first day of the Cup Meeting on Saturday 10 November 2012.

Betting, toilet and food and beverage facilities previously housed in the Members Grandstand will be provided on the cleared site for those thousands of people who enjoy Cup day from the boot parties in the Show Gate Reserved Carpark. It is also anticipated that a super screen will be able to be positioned on the site.

More Kiwis Than Ever Before Have Booked In To Celebrate The Festive Season At The Races

In 2011 Christmas at the Races was voted 'Best Nationwide Christmas Party Option' in the Corporate Events People's Choice Awards, and in 2012 demand is indicating it warrants this title. Over half of the events have nearly completely sold out with some Clubs having to create totally new packages to cater to the demand.

By the end of September Wanganui Jockey Club had sold every hospitality package available - indoors and out. A new package has been created to cater for the traditionally late booking crowd. Bret Field, Operations Manager at Wanganui was delighted considering the local bookers were usually 'late movers and in previous years bookings had only picked up in late September'.

And as it appears Wanganui Jockey Club is not the only Racing Club reaching for the sold out signs. For the third year running Geraldine Trotting Club (TC) in Canterbury is a sell-out event. Jackie Nelson from Geraldine TC said 'this year we will have more marquees on-course than ever before – the course will be full and requests are still coming'. Tauranga, Awapuni (Manawatu), Te Rapa (Waikato) and Ascot Park (Invercargill) have also nearly sold out all their available hospitality packages at select events.

So not only is the Christmas party tradition well and truly alive here in New Zealand, people who would not traditionally attend race meetings are heading on-course for the party. In 2011 Christmas at the Races hosted over 100,000 people, including 18,000 who had never set foot on a racecourse before. This indicates that Christmas at the Races has hit a niche like no other – it's engaging more Kiwis in one of the oldest sports in history while simultaneously helping the Racing Club's deliver profitable events.

Brand Manager, Louisa Ross is 'looking forward to seeing the crowd's on-course for the festivities,' and urges those 'thinking about taking their Christmas party to the races to secure their spot soon'.

More information about Christmas at the Races and other summer racing events can be found at theraces.co.nz.

Hon Nathan Guy, Minister for Racing - Regional Meetings 30th & 31st October 2012

The Minister for Racing Nathan Guy will join New Zealand racing industry leaders at four regional meetings in late October to speak with industry participants about the future of racing.

The Minister will join NZ Racing Board Chairman Dr Alan Jackson and Chief Executive Chris Bayliss, both having recently commenced their roles with racing's leading industry body, in speaking with racing participants about the issues and opportunities that matter to them and the wider industry.

With a firm focus on the future, the Minister has tasked the NZ Racing Board with leading industry-wide strategies to protect and enhance the prosperity of racing and its participants. Mr Guy, Dr Jackson and Mr Bayliss will outline the challenges that lie ahead for the industry and what is being done to capitalise on the many opportunities within it.

Most importantly, the forums will allow those involved in racing to raise and discuss industry matters.

The following meetings are scheduled:

Tuesday, 30th October, 10.00am

Silks Room, Awapuni Racecourse, **Palmerston North**

Tuesday, 30th October, 4.00pm

Kentucky Lounge, Te Rapa Racecourse, **Hamilton**

Wednesday 31st October, 10.00am

Dining Room, Ascot Park Racecourse, **Invercargill**

Wednesday 31st October, 3.45pm

Phar Lap Room, Riccarton Park Racecourse, **Christchurch**

In order to ensure numbers can be accommodated, an RSVP is requested before the 19th of October, by emailing regionalsvp@nzracingboard.co.nz

Equine Industry Training Survey

The Equine Training arm of the Primary Industry Training Organisation have launched a research project into the training needs for the Equine sector and to establish training awareness, attitudes towards training and barriers to training.

As part of this research, you are invited to participate in an on-line survey which is being circulated to all stakeholder groups within the Equine industry.

The survey should take no longer than 15-20 minutes to complete, please click on this link <http://Training.NZTR-HRNZ-Survey.sgizmo.com/s3/>

NZTR would greatly appreciate your support and encourage you to complete the survey.

2012 New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing Annual

The 2012 New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing Annual will be ready for distribution in early November.

This is the 41st edition of the publication that recaps the season's racing with detailed profiles and stunning pictures of the year's champions, both equine and human. It is a must have for every racing enthusiast and a perfect Christmas gift too.

The 2012 NZ Thoroughbred Racing Annual includes:

- NZ Horse of the Year Mufhasa
- Star Kiwi three-year-old Silent Achiever
- Top class sprinters Guiseppina and Atomic Force
- Weight-for-age stars Jimmy Choux, Veyron and Shez Sinsational
- International high flyers So You Think, Super Easy, Fay Fay and Little Bridge
- Filly of the Year, Planet Rock
- A tribute to super mare Black Caviar
- And Much More !!

Don't miss out! to pre-order your copy contact:

New Zealand Thoroughbred Marketing
Phone: 07 849 7230
PO Box 20580
Hamilton 3241

www.nztm.co.nz

The 2012 Thoroughbred Racing Annual is available for pre-order at a cost of \$40.00 + postage & handling.

Turnover Information for the Period ending 14 October 2012

Date	Club	On-Course		Off-Course		Fixed Odds		Starters	
								12-13	11-12
8/10	Wdvl-Pahiatua (1)	24,479		389,286		131,720		67	
10/10	Taupo (2)	44,412		710,007		254,356		97	
11/10	Wairarapa (3)	31,656		662,994		204,744		84	
12/10	Southland (4)	21,151		575,284		186,601		84	
13/10	Egmont	115,292	28.4%	1,651,893	12.6%	386,206	48.1%	139	4.1%
13/10	Matamata (5)	97,185	46.0%	1,541,323	14.6%	376,224	48.0%	120	5.5%

- (1) Woodville-Pahiatua RC; no equivalent meeting last year; this year there were 7 races.
- (2) Racing Taupo; last year this meeting was a Gore RC meeting at which there were 9 races; this year there were also 9 races.
- (3) Wairarapa RC; last year this meeting was a Racing Taupo meeting at which there were 8 races; this year there were 9 races.
- (4) Southland RC; last year this meeting was a Wellington RC meeting run in conjunction with the Rugby World Cup at which there were 9 races; this year there were also 9 races.
- (5) Matamata RC; this meeting was detrimentally affected with 16 late scratchings due to downgrades in track conditions throughout the day.
- (6) Last year on the Sunday there was a Waipa RC meeting at which there were 9 races.

NZ Thoroughbred Summary	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/()	Variance +%/(-%)
Races	570	620	(50)	(8.06%)
Starters	5,838	6,308	(470)	(7.45%)
Avg Field Size	10.24	10.17	+0.07	+0.67%
Off-Course Turnover	58,445,961	61,221,208	(2,775,247)	(4.53%)
On-Course Turnover	4,544,221	5,159,240	(615,019)	(11.92%)
Total Totalisator Turnover	62,990,182	66,380,448	(3,390,266)	(5.11%)
Fixed Odds	15,572,197	11,721,245	+3,850,952	+32.85%
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	78,562,379	78,101,693	+460,686	+0.59%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	137,829	125,970	+11,858	+9.41%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	13,457	12,381	+1,076	+8.69%
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	295,056,722	259,831,415	+35,225,307	+13.56%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	59,310,628	66,924,709	(7,614,081)	(11.38%)
Total NZRB Turnover	354,367,350	326,756,124	+27,611,226	+8.45%

Overall turnover was up 2.5% (+\$796k) last week on the same week last year, with Rugby World Cup having contributed \$3.50m turnover to 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.

NEW ZEALAND THOROUGHBRED RACING INC

P O Box 38 386, Wellington Mail Centre ☎ Telephone: (04) 576 6240 ☎ Fax: (04) 568 8866

Internet: www.nzracing.co.nz ☎ E-mail: office@nzracing.co.nz