

JUNE 2018

INDUSTRY UPDATE

The NZ Trainers' Association is delighted with the decision by the Minister for Racing, the Right Honourable Winston Peters, to appoint John Messara to review the New Zealand racing industry's governance structures and to provide recommendations on future directions for the industry.

The Trainers' Association has been in regular communication with the Minister's office and many members have discussed the urgent concerns with the Minister in person.

It is heartening to have a Minister who is responsive to the industry's needs and who appreciates the contribution that racing makes to the economy.

Representatives from the NZTA, including National President Tony Pike, past President Murray Baker and Executive Officer Wendy Cooper, met with John Messara last month. The views of the trainers were given a very fair hearing and were completely understood as being of great concern.

The clear message delivered was that stakes must improve dramatically for racing to become viable for owners to invest and stakeholders to survive.

It was apparent from the wealth of knowledge and expertise Mr Messara has that the review will make recommendations for strategies and necessary structural changes to enable the industry to be turned around.

The report is eagerly awaited and is a beacon of hope for the stakeholders.

WINNER DUNSTAN TRAINERS' MAIDEN NZ AWARD FOR MAY

The meeting chosen for May was held on the 24th at Hawkes Bay. The Sygenta Crop Protection 3YO Maiden was won by Sea Goddess and trained by Cambridge trainer, Ralph Manning. As Ralph is a member of the Trainers' Association, he will receive a bag on the new Dunstan Speedfeed and a bag of Equifibre Lucerne-Pro.

Dunstan Speedfeed Roadshow

Dunstan is very excited about the latest addition to their extensive range of premium equine feeds and is holding a road-show around the country for trainers. Come and talk to the Dunstan team about the latest addition to their range of premium feeds, Dunstan Speedfeed. Dunstan Speedfeed has been formulated to provide quality nutrition to racehorses, it utilises a combination of energy sources and it includes a full profile vitamins and minerals for optimum performance and health.

Join the Dunstan team for light refreshments, product samples, giveaways and of course great company. Please mark the following down in your calendars to come

along and check it out. A number of trainers have been “guinea pigs” and experienced a lot of success!

- **4 July South Auckland – NZ Bloodstock Phar Lap room 12.30pm**
- **5 July Cambridge – Cambridge Raceway 12.30 pm**
- **9 July Canterbury - Two Fat Possums, West Melton 5.30pm**
- **10 July Invercargill - Ascot Park Hotel – Oreti Room 5.30pm**
- **17 July Awapuni - Awapuni Racecourse 5.30pm**

BRANCH AGM'S

Knowing how busy you all are, and to maximise efficiency, we are also planning on holding Branch AGM's to coincide with some of the Dunstan Speedfeed roadshow presentations.

Notice is hereby given for NZTA Branch AGM's as follows:

- **Canterbury – 4pm 9 July 2018 Two Fat Possums, West Melton**
- **Southern - 4pm 10 July 2018 Ascot Park Hotel – Oreti Room**
- **Central Districts – 4pm 17 July 2018 - Awapuni Racecourse**

This means you can feed up, come to both a Branch AGM, the Dunstan Speedfeed presentation and enjoy some light refreshments!

NEWS FROM www.gavelhouse.com

The 2018 Horse of the Year function will mark the return of the Newcomer to Training award, sponsored by [gavelhouse.com](http://www.gavelhouse.com).

The Newcomer to Training award was resurrected by the New Zealand Trainers' Association for the 2017-18 season, after being discontinued in the 1990s. NZ Trainers' Association Executive Officer Wendy Cooper is thrilled the award is being presented at the HOY function. “It is great we are recognising those new to the training ranks and promoting the up and comers in the industry. It is appreciated that it's a huge undertaking for someone to become a trainer and this is one way of rewarding those who make the commitment.”

To be eligible for the award, a trainer must have been training on their own account for less than five years. The winner will be the eligible trainer with the most individual winners for the season. Currently Andrew Carston has a clear lead with 14 individual winners, with Steven Cole and Danny Crozier each on 5 winners and Samantha Logan on 4.

NZ THOROUGHBRED HORSE OF THE YEAR AWARDS DINNER AT ELLERSLIE

The New Zealand Thoroughbred Horse of the Year Awards return to Auckland in 2018 but at a different venue.

The 2018 event will be held at the Ellerslie Event Centre, Ellerslie Racecourse, on Sunday, August 26.

The awards evening enables the racing community to acknowledge the high achievers, both equine and human, from the previous season.

It will recognise the leading racehorses, trainers, jockeys, breeders, strappers, media contributors, broodmares and stallions. For further information and to purchase tickets (on-sale mid-June), visit www.nzracing.co.nz/awards

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR STRAPPER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The New Zealand Strapper of the Year award, sponsored by champion Sydney trainer Chris Waller, was a popular innovation last year at the Horse of the Year Awards and will be a feature again this year. Nominations open next week – trainers are welcome to nominate any stablehands they deem worthy.

NEWS FROM NZTR

NEW RATING BANDS

Trainers' Association representatives were at the Handicapping Review Meeting held last month where the new rating bands policy was discussed. As a result, the rating 75 bands will be replaced by rating 72, and the rating 85 band will be replaced by rating 82. Following is the official release from NZTR for those who may not have seen it:

Changes to the handicap rating bands will be introduced by New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing for the 2018-19 racing season.

In addition, from 1 June 2018 most races will have a re-rating ceiling for the first five placegetters.

The changes follow NZTR's annual handicap review meeting, which was held this month.

No winner will be given more than 12 rating points, with a maximum of five points for finishing from second to fifth.

The maximum re-rating will not apply to Listed or Group races nor to races that are restricted by age. Jumps races and maiden flat races will also be excluded from the re-rating ceiling, with the policy of re-rating maiden flat winners at 62 or higher maintained.

The introduction of a maximum re-rating is to provide a clearer indication of the likely impact of running horses out of their grade, particularly in Open handicaps. It is felt that the changes will encourage greater participation, while still providing sufficient discretion for the Handicapper.

The changes in the rating bands, which will take effect on 1 August 2018, are designed to help horses move through the grades more quickly, which should lead to a boost in Open class numbers.

Rating 65 races will be retained but Rating 75 races will be replaced by Rating 72 races and Rating 85 races will be replaced by Rating 82 races.

This should produce a greater spread of weights in the “new” Open grade (R83+), at Feature meetings, with horses rated at 97 carrying 60kg and horses rated above that carrying another 0.5kg per rating point. Under the current template, horses rated at 99 are allotted 60kg in the open races at Feature meetings.

However, from 1 August the connections of the top-weighted horses will also have the option of using an apprentice rider, with apprentice allowances to be claimable in all Open races - excluding Group and Listed races - on Feature days and below. At present, allowances are usually only available in one Open race per Feature meeting.

A minor alteration will also be made to the balloting conditions for set weight and weight-for-age Group and Listed races.

The timeframe for Group II placegetters and Group III and Listed winners to have priority entry has been reduced from 18 months to 12 months. The same timeframe will apply to horses who were placed in a Group I two-year-old race.

The full handicapping policy that will apply from 1 August 2018 can be viewed via [this link](#).

To ensure any confusion this will apply to all racemeetings from 1st August 2018, including the previously advertised Grand National Racing Carnival at Riccarton.

APPRENTICE ALLOWANCES

The change to the Apprentice allowances are now in effect and the rule change is as follows:

Rule 542(5) That notwithstanding Rules 542(1) (2) and (3) a rider may claim during a race meeting the same allowance to which he was entitled at 12.01am on the day when declaration of riders for that race meeting officially closed.

The rider allowances in Rule 542(1)(e)-(h) will be as follows:

0-9 wins 4kg

10-39 wins 3kg

40-79 wins 2kg

80-139 wins 1kg

LICENCE RENEWALS

Notices of renewals were sent to all licenced trainers last week and are due back on or before 1 July 2018. Membership to NZTA is automatically included as part of your licence so there is no requirement to pay a membership fee.

PRIMARY ITO EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP COURSE CAMBRIDGE

The Effective Leadership course is to be run in Cambridge. This programme focuses on leadership at work and is suitable for supervisors, team leaders, and managers. The programme consists of three days of workshops. The tutor likes to do 2 days in a row and then the final day 4 weeks later. We have Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th June OR Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th June then 10th July OR 2nd August for the final day. We would try to accommodate the dates but majority would rule as we cannot please everyone.

This would be a great course for the senior staff, foreman, or even secretary's? The cost is \$748 for the 3 day course and supplies a qualification NZ Certificate in Business (Introduction to Team Leadership) Level 3.

For more information and to register contact Louise Spence on 027 490 2102 or louise.spence@primaryito.ac.nz

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