



Wednesday 8 February 2012

NZTR New Racing Structure Starts 1 March

Increases in minimum prizemoney and a new structure of racing designed to maximise domestic and international wagering on New Zealand thoroughbred racing begins in March.

NZTR Chairman Matthew Goodson said that repositioning the industry in certain key areas was a key platform of the NZTR Business Plan. "It is critical to our future that New Zealand racing accesses and grows international markets. This requires a consistent, quality racing product."

From 1 March increased prizemoney for Saturday Premier and Feature meetings across New Zealand will see minimum prizemoney of \$20,000 per race at all Premier meetings. On all feature days Maidens will be racing for \$12,500 and Open class races will be run for a minimum of \$25,000.

NZTR is looking to work closely with Clubs to introduce further prizemoney and programming enhancements designed to create a greater differentiation between quality Saturday racing and other days of the week.

While the NZTR Board strategy is directed towards maximising Saturday racing opportunities, the biggest prizemoney increase in terms of percentage gain is for midweek Maiden races at industry meetings in the North Island, which increase by \$2,000 (40%) from \$5,000 to \$7,000.

Minimum prizemoney levels from 1 March, 2012:

Description	Open	R85	R75	R65/Spec Cond	3&4YO	2YO	Mdn
Premier	40,000	30,000	25,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Feature	25,000	15,000	15,000	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500
Tier 2 Feature	15,000	12,000	10,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	7,000
Industry	12,000	8,000	8,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000

The Paeroa Racing Club meeting on Monday, 5 March will be the first of regular weekly schedule of Monday thoroughbred race meetings that have been programmed throughout the year. Monday racing is viewed by NZTR as primarily an off course and international wagering opportunity for horses progressing to Saturday Premier and Feature meetings, or those horses that may not be ready to compete at that level. Paeroa's eight race programme has two \$7,000 Rating 65 races and six \$7,000 Maiden races, with total prizemoney of \$56,000. This represents a significant increase (33%) on the current stakes structure for a comparable midweek racemeeting.

NZTR's Business Plan provides for Monday Northern thoroughbred meetings to average off-course TAB turnover of \$55,000 per race and achieve average export turnover of around \$80,000 per race.

The potential to grow export earnings around Monday racing across the Tasman was highlighted by Australian interest on the Waikato Racing Club's Labour Monday feature meeting at Te Rapa on 24 October last year. This meeting turned over \$1.22m (an average \$111k a race) on 11 races on the NZTAB and \$1.51m (avg. \$137k per race) in Australia.

On the same day the Woodville 8-race industry meeting turned over \$520k (avg. \$65k per race) on the NZ TAB and \$766k (avg. \$95k per race) in Australia. The Kumara Jockey Club meeting that had to be transferred to Monday, 9 January at short notice, after being called off on the Saturday, also provides a

guide to the opportunities that a regular pattern of Monday thoroughbred racing represents, particularly in Australia. Kumara turned over \$975k on the NZ TAB on 12 races on the Monday (avg. \$81k per race) and \$957k (avg. \$79k per race) in Australia.

Equine Industry Training Organisation Merges with Agriculture ITO

Following a Government review of industry training systems in 2011, the New Zealand Equine ITO (NZEqITO) has merged with the Agriculture ITO (AgITO).

Industry Training Organisations (ITOs) are recognised by the Associate Minister of Education (Tertiary Education) and are responsible for setting national skill standards for industry, providing information and advice to trainees and their employers, and arranging for the delivery of on and off-job training, assessment of trainees and monitoring the quality of training provided.

Under this merger the Equine ITO is a business unit of the AgITO and retains its own identity as 'Equine Industry Training' (including logo & website) and is represented by an equine industry advisory group.

The consolidation of services and increased coverage will result in an enhanced service to our industry trainees through the provision of two Full Time Equivalent (FTE) field staff members (Training Advisors) to market and support on-job training, split across three regions (Northern, Central and Southern).

The role of the Training Advisor will be to raise awareness of industry qualifications to existing industry employees across the codes, to sign up new trainees and to support them and their employers in on-job training.

Historically, the racing codes provided both on and off-job support. Under this new model, there is a clear division of responsibilities between on and off job personnel. Our tutors will continue to deliver off-job training through the regional Cadet and Apprentice schools.

Tommy Hazlett has been appointed Training Advisor in the Northern region and will continue as Apprentice Jockey Mentor on a part-time basis. Matt Barnsley has been appointed to the Central Districts as Training Advisor and will continue in his role as Licensing Officer on a part-time basis.

Additionally NZTR is seeking to recruit an Apprentice Jockey Mentor/Training Advisor in the Southern Region to provide mentoring and coaching to Thoroughbred apprentices, support on-job training and grow the number of trainees enrolled in the Level 3 Certificate in Stable Procedures.

Edward Rennell, CEO of Harness Racing NZ welcomes the merger with AgITO and believes that the new structure will enhance industry education programmes and see a continuation of the excellent provision of training to young people within the industry.

Graeme Calverley, Greyhound Racing's (GRNZ) Licensed Persons Board Representative added: "This should benefit the Greyhound industry with greater field support and an increase in other resources becoming available to GRNZ training staff to meet the rapidly rising interest in Greyhound racing."

To further consolidate shared training resources between the codes, Kristie Hill, Harness Racing Education and Training Manager, will deliver the Thoroughbred Apprentice Jockey curriculum in the Canterbury region – an arrangement Thoroughbred Chief Executive Greg Purcell sees as positive for Industry Training: "With Kristie's extensive background in equine industry education and training, we are very pleased to have her providing tuition to our apprentices. Kristie brings an in-depth knowledge and understanding of equine qualifications and compliance requirements which will support the on-going success of our Apprentice Programme in the South Island."

Apprentice Jockey Mentor/Industry Training Advisor - Southern Region

Do you want to play a pivotal role in New Zealand's Racing Industry Training?

NZTR has an exciting opportunity for an Apprentice Jockey Mentor/Industry Training Advisor to support the development and marketing of industry training across the Harness, Thoroughbred and Greyhound codes.

A member of the NZTR Industry Training team, the role will involve the marketing of qualifications to new and existing industry participants and supporting trainees through their qualifications. You will also mentor and coach our apprentice jockeys, helping them on their way to becoming world-class jockeys.

This critical role requires strong industry experience, the ability to relate to industry participants, good administrative skills, tons of energy and a good sense of humour. If this sounds like you – please get in touch!

Please refer to the attached position description for further information about the role.

Applications should be forwarded to Deb Bragger at deborah.bragger@nzracing.co.nz, and should include a current CV, a completed [application form](#) and a cover letter outlining your suitability for the role.

Applications close 5 pm Friday 17 February 2012.

For further details, [click here](#) to view the full article (requires Adobe Acrobat reader).

NZTR Nomination and Scratching Fee Policy from 1 March 2012

As previously advised, from 1 March 2012 a nomination fee of \$57.50 (GST inclusive) will be charged for all races, excluding Group & Listed and Prestige Jumping races (PJR), which have higher nomination fees, as advertised.

The introduction of a \$57.50 nomination fee for Maiden, R65 and R75 races represents a change in policy by NZTR. The \$57.50 nomination fee is already being charged for races above R75.

Acceptance fee: an acceptance charge of 0.75% plus GST of the advertised prizemoney will apply to all races at Rating 75 level and above. No acceptance fees are payable for all Maiden and R65 races. Acceptance fees for Group & Listed and PJR races will continue to be charged as advertised by the Club based on the NZTR policy for these races.

Non-acceptance fee: a non acceptance fee of \$40.89 (GST inclusive) is currently charged where a horse is nominated and then withdrawn from any race below R75 level. From 1 March 2012 the \$57.50 (GST inclusive) nomination fee cost will be incurred where a horse is nominated then withdrawn.

Scratching fee: *currently where an acceptor in any race below R75 level with advertised stakes of \$15,000 or less is scratched, a scratching fee of \$127.78 (GST inclusive) is charged. For those races worth more than \$15,000 the scratching fee is \$255.55 (GST inclusive).*

Scratching fee policy from 1 March 2012: where a horse is an acceptor in any race and is then scratched the \$57.50 (GST inclusive) nomination fee and a scratching fee of 0.75%, plus GST, of the advertised prizemoney will be charged. Note – for a \$7,000 Maiden race from 1 March, 2012 the sum of the 0.75% scratching fee charge plus the new \$50 nomination fee cost will be \$102.50 (plus GST), which represents a small reduction on the current scratching fee charge of \$111.11 (plus GST).

Group & Listed and PJR races: there is no change to the current scratching fee schedule, which is based on the nomination and acceptance fees advertised by the Club.

Payment of rider engagement fees – where a rider has been declared and the horse is then scratched: from 1 March 2012 where a rider has been engaged and the horse is subsequently scratched and that rider is not declared for another ride in the same race, the \$57.50 (GST inclusive) rider engagement fee will be charged. Currently this cost is paid to the jockey by NZTR. The rider engagement fee is additional to any scratching fee.

Taranaki TR, Saturday 18 February - Hooker Pacific Taranaki Cup Day

Taranaki TR will hold the first of its two annual premier race meetings on Saturday 18 February.

This day features the Group 3 Hooker Pacific Taranaki Cup and the Group 3 Platinum Homes Two Year Old Classic.

The popular Konami Gaming Inter-track Investor competition will run once again. This is a punting competition with 1st prize being \$5,000. This competition is \$500 to enter.

First race is at 12.15 pm and DJ Jeremy Watson will be playing after the last race at 5.55 pm. Our other generous sponsors for this day are NZ Bloodstock Insurance, Nicholas Finance Ltd, Frederics Ltd, The New Plymouth Club, The Waterfront Hotel, Wahid (Ron, Kathryn, Noel and Suzie Stanley) and Schweppes (Coca-Cola).

And ladies get your outfits ready because there will be a "Fashion on the Field" event too with first prize being a trip for two to the Melbourne Cup.

New Staff Appointments at Gallop South

Gallop South Inc has announced the appointment of Jason Spencer as Racing Manager, Southland Region and Patrice Spencer-Humm in a part-time role looking after Events, Marketing & Sponsorship.

Jason is an ex Jockey, Trainer, Racing Administrator and will be well known to many in the industry.

Patrice is also well known to many, having represented the Southland Province in Netball and Basketball, Captaining Southland and playing over 100 games.

Jason and Patrice took up their new roles on Tuesday 7 February 2012.

February Bonus Weekend

Thoroughbred Bonuses: \$205,000

\$25,000 to the Quaddie at New Plymouth on Friday 10 February.
\$25,000 to the Quaddie at Te Rapa on Saturday 11 February.
\$25,000 to the Quaddie at Awapuni on Saturday 11 February.
\$25,000 to the Quaddie at Pukekohe on Sunday 12 February.
\$3,000 to each First4 on ALL Races from New Plymouth, Te Rapa, Awapuni and Pukekohe.

NZ Racing Hall of Fame Induction Event

The next Racing Hall Of Fame inductee gala dinner will be held in Auckland on 2 March 2012 on the eve of the New Zealand Derby meeting coinciding with Auckland Cup Carnival week.

Inductees will be chosen from right across New Zealand thoroughbred history, in two categories - Horses and People – by an independent Selection Committee.

Inductees, together with their individual sponsors, will be announced on the night - adding to the anticipation and excitement of the event which will include guest speakers and entertainment.

Date: Friday 2 Mar 2012
Venue: Ellerslie Convention Centre, Ellerslie Racecourse, Auckland
Price: \$180.00.

For further details and to purchase tickets, go to www.racinghalloffame.co.nz or Contact Michelle McClunie Ph (07) 858 2923 msubritzky@xtra.co.nz

Feature Race Nominations and Withdrawals Information

Auckland RC

Second withdrawals for the Stella Artois Auckland Cup close with the National Racing Bureau at 11 am on Tuesday 14 February.

Turnover Information for the Period ending 5 February 2012

Date	Club	On-Course		Off-Course		Fixed Odds		Starters	
								11-12	10-11
30/1	Whakatane (1)	110,062	36.8%	524,393	55.8%	177,336	227.9%	73	17.7%
1/2	Reefton (2)	33,642		685,814		154,474		112	
2/2	Wanganui	24,133	35.0%	583,625	16.4%	189,479	43.1%	72	28.7%
3/2	Paeroa	44,995	15.2%	634,452	2.7%	144,878	52.5%	82	1.2%
4/2	Otago	92,675	33.7%	1,683,159	22.4%	274,974	19.7%	147	0.7%
4/2	Waikato	130,163	16.8%	1,448,015	9.8%	432,928	32.5%	112	1.8%
6/2	Wairarapa (3)	212,221	21.9%	1,007,613	14.8%	242,374	39.1%	100	2.9%

- (1) Whakatane RC; 8 races this year, compared to 7 races last year when the meeting had been deferred from 31 January to 6 February because of unsuitable track conditions.
- (2) Reefton JC; meeting held at Riccarton Park having been abandoned on Wednesday 4 January at Reefton due to unsuitable track conditions.
- (3) Wairarapa RC; 9 races this year, compared to 10 races last year. Whakatane RC also raced on this day last year.

Racing turnover was up 4.7% (+\$1.08m) for the week, Racing Tote was up 1.2% (+\$243k) with Domestic tote down 3.4% (-\$437k).

Domestic thoroughbreds turnover was down 11.7% (-\$816k) with a meeting less and nine less races with horse starts down 14.4%. The Group 3 Waikato Guineas at Te Rapa won by Silent Achiever was the largest betting race for the week with turnover (tote and fob) of \$368k, which was up 9.5% on last year (\$336k). The other domestic thoroughbred feature for the week, the Group 3 White Robe Lodge Handicap at Wingatui, turned over \$293k and was also up 62% on last year (\$181k).

FOB Racing was up 32% (+\$837k) last week (up 29% or \$579k domestically), with just six more options (+1.4%) available than in the same week last year.

Unfortunately the **Thoroughbred Summary - Year to Date** information is not available at time of publication.

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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