



**Friday 26 July 2013**

### **From the Horse's Mouth**

It's been an interesting week in Wellington following the 6.5 Earthquake that struck early Sunday evening. Access to NZTR's Petone office was prevented until 2pm on Monday, following an engineering inspection that determined the damage to the building stairwells were superficial and not structural.

It was a good test of NZTR's disaster recovery and off-site systems, which worked well.

I extend my thanks for the hard work of NZTR staff and my appreciation to any industry stakeholders who were detrimentally affected.

On Tuesday I attended a meeting in Auckland with Interbrand and representatives of the New Zealand Trainers Association, New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders Association, New Zealand Thoroughbred Racehorse Owners Federation, New Zealand Thoroughbred Marketing, New Zealand Bloodstock and leading race clubs to discuss the status of development of a thoroughbred racing brand.

The brand development of thoroughbred racing as a sport is a key pillar of NZTR's strategic plan which will be released shortly.

### **NZTR Welcomes Minister's Appointment of Glenda Hughes to the Chair of the New Zealand Racing Board**

The chairman of New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR), Matthew Goodson, has welcomed the appointment of Glenda Hughes to the Chair of the Board of the New Zealand Racing Board.

This appointment follows the judgment of Judge Jillian Mallon in the High Court in February this year to quash the appointment of Dr Alan Jackson to the chair of the New Zealand Racing Board as a result of a challenge from the New Zealand Greyhound Racing Association (NZGRA).

Mr Goodson stated: "We are delighted with the Minister's appointment. It is reassuring to us and to all our thoroughbred industry stakeholders that Glenda Hughes will provide strong leadership and is not only very involved with a number of sports industries but also knowledgeable about racing."

"The Thoroughbred racing industry is dependent upon the performance of the Racing Board and we are confident it is in safe hands for the foreseeable future."

"We look forward to working with her and continuing to work alongside the other six members of the Board and Senior Management of the Racing Board."

### **Premiership Titles Going Right Down to the Wire**

With just this weekend's meetings at Te Rapa and Awapuni, to be followed by Oamaru on Monday and Rotorua on Wednesday left in the season both the trainers' and jockeys' premierships could not be closer.

At the close of racing today the trainers' premiership is headed by Michael Pitman on 86 wins, with Lisa Latta on 84 wins.

Over the last few weeks Matt Cameron has steadily closed in on Opie Bosson and they are now engaged in a fascinating head-to-head battle, both having several good rides with strong books over the three meetings left to them both. Bosson currently leads on 148 wins, with Cameron on 145 wins.

### **At Riccarton Park - 1200 Metre Chute Remains Out; Steeplechase Course Unaffected**

The Canterbury Jockey Club advises that use of the 1200 metre chute remains suspended during the winter with the likelihood of wet weather and whilst the drainage project continues.

#### **Steeplechase Course in full use**

Whilst work on the 1200 metre chute at the junction with the course proper prevented the section of the steeplechase course that includes the Racecourse Hotel Brush and 'Jumbo' being used at the May Meeting this will not be the case at the Grand National Racing Carnival. Work on that section of the chute has been completed and the full steeplechase course will be available for use in August.

#### **1200 metre races**

Due to the 1200 metre chute not being available all 1200 metre races at the upcoming Grand National Meeting will be shifted to the course proper and will be run over the distance of approximately 1250 metres.

The starting limit in these races, over the distance of 'about 1250 metres', will be 14 horses when the rail is in the true position out to 3 metres, 12 horses if the rail is out 4 to 5 metres and 10 horses if the rail is out 6 metres or further.

#### **3200 metres races**

The 3200 metres hurdle races will be reduced to 3100 metres but the 3200 metres steeplechase races remain unchanged due to the additional distance covered racing on the steeplechase course.

***The following races which have been advertised at the Grand National Racing Carnival are affected:***

#### **Saturday 3 August 2013:**

- Open Handicap 1200 metres race now about 1250 metres.
- Benchmark Rating 75 1200 metres race now about 1250 metres.
- Three-year-old Handicap 1200 metres race now about 1250 metres.
- Open Hurdles 3200 metres race now about 3100 metres.

#### **Wednesday 7 August 2013:**

- Benchmark Rating 65 1200 metres race now about 1250 metres.
- Maiden SW 1200 metres race now about 1250 metres.

#### **Saturday 10 August 2013:**

- Benchmark Rating 85 1200 metres race now about 1250 metres.

### **TAB Turbo-Charges Thoroughbreds with Half-a-Million**

The TAB celebrates the final Saturday of the 2012/13 thoroughbred racing season this weekend by offering punters a shot at winning big with its first-ever terminating \$500,000 Turbo Pick6.

Taking in two feature gallops meetings – Taumarunui Gold Cup Day at Te Rapa and Ryder Stakes Day at Awapuni – on Saturday, 27 July the Turbo Pick6 is “terminating”, meaning that the entire \$500,000 must be won.

Saturday’s Turbo Pick6 takes in the final three races from each meeting, including both features – the \$80,000 Derek Stephens Memorial Taumarunui Gold Cup (2100m) and the \$50,000 Ryder Stakes (1200m) for two-year-olds.

### **Racing Rotorua – Wednesday 31 July – Minor Distance Changes**

Following the movement of the rail (from the originally anticipated position) it has been necessary to make minor changes to the distances of the following races on the programme at the Racing Rotorua meeting on Wednesday 31 July:

Maiden SW	1230m now becomes 1200m
Maiden 3YO SW	1230m now becomes 1200m

### **NZ Jumps Annual Forum Notification**

NZ Jumps, in co-operation NZTR, will be hosting an open forum during the Grand National Carnival at Riccarton Park and is extending an invitation to all of its members to attend.

The purpose of the forum is to provide jump racing stakeholders with an opportunity to raise any concerns they may have in regards to jump racing within New Zealand.

Any items you would like to see included on the agenda should be forwarded to Andre Klein by 2 August.

**Date:** Thursday, August 8  
**Time:** 1pm  
**Venue:** The Tea House, Riccarton Park

#### **For further information:**

Andre Klein, NZ Jumps Secretary  
Email: [andre@wingatui.co.nz](mailto:andre@wingatui.co.nz)  
Telephone: 027 242 3767

### **Racing Assistant Vacancy – National Racing Bureau**

Fulltime position - 40 hours per week.

New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR) is the governing body for thoroughbred racing, and is currently seeking a **Racing Assistant** in the National Racing Bureau.

The **Racing Assistant** will be required to co-ordinate all functions relating to the entry of horses into races, race fields and associated activities.

They will also be required to liaise with Club personnel in the collection and distribution of race information, process entries for overseas races and other administrative duties.

The successful candidate will:

- Possess a drive to continually address and exceed expectations of customers;
- Demonstrate excellent communication skills, coupled with a high level of attention to detail;
- Be motivated and comfortable working actively and successfully in a team environment and developing productive relationships; and
- Thrive on the challenge of working in a high-pressure environment with strict deadlines to be achieved.

Ideally candidates will have had experience in customer service and be prepared to work on a roster basis covering 10 days per fortnight, with a requirement for some weekend work.

A keen interest and/or knowledge of thoroughbred racing would be an advantage.

If you would like to apply for this role please send your covering letter and CV to [natasha.freeman@nzracing.co.nz](mailto:natasha.freeman@nzracing.co.nz) or post your CV and covering letter to Natasha Freeman, New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing, PO Box 38 386 Wellington Mail Centre 5045.

For a full copy of the job description please email [natasha.freeman@nzracing.co.nz](mailto:natasha.freeman@nzracing.co.nz)

Applications close Wednesday 31 July 2013.

### Turnover Information for the Period ending 21 July 2013

Date	Club	On-Course (Tote & FOB combined)		Totalisator (Off & on-course combined)		Fixed Odds (Off & on-course)		Races		Starters	
		12-13	11-12	12-13	11-12	12-13	11-12	12-13	11-12	12-13	11-12
15-Jul	Te Aroha	19,520	14,134	322,286	369,366	106,042	84,145	7	7	62	68
17-Jul	Tauranga	65,815	81,333	667,931	782,567	172,011	142,301	8	9	76	92
18-Jul	Hawke's Bay	25,449	31,321	582,365	667,622	169,536	157,043	8	8	71	78
19-Jul	Matamata	36,221		567,060		128,200		7		69	
20-Jul	Whangarei	59,207	85,409	938,305	1,186,808	311,267	263,358	8	9	74	90
20-Jul	Taranaki	195,214	206,095	1,667,467	1,736,371	328,989	294,234	9	9	113	106
21-Jul	Oamaru	45,251	40,594	785,290	818,323	201,383	158,226	10	8	116	88

NZ Thoroughbred Summary	This Season, Year to Date	Last Season, Year to Date	Variance +/-	Variance +%/(-%)
Meetings	350	344	+6	1.74%
Races	2,943	3,013	(70)	(2.32%)
Starters	30,708	31,905	(1,197)	(3.75%)
Avg Field Size	10.43	10.59	(0.15)	(1.46%)
Number of races less than 8 starters	412	484	(72)	(14.88%)
Off-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	384,818,339	375,602,928	+9,215,411	2.45%
On-Course Turnover (Totalisator & FOB)	36,540,954	38,939,948	(2,398,993)	(6.16%)
Total NZ Thoroughbred Turnover	421,359,293	414,542,876	+6,816,417	1.64%
Subtotal Totalisator Turnover	333,306,265	347,955,814	(14,649,549)	(4.21%)
Subtotal FOB Turnover	88,053,028	66,587,062	+21,465,966	32.24%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Race	143,173	137,585	+5,589	4.06%
NZ Thoroughbred Turnover per Starter	13,721	12,993	+728	5.61%
Total NZRB Racing Turnover	1,446,864,191	1,346,179,844	+100,684,347	7.48%
Total NZRB Sports Turnover	240,821,252	240,024,189	+797,062	0.33%
Total NZRB Turnover	1,687,685,442	1,586,204,033	+101,481,409	6.40%

NZ Thoroughbred Export Turnover (to 14 Jul)	352,072,166	347,765,747	+4,306,419	+1.24%
Total Races (to 14 Jul)	2,886	2,971	(85)	(2.86%)
NZ Thoroughbred Export turnover per race	121,993	117,053	+4,940	+4.22%

Note: Meetings, races, starters and turnovers are totals of NZRB supplied meeting by meeting turnovers. Off-course turnover is totalisator and FOB combined. On-course turnover is totalisator and FOB racing combined, placed on-course at NZ thoroughbred meetings. Total NZRB racing turnover is NZ thoroughbred, harness, greyhound and all imported racing turnover; total NZRB turnover also includes sport. NZ thoroughbred export turnovers are now included, up to the most recently available meetings. All turnover figures are supplied by the NZRB, derived from various sources.

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