

Wednesday 3 April 2013

From the Horse's Mouth

The Handicapping review has now concluded. A new, and we are confident, more improved process should resolve the complaints raised about inconsistencies. There is a new policy with a national weight scale template in place. The template provides a guide to the weight that each horse will carry in a Ratings based handicap race based on the rating of each horse. The Handicapping Guide is available on the NZTR website.

We have appointed Bruce Sherwin and Mark Webby as handicap liaison officers as part of the complaints process. The important aspect is that stakeholders use the process which we are confident is robust.

NZTR is pleased to be hosting the high profile 2013 Asian Racing Federation Young Guns Series, which brings together the leading apprentice jockeys for a three race championship series to be held Saturday 17 August at Te Rapa racecourse at the Club's Waikato Stud Foxbridge Plate meeting.

An invitation has been extended to Racing Victoria, Hong Kong, South Africa, Japan, Macau, South Korea, Malaysia and Singapore to nominate one of their leading apprentice riders to compete here in August, alongside our own New Zealand representative. This event brings together the best young riders in the Asian Racing Federation region.

Put a note in your diary now, the Horse of the Year Awards will be at the Claudelands Event Centre on Thursday 15 August.

Dean Nowell, NZTR Chief Handicapper, to Retire on 31 July

New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing's (NZTR) Chief Handicapper, Dean Nowell, is to retire from NZTR on 31 July 2013.

NZTR Chief Executive, Greg Purcell, stated: "Dean has been a senior and highly respected figure in handicapping both in New Zealand and overseas and he will be missed."

"As part of NZTR's recent review of its handicapping processes, Dean was asked to relocate to Wellington. Due to his personal circumstances, Dean chose not to relocate and instead decided to retire from NZTR. NZTR wishes him well for the future."

Nowell has worked as Handicapper in New Zealand since 1981 when the handicappers were employed by the Clubs, prior to NZTR taking over the responsibility of contracting the handicappers

He is also the longest serving member of the International Handicapping Panel, which meets annually to determine the World Thoroughbred Rankings. He has also represented New Zealand on the ANZ Handicappers Panel for more than 20 years.

'Kiwi Bred' to Air in Dubai

The first series of 'Kiwi Bred' has been successfully sold to the Dubai Racing Club for broadcast on the Dubai racing channel. This further proves the quality and content of the series and showcases the New Zealand thoroughbred breeding industry on the world stage.

A second session is in pre-production and is planned to air in September.

Auckland RC – Monday 3 June 2013 – Additional Race

An additional (9th) race has been programmed for the Auckland RC race meeting on Queens Birthday, Monday 3 June.

The additional race is:

Maiden & Jumpers Hcp 2400m \$12,500
Amateur Riders

Turnover Information for the Period ending 31 March 2013

Date	Club	On-Course		Off-Course		Fixed Odds		Starters	
								12-13	11-12
25/3	Matamata (1)	21,234	13.2%	342,792	3.1%	141,644	1.4%	67	1.5%
27/3	Waikato	43,947	33.4%	603,108	7.6%	239,332	4.4%	80	20.8%
28/3	Wanganui (2)	39,216	12.5%	661,392	4.3%	242,137	34.1%	95	3.1%
30/3	Auckland	96,707	6.1%	942,288	16.8%	273,660	14.4%	82	19.6%
30/3	Riverton (3)	191,427	3.1%	840,809	3.6%	220,822	35.5%	115	11.7%
30/3	Manawatu	176,303	25.7%	1,505,165	18.2%	527,813	13.4%	110	12.7%

- (1) Matamata RC; raced on a Tuesday last year; there were 7 races this year, compared to 8 races last year. Last year there was a Wairarapa meeting on Monday.
- (2) Wanganui JC; there were 9 races this year, compared to 8 races last year.
- (3) Riverton RC; there were 10 races this year, compared to 9 races last year.

NZ Thoroughbred Summary	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/()	Variance +%/(-%)
Races	2,043	2,102	(59)	(2.81%)
Starters	21,109	22,074	(965)	(4.37%)
Avg Field Size	10.33	10.50	(0.17)	(1.61%)
Off-Course Turnover	219,166,806	226,905,213	(7,738,407)	(3.41%)
On-Course Turnover	26,234,208	27,379,278	(1,145,070)	(4.18%)
Total Totalisator Turnover	245,401,014	254,284,491	(8,883,477)	(3.49%)
Fixed Odds	66,294,510	48,938,528	+17,355,982	+35.46%
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	311,695,524	303,223,019	+8,472,505	+2.79%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	152,568	144,255	+8,313	+5.76%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	14,766	13,737	+1,029	+7.49%
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	1,019,296,837	933,175,303	+86,121,534	+9.23%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	157,397,331	157,319,305	+78,027	+0.05%
Total NZRB Turnover	1,176,694,168	1,090,494,608	+86,199,561	+7.90%

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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