

Tuesday 12 February 2013

“From the horse’s mouth ...”

Congratulations to Lisa Allpress on cracking that 1,000 NZ career winners club, and being the first New Zealand woman jockey to achieve it. What a satisfying and gratifying achievement.

My past week has been spent doing a fair bit of talking and listening. After the Board meeting we have a regular monthly sector group meeting. This is a monthly teleconference call with the sector groups: representatives from the Jockeys, Trainers, Breeders, Owners, Thoroughbred Marketing, and race clubs where I talk about aspects of the Board report to make sure that each of them is up to speed with the direction NZTR is heading.

These are productive discussions where a lot of ground is covered. It is part of our commitment to making sure everyone who represents a sector group is well informed and understands what is happening, as well as why it is happening so that they understand the logic and rationale behind decisions that are reshaping our direction and creating a stronger thoroughbred industry. If this group understands where we are heading they are then more able to communicate it to their stakeholders.

As you know the new website went live in December and since then the IT department have been busy amending, improving and adding additional features based on user feedback.

Firstly the fields overview page has been amended to include a horse’s age, sex and breeding. This page will also include a summary of gear changes underneath each race just like previously.

Changes are also being made to the in-depth horse profile, where all race starts will be displayed in full without having to click on each start to look at the race history.

We are also re-introducing the use of one video player to view race replays with in-depth horse form.

Over the upcoming weeks you will see more detail on jockey and trainer profiles.

We welcome any feedback that you may have on the website upgrade, so please contact james.preston@nzracing.co.nz with suggestions for improvements.

Finally I have been saying that the Handicapping policy would be out by now and I had hoped it would be. We are working on guidelines for the policy and have nearly completed the consultation phase with trainers over four main issues. These are the methodology of handicapping and re-rating; developing a consistent policy, a new complaints process and reviewing the current structure.

We hope to release it next week and as a result of the consultation it will be a much more robust document.

Greg Purcell CEO NZTR

New Zealand Bloodstock Filly of the Year - Update

The New Zealand Bloodstock Filly of the Year dream moved a step closer to reality for the connections of Fix (Iffraaj) when she won the Group Two Cambridge Stud Sir Tristram Fillies’ Classic at Te Rapa on Saturday.

Fix has moved further clear at the top of the table to 27.5 points ahead of Soriano (Savabeel) on 19 with

Rollout The Carpet (Holy Roman Emperor) on 15. The latter won't contest the last two events in the series – the Group Three Lowland Stakes and the Group One Wellfield New Zealand Oaks.

Ken Kelso wouldn't be drawn on the immediate future of Fix following another brave front-running victory at Te Rapa. "I never make decisions on raceday," he said.

While the jury might be out on her ability to master the 2400 metres of the Oaks at Trentham on 16 March, regular rider Vinnie Colgan has no doubt she can. "Absolutely," he said.

Taranaki TR Intertrack Investor Competition

Taranaki TR is running its Intertrack Investor Competition this Saturday 16 February.

Cost to enter – \$500 Betting Money 1st Prize \$4,000, 2nd \$1,000, 3rd \$500.

Scottish Charm Lounge Complimentary Refreshments and Food. 1 free ticket per entry. \$50 for each additional ticket.

Owners/Trainers/Public all invited.

Contact 06 757 5759 for details.

Turnover Information for the Period ending 10 February 2013

Date	Club	On-Course		Off-Course		Fixed Odds		Starters	
								12-13	11-12
4/2	B/Peninsula (1)	16,800		332,883		102,697		69	
6/2	Wairarapa (2)	181,408	14.5%	725,035	28.0%	248,144	0.3%	65	35.0%
7/2	Riverton (3)	24,141		481,100		132,277		90	
8/2	Taranaki (4)	70,512	4.0%	664,279	7.7%	182,208	32.6%	82	13.5%
9/2	Waikato	302,691	18.2%	1,928,266	5.5%	655,293	37.6%	113	13.9%
9/2	Manawatu	91,780	1.7%	882,226	14.5%	231,916	4.3%	96	4.0%
10/2	Counties (5)	44,031	24.1%	583,519	13.3%	236,078	43.4%	76	0.0%

- (1) Banks Peninsula RC; there was no equivalent meeting on this Monday last year; this year there were 7 races.
- (2) Wairarapa RC; there were 8 races this year on a Wednesday, compared with 9 races last year on a Monday.
- (3) Riverton RC; there were 8 races this year, compared with 10 races at a Southland RC meeting last year.
- (4) Taranaki TR; there were 8 races this year, compared with 7 races last year.
- (5) Counties RC; there were 7 races this year, compared with 8 races last year.

NZ Thoroughbred Summary	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/-	Variance +%/(-%)
Races	1,676	1,663	+13	+0.78%
Starters	17,570	17,618	(48)	(0.27%)
Avg Field Size	10.48	10.59	(0.11)	(1.05%)
Off-Course Turnover	183,609,566	186,749,328	(3,139,762)	(1.68%)
On-Course Turnover	21,918,797	22,850,820	(932,023)	(4.08%)
Total Totalisator Turnover	205,528,363	209,600,148	(4,071,785)	(1.94%)
Fixed Odds	53,867,569	36,389,165	+17,478,404	+48.03%

Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	259,395,932	245,989,313	+13,406,619	+5.45%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	154,771	147,919	+6,852	+4.63%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	14,764	13,962	+801	+5.74%
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	837,754,018	747,437,474	+90,316,544	+12.08%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	126,020,751	126,583,399	(562,648)	(0.44%)
Total NZRB Turnover	963,774,769	874,020,873	+89,753,896	+10.27%

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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