



Up and down but a lot of fun *By Dennis Ryan*

Dick Stevenson's involvement in jumps racing is based on one premise – to enjoy himself in an arena that puts camaraderie ahead of rivalry.

The Northlander is a member of the old school of horsemen, one who learnt the ropes in the high country of western Hawke's Bay and who turned to racing to pursue his equine interests as an aside to his farming activities.

Even now, in his late 60s, he finds it hard to believe that his formative years were spent as a townie, the son of a banker who walked away from the trappings of an urban lifestyle.

"I decided I wanted to go farming, so I signed up as a cadet at Smedley Station in the back country between Hawke's Bay and Taihape," he says. "After three years there I moved to a property closer to Taihape, which is where I really got to know horses."

Stevenson honed his equine skills breaking in station hacks and selling them on – a sideline that hastened his ultimate aim to farm his own property.

"There was good money to be made doing that. From one bunch of 10 horses I bought for five pound a head, I sold two or three of them for 500 pounds each."

By his mid-20s Stevenson had enough in his bank balance to make a move north with his Taihape-born wife Clare to Dargaville, on the west coast of Northland, where they settled on their own block of land, Tuidale.

"Ours was the first sheep and beef property to be bought in Northland with an 85% Rural Bank loan," he recalls. "Years later when I named one of our horses Rural Bank I would explain to people that if the horse was as good to us as the Rural Bank had been, he'd be a pretty fair animal."



Tui Kaha

As the Stevenson family grew, time was found for pursuits off the farm, one of the main ones involving daughter Nicky's pony club and later eventing activities.

"Nicky competed to a reasonably high level as a teenager," says her father. "She was in the Northland team at the national championships and we would travel to places like Taupo for the three-day event there.

"That all ended when she left home to go to varsity and that's how I ended up involved in racing. I had enjoyed the competitive side of what Nicky was doing, getting horses fit, that sort of thing, and that's what racing also offered."

Stevenson initially trained from the Dargaville farm, as well as becoming involved with his local racing club where he was a committee member for two decades, the final years as president.

In the 1990s he had numerous highlights with the Northland-bred Tui Akarana, who he had purchased cheaply as an unbroken four-year-old. Nine wins including the Rotorua and Kiwifruit Cups, plus a weight-for-age feature at Ellerslie and a third placing in the New Zealand Cup were lasting memories of the big mare's career.

Her daughter The Strutter is carrying on that legacy with two wins and a third placing in the Cornwall Handicap from her three most recent starts.

Rural Bank has been another notable performer in the two-tone blue Stevenson colours, featuring a win in the Winning Edge Championship Final and second in the Mitchelson Cup. The grey gelding is among the latest bunch of jumping recruits to the Stevenson stable, having competed in a recent hurdle trial.

A severe tendon injury brought only a temporary halt to Rural Bank's career, thanks to the salt water therapy offered by the surf on the stretch of beach bordering the current Stevenson base south of Ruakaka.

"When I decided to spend more time on the racehorses I leased the Dargaville farm to my older son Rob and Clare and I moved across to the east coast," explains Stevenson. "I work them at Ruakaka only occasionally and most of the time is spent down on the beach.

"It's marvellous for injuries like the one Rural Bank had. I reckon he covered a total of 1,200 kilometres in the surf – that's not exaggerating either, about an hour a day for months led off another horse."



Dick Stevenson

The budding jumps star in the team is Tui Kaha, who capped a string of placings with a maiden steeplechase win at Ellerslie on Queen's Birthday Monday and followed up with a typically dour second to Volkswagin at Te Aroha.

Home-bred Tui Kaha is raced in partnership with a syndicate comprising 17 members of the Pakuranga Hunt, including Hunt Master Ivan Bridge.

"They're a great bunch of people to be involved with," says Stevenson. "As Hunt members they all understand horses, but even so they leave all the decision making to me. This horse is coming along well, he's a very good stayer who really tries."

The obvious target for Tui Kaha is the Pakuranga Hunt Cup in late August, while a tilt at the Great Northern Steeplechase two weeks later would be the ultimate.

On top of the convivial relationship between trainer and fellow owners, Tui Kaha exemplifies the bond that is so obvious amongst members of the jumping fraternity.

"All of my thoroughbred breeding has been based on what I'd call budget stallions and it was natural when Ken and Ann Browne offered Jumping Association members a special \$500 fee to Heroicity that I would take advantage of it.

"Eight or nine years later it's very satisfying that I've got a horse from their generous offer that's out there competing.

"The thing about jumping people is that everyone involved knows what can go wrong and whenever any of us have some success, the people you've just beaten are happy for you. There's no greater sporting attitude than that.

"Over the year we've probably been no different to anyone else – it's all been up and down but we've had a hell of a lot of fun!"

Magic moments of the season – April-June 2009

STEEPLECHASERS

WILLIE WINIT & CLIMBING HIGH

MACGREGOR GRANT STEEPLECHASE, ELLERSLIE

That straight has claimed so many last fence leaders and so it was again in the 2009 Macgregor Grant Steeplechase. Climbing High, another jumping son of Yamanin Vital trained by Bill and Mark Weal had been the new found sensation of the season so far winning his maiden steeplechase at Paeroa on May 13 and following up with an open grade victory at Hawke's Bay on May 21. Providing his supporters with a clear lead most of the way under Shelley Houston he was undone on the line by a very deserving Willie Winit, ridden by a determined and ultimately elated, Paul Boylan. Another Ellerslie ding dong finish providing jumping with a great advertisement.



Willie Winit (outer) and Climbing High

MIKEMEANDAAD

WAIKATO STEEPLECHASE, TE RAPA

With all the talk of jump racing in Australia coming to an end, New Zealand put on the best show of steeplechasing seen for ages as if to advertise – all was well and good on this side of the Tasman. The Aussie jumping fans would have melted with envy. It was fitting that arguably the best steeplechaser in the country, Mikemeandaad landed the spoils but what a fascinating race with any number of twists and turns in the tale. This was the Raymond Connors-trained runner's sixth win from eight starts over steeplechase fences. The son of Istidaad has never been hurdling. Philip Turner was entitled to be proud of his efforts in the saddle too – never panicking, never giving up, even when to us viewers it looked as if the crowd favourite was going to be undone. The prospect of Mikemeandaad versus stablemate, Hypnotise gives us something to possibly relish in the future.



Mikemeandaad

HURDLERS

HARVEST THE GOLD

KS BROWNE HURDLE, ELLERSLIE

Under a tight hold from Jonathan Riddell, the Murray and Bjorn Baker trained hurdler made his season debut in PJR 3 KS Browne Hurdle. Fresh from a decent run of flat form he left his competitors for dust with clean jumping and sound pace. The talented Bennyosler and Dunstan Feed Hurdle winner Spirit of Alaton, which was probably not at home in the ground, had no answers.



Harvest The Gold (centre)

KIDUNOT

GREAT WESTERN HURDLE, RIVERTON

Visiting rider Brett Scott praised Riverton as one of the best jumping courses in the world. We all know what Tommy Hazlett thinks after his remarks on the Trackside jumping presentation – The Thrill of the Chase. Riverton staged two days of jump racing in 2009, with the pinnacle events being the Great Western Steeplechase won by the John and Karen Parson-trained Honour Victory and the Great Western Hurdle – won by the Ellis Winsloe trained Kidunot. The Western Hurdles attracted just seven starters but five of them jumped the last in unison and under the excellent coaxing of Missy Browne, Kidunot got up on the grandstand side to show who was best on the day.



Kidunot

MAIDENS ON THE UP

PENSTAR

TRAINED BY BOB BAKER

There have not been many easier winners seen over jumps this season than Penstar's emphatic victory at Ellerslie over Queens Birthday Weekend.

JOINT EFFORT

TRAINED BY PAUL RICHARDS

Was a dogged win at Riverton giving young Englishman George Strickland his first winner in NZ. Joint Effort is a decent flat horse in the South now making the grade over obstacles.

SIR HEELAN

TRAINED BY JOHN WHEELER

Brought back from an Australian steeplechase campaign to a hurdling career in NZ. Impressed on debut at Waikato but stepped up on that winning arguably the best maiden hurdle of the season at Hawkes Bay in late May.

COUNTER PUNCH

TRAINED BY MARK OULAGHAN

Snuck south to Riccarton to open steeplechase account at first attempt beating some fairly decent open class horses. He will no doubt be heading south in early August again.



Joint Effort



Counter Punch



Penstar



Sir Heelan

Prestige Jumping – What's Coming Up?

JULY 11 Wellington Hurdle & Steeplechase, Trentham

AUGUST 1-8 Grand National Carnival, Riccarton

AUGUST 22 Pakuranga Hunt Cup Day, Ellerslie

SEPTEMBER 5 Great Northern Hurdle & Steeplechase, Ellerslie

SEPTEMBER 27 ... National Jumps Day, Rotorua

NZTR – contribute \$50,000 to Club Jumping Infrastructure

NZTR have paid out around \$50,000 to jumping clubs around the country for a wide variety of projects. Although the funding is not confirmed for future seasons it shows NZTR's commitment to ensuring the jumping amenities in place around the country are well maintained. The largest grant was paid to the Canterbury Jockey Club, which put the contribution towards the cost of their new live fences.

Minimum Weights to increase from 1 August 2009

At the April 2009 NZ Jumps Inc. Committee meeting, the Committee discussed the merits of increasing the minimum weights in jumping and highweight flat races. The rationale for the discussion was based on the recent move by the Australian jumping industry to increase the minimum weights in the best interests of safety.

In November 2008, His Honour David Jones was commissioned on behalf of Racing Victoria Limited to review jumps racing in Victoria. An extract from the report relating to minimum weights is detailed below.

The weight carried by a horse is relevant to risk in jumps racing. Put simply, too little weight can result in too much pace whereas higher weights will tend to slow the horse down. On the other hand too much weight can cause horses to tire and be at risk in jumping obstacles.

JUMPING RACES	PROPOSED	CURRENT
Maidens	Set weight 65kg	Set weight 63kg
All Opens (including Restricted Opens)	Min 64kg	Min 63kg
Prestige Jumping Races (PJR's)	Min 64kg	Min 63kg

HIGHWEIGHT FLAT RACES	PROPOSED	CURRENT
Maiden Highweights	No change to current	64.5kg (CG&E), 63kg (F&M)
Jumpers Flat & Handicap Highweights	Min 64kg	Min 63kg

NZ Jumps Inc. and management acknowledge that increasing the minimum weights may assist in slowing down horses during a race therefore increasing safety. However, they also wish to emphasize that this is not the only reason why it is proposed to lift the minimums.

Additional reasons are detailed below:

- Provide jumping riders with weight relief (at least 1kg).
- Make it easier to attract riders from Australia, U.K. and Ireland (their minimum weights are higher than they are presently in New Zealand).

The move to see the weights increased has been passed by the NZTR Board and the change will take effect from 1 August.

New style – portable fence hailed a success

Gallop South have trialed a new style of portable steeplechase fence at their meetings at Oamaru this season and the overall reaction has been extremely positive.



The fence is made up of two four-metre sections, placed together to

make an eight-metre wide fence. The front view of the fence gives the impression that the jump is live. It has ten rows of half rounds, painted white at the top and bottom, to create a total arched ramp height of 900mm. The unique aspect of the jump is that the foliage sits in pots in a trough behind the ramps. The overall height of the fence is 1.5 metres.

The fences are set on skids and very easy to erect, disassemble and transport.

The plan is that clubs replacing temporary or put up steeplechase fences in the future should attempt to follow the template of this new style. The good news for them is that the cost of production was a very reasonable \$1500 per fence.

Just A Swagger



The Jolly Dancer



FMG New Zealand Grand National Steeplechase

FMG is the new sponsor of the New Zealand Grand National Steeplechase, the 135th running, which will take place at Riccarton Park on August 8th.

FMG is New Zealand's leading and only specialist rural insurer, having protected the property and livelihoods of farmers and rural New Zealanders for over 100 years. Today FMG uses this experience and understanding to deliver tailored insurance and investment advice to best meet the needs and objectives of its members.

"We see the FMG Grand National Steeplechase with its own proud heritage and strong links to the rural community as an ideal fit for our business", said FMG General Manager Insurance & Investments, Conrad Wilshire.

Canterbury Racing Chief Executive Tim Mills echoed these sentiments when welcoming FMG.

"We are so pleased that our partner in this event understands the heritage and tradition of this wonderful race and we look forward to working with FMG to present another special event".

FMG take over from PGG Wrightson who have been custodians of the race since 2001. PGG Wrightson remains a partner of the Club being sponsors of the feature race on the Riccarton raceday in February.

"We wish to acknowledge the continuing role of PGG Wrightson and thank them for their contribution to this race over the last eight years", said Mills.

"Both FMG and Canterbury Racing look forward to a successful first event in our new partnership".

Paeroa – safety work commended

The unfortunate incident that took place at Paeroa at their meeting on May 13 involving the fall of Missy Browne on Magic Myth at a fence in the centre of the course, highlighted the need to reconsider the procedures relating to the “cordoning off” of fences and closing off areas of the course.

At Paeroa on this occasion there was no clear procedure in place to shut off the steeplechase fences in the middle of the course and as a result Missy Browne was moved from the course proper mid race when she was potentially not in a fit condition to be relocated.

Had the accident happened on the hill – the same issue could well have occurred.

NZTR have for some time had a procedure that a pursuit car follows the field around the track – in the company of an ambulance. This pursuit car is to attend to falls – and to provide staff and equipment to enable them to close off fences.

Difficulties are likely to occur when at some racecourses the horses enter parts of the course where there is no straight forward vehicle access for the pursuing cars to follow the field around – jump to jump.

If this is the case, the Club must ensure that they have staff positioned in a suitable location that will enable them to close off fences or areas of the course prior to the horses coming around again if an accident occurs where a horse or jockey is unable to be moved – or a fence becomes dangerous for any other reason.

Paeroa RC has reacted very quickly to the situation that took place and should be commended for doing so.

Since the incident, they have worked to ensure full vehicle access through the infield lane, put a plan in place for their hill and addressed the protocols around having a roving steward who can close off any fences or areas of the course that need to be closed mid-race due to incidents.

The ground work has included removing two sections of pipe rail, alterations to some wings and the removal of around 30 metres of fencing near the second fence and piping and filling the drain to allow access for vehicles and an escape route for horses.

Additionally – the club will be providing three clerks of the course on jumping days. NZTR have also ensured that St John will have a minimum of three ambulance officers on course on days when jump racing is taking place.

Garry Foskett, NZTR Track Manager and Reid Sanders, Chief Stipendiary Steward are working with all clubs and local stipendiary stewards to ensure that a procedure is in place at every venue that covers all eventualities.

New race at Grand National Meeting

Trainers please be aware that a new jumping race has been programmed for the Grand National meeting at Riccarton and that the programme is different to what was published in the April edition of *Over The Jumps*. The final Saturday, August 8 – contains a new special condition hurdle over 3000m for horses that at the time of entry have not won more than one hurdle race or have not won a hurdle race for two years. The Grand National programme sees the Sydenham Hurdle and Koral Steeplechase on Saturday, August 1, followed on Wednesday by the HANZ Grand National Hurdle and maiden hurdle and steeplechase. The final day of the Carnival includes the 135th running of the FMG Grand National Steeplechase and the new NZ Jumps Inc-sponsored special Hurdle.

Jump Racing in Australia

Jump racing stakeholders in Australia breathed a huge sigh of relief in May when they received the announcement from Racing Victoria that it was to continue. There was a genuine belief from many in the industry that it was going to be discontinued following pressure from politicians and animal cruelty lobbyists.

Racing Victoria put out a media release highlighting that jumping will continue with a number of new conditions.

After extensive consultation, in particular with jockeys and trainers, Racing Victoria adopted a range of recommendations from the Jumps Review Panel which it believes will make jumps racing safer for jockeys and horses.

THESE CHANGES INCLUDE:

- Strand starts to be trialled in consultation with the Victorian Jockeys Association;
- All horses to be schooled in the presence of Stewards from 1 June 2009 before being permitted to participate in trials for the first time;
- New strict qualifying conditions for entry into premium jumps races with prize money of \$70,000 or more to be adopted from 1 June 2009 with the following policy –
“A condition of entry for this race requires horses to carry a jumps rating of at least 115. The horse must also have either won a jumps race or been placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th in a jumps race other than a maiden jumps race.
- Further and ongoing education of jumps riders regarding race tempo and their obligations under LR62 (9) to retire a fatigued horse and the strict enforcement of the rule and imposition of appropriate penalties for any contraventions including suspension;
- The current final obstacle in all jumps races to be removed (so that the currently placed second last obstacle becomes the last);
- Protocols and standards to be implemented to conduct heart rate checks of all horses after they complete their final qualification trial to ensure they are fit to race;
- Races beyond 3600 metres to be programmed to provide lead up races to feature jumps events including increasing the distance of the hurdle race scheduled for 25 July 2009 at Moonee Valley from 3200 metres to 3700 metres and the creation of a new 4000 metre race in the lead up to the Warrnambool Grand Annual.

There is a promise of a further full review of jumps racing to be conducted at the end of the 2009 jump racing season.

LJ Hooker Manawatu Steeplechase & Manawatu ITM Hurdles

Due to the timing of this edition of *Over The Jumps* pictures from the PRJ 3, LJ Hooker Manawatu Steeplechase and PJR 3, Manawatu ITM Hurdles will feature in the next edition due for publication in August.



Toogoodtobetrue

Burton Construction Amateur Rider's Series points table

SURNAME	TOTAL
Northcott M K	20
Jenkins L M	17
Ormsby P	12
Wenn S	10
Dell C	9
Thompson S	9
Roughan C	8
Richards J	6
Murphy K C	3
Johansen R	2
Kinsey P	2
McNab S	2
Bandey R	1
Bruce K	1
Miller L J	1
Timpany N	1

Points: 1st - 10; 2nd - 6; 3rd - 4; 4th - 3; 5th - 2; 6th - 1

These points are up to and including 10/6/09 Te Aroha.

Burton Contracting Amateur Rider Series

Andrew Burton of Burton Contracting, Rotorua has generously stepped up to sponsor the New Zealand Amateur Rider Series. Andrew's partner, Linda is the mother of eager amateur jockey, Jane Hunt, who was successful in the amateur rider's race at Ellersie last season aboard Toogoodtobetrue on Great Northern Day. Thanks are extended to Andrew and Linda for their great support.



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Wellington Steeplechase Day – NZ Jumps Inc Members Special Offer & On-Course Hospitality Options

MAKE UP FOR LAST YEAR'S LOST WELLINGTON STEEPLECHASE DAY AT TRENTHAM BY ENJOYING THIS SEASON'S MEETING IN STYLE ON SATURDAY, JULY 11.

Club Members and NZ Jumps Inc members can enjoy special priced hospitality in the Terrace Restaurant.

TERRACE RESTAURANT

\$65.00 members (Club & NZ Jumps Inc Members)

\$85.00 non-members

Reserved table for the day includes Members' stand ticketing, racebook, buffet lunch and afternoon tea with prime viewing. Cash bar operates.

CORPORATE BOX

If there is a large group of you why not consider a corporate box! Minimum 15 people for your exclusive corporate box, buffet lunch and afternoon tea with the absolute best view on course. Cash or charge bar operates.

For bookings please contact Michelle on 0800 TRENTHAM or races@trentham.co.nz

THE DAY ALSO HOSTS A YOUNG WELLINGTON RACE DAY EVENT.

See below for details:

WHEN: Saturday 11 July 2009

WHERE: Level 2, Members' Stand, Trentham Racecourse

TIME: From noon

INCLUDES: Live music, Punters' Club, race book, best-dressed competitions and complimentary finger food from 2pm to 3pm

AFTER: Hooch, Courtenay Place

PARTY: Limited space on the party bus departing immediately after the last race

TICKETS: Cavallo Club Members \$10 and \$30 for non-members (includes gate admission). As places are strictly limited, Members are encouraged to book early to avoid disappointment. Tickets must be purchased prior to raceday.

DRESS: Dress to impress.

CODE: Casual. Dress jeans permitted.

BOOKINGS: Please phone 0800 TRENTHAM or email races@trentham.co.nz
To book NOW go to www.trentham.co.nz

Ballantines Whisky Jumps Star of the Season points table

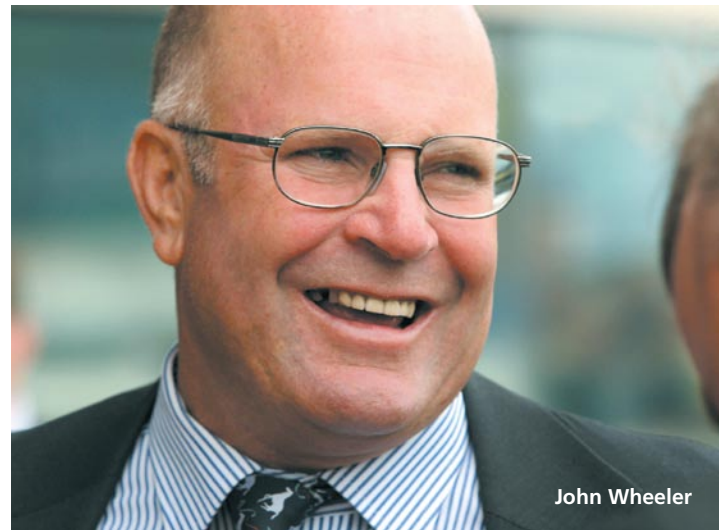


STEEPLECHASER		
Position	Horse	Points
1st	Mikemendaad	140
2nd	No Rush'n	115
3rd	Sportavian	97
4th	Willie Winit	96
5th	Climbing High	94

HURDLER		
Position	Horse	Points
1st	Spirit Of Alaton	120
2nd=	Birchwood Run	110
2nd=	Kidunot	110
4th	Bennyosler	107
5th	Harvest The Gold	80

TRAINER		
Position	Trainer	Points
1st	J Wheeler	433
2nd	B & S Anderton	193
3rd	R Connors	152
4th	A Browne	135
5th	P Nelson	134

JOCKEY		
Position	Jockey	Points
1st	J Rathbone	432
2nd	R Eynon	351
3rd	J Riddell	313
4th	T Hazlett	244
5th	P Turner	234



John Wheeler



Jo Rathbone

Updated as at Monday 15 June.

NZ Jumps Inc – Annual General Meeting & Committee Elections

NZ Jumps Inc will be staging its first ever AGM at Riccarton on Thursday, August 6 at 3pm. All members of NZ Jumps Inc are of course welcome to attend.

The make up of the current committee includes representatives from the NZTR Board (Marion Stevenson), the Trainers Association (John Wheeler), the Jockeys Association (Tommy Hazlett), the Racing Clubs Group (Andrew Castles) and NZTR staff – Track Manager (Garry Foscett) and Racing Coordinator (Craig Baker) – as well as the NZTR appointed Jumps Coordinator (Andre Klein).

Additionally, there are two other seats on the committee which are held by members of NZ Jumps Inc. These are currently occupied by Ray Knight and Dennis Ryan, who were part of the original Jump Racing Steering Committee.

The NZ Jumps Inc constitution states that members have the ability to nominate themselves or nominate somebody else for these two positions. In the case of someone nominating someone other than themselves, the person being nominated for the position must provide their consent in writing.

Nominations are required at least two weeks prior to the AGM, so in this case by Tuesday, July 21 – in order to allow for elections if required. If no nominations are received, the NZ Jumps Inc committee can self-appoint two members from the NZ Jumps Inc membership.

To obtain a nomination form – please email Andre Klein at ceo@gallopsouth.co.nz

Time to put the fizz back into the flat? *By Andre Klein*

I know it's easy to harp on about how well jump racing is going in the UK but it wasn't until I read an article in the May edition of *Thoroughbred Owner and Breeder* magazine published under the headline "Time to put the fizz back into the flat" did it really strike home how the sport is flourishing and to what extent it is taking over flat racing.

The article examines why there is a growing indifference to flat racing and why just as importantly, what can be done to revive it at a time when jump racing is flourishing. Although we are just a minnow in terms of races and starters compared to the UK, we have a few things in common under our new structure that may well be our saviour and who knows... in fifty years time we could see a similar headline published in *The Informant*... well, maybe not?

Not paraphrasing here in anyway – just dipping in to the gist of the article and some of the items mentioned by the author Alan Lee – in context with our scenario.

Firstly during the winter, for the most part, the flat racing is of "average" fare in NZ. Jump racing, without a doubt, spices up an otherwise ordinary day at the races. Same in the UK where the winter flat racing is of the mundane all-weather track kind.

We have a defined season – it gives us something to look forward to. It's seasonal. We wait, we wait and when it comes... well it's kind of a reason to celebrate something. Like Christmas! Admittedly there is summer jumping in the UK now – but it remains very very low key with many "names" of the sport not participating.

We now have a clear defined pattern of key races in NZ – every fortnight we have our treat of a PJR event. This is similar to the UK where the key targets are weekly on Saturdays and the low key support races mid week except the dizzy highlights of the year at Cheltenham and Aintree, which a roughly positioned three-quarters

and seventh eights of the way through the season – about the same stage as our Grand National Carnival and Great Northerns are incidentally.

Jumping is not elitist. Good jumpers are hard to come by but can be unearthed just about anywhere. Quality flat performers are more often than not bred in the purple and sold at a level to send most of us into the red.

Jumping participants are often more colourful types, more jovial and accessible. They are perceived as braver – to start with they operate under the cold force of winter and their work space is more dangerous, thrilling and commanding of respect – yet they go about their scene without the pomp and snobbery many flat racing participants do.

Jumps jockeys are more famous and succeed better in the company of the media. They like to talk about the rough and tumble of their trade. Their scars are more severe and their tales are longer like their races and their horse's careers.

The sport has an air of openness not always found in the pressure cooker of graded stakes flat racing where form is often unexposed, kept under a cloak of secrecy till race day when it catches punters unaware. Jumping horses have a habit of exposing their form and owners like to spill the beans on their horse's ability and share the potential wealth or otherwise. Ability is normally ruthlessly exposed not many jumps after the first is taken.

There is often a feeling of national ownership of the heroes of the track – who seriously have to work hard to earn their stardom and respect, unlike an out of the barrier, down the straight flat race winner, retired at 3 and whipped off to stud duties only to be forgotten by all except those selling advertising in a thoroughbred breeding publication.

Bit harsh some of it admittedly but if you are a hard and fast jumping person – then I'm sure you'll appreciate the tongue in "cheekiness" of it all. I promise I like flat racing as well...

Jump right in to it!

THERE'S NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO GET IN TO JUMP RACING, SO WHY NOT CONSIDER JOINING UP AS A MEMBER OF NZ JUMPS INCORPORATED – AND HELP SUPPORT WHAT YOU LOVE!

MEMBERSHIP OF NZ JUMPS INC

- New Zealand Jumps Inc is the body that assists NZ Thoroughbred Racing steer jump racing policy nationally.
- It has come into existence as result of the re-development of the infrastructure of jump racing in NZ and has replaced the NZ Jumps Association.
- In becoming a member you have the opportunity to get involved and have your say on the future of jump racing. You can nominate yourself and get elected to one of the two positions on the NZ Jumps Inc committee reserved specifically for members. This committee makes recommendations to NZ Thoroughbred Racing on all matters jump racing.

OTHER BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Join and receive 2 x NZ Jumps Inc Members Badges
- Special offers from jump racing clubs around the country. These will be advertised on the NZTR website and will include discounted admission, race day membership, etc.
- "Over The Jumps" Newsletter sent to your door – three times a year.
- Discounts off various hospitality packages put together by jump racing clubs on key jumps days.
- Special offers from NZ Jump Racing's national and regional sponsors.
- Automatic entry into a monthly draw during the jump racing season to win a bottle of Ballantine's Whisky.

Annual Membership: \$60

Under 25: \$40

Send your subscription to The Secretary, Box 269, Mosgiel or call 03 489 6233 to pay by credit card.

Please include your name, address, telephone and email address.



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