

NOVEMBER 2017 NZ TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER COPY:

NEW GOVERNMENT – NEW FUTURE FOR RACING?

We've been in a bit of a holding pattern waiting to hear the outcome of the election and the effect it will have on the future of the industry. With NZ First Leader, the Rt Hon Winston Peters being confirmed as Minister for Racing, it seems likely that the NZ First policy on racing will be adopted. Taken from the NZ First website - www.nzfirst.org.nz/racing this is as follows:

OUR PLAN FOR RACING

- Return a greater proportion of industry taxation to the racing codes.
- Introduce a new (below Premier Meeting) category of meeting where every race will be for \$15,000 minimum, with relativity across the codes.
- Enhance employment and export opportunities by working with the industry to improve the international status of New Zealand Group 1 races to attract greater international interest.
- Restore marque racing plans and prize money initiatives in line with New Zealand First policy implementation 2005–2008.
- Return New Zealand racing to what it was good at. Racing needs breeding programmes to re-establish New Zealand as a first tier country in racing. That means policies assisting importation of quality mares, and properly using the sire cost write down.
- Urgently review the operations and costs of the New Zealand Racing Board.
- Continue to support projects and initiatives, e.g. the Racing Safety Development Fund, which enhances all-round safety while improving the quality of facilities in the racing industry.
- Direct Police, IRD and Treasury to respect the spirit of the laws passed to assist racing so we do not have specious departmental interpretations of laws that are clear to the industry.
- Further improve the appeal of the racing industry to a wider audience by encouraging the promotion of “family-friendly” activities in conjunction with race meetings in all codes.
- Defend the historic, modest share of the racing industry, to lawful gambling proceeds, against unreasonable attacks.

THE INFORMANT

The Informant is New Zealand racing's stand-alone news and daily race form source, publicising all we are as an industry and a sport.

Via the weekly newspaper edition and our 24/7 website www.theinformant.co.nz The Informant covers every base, promoting not only day-to-day racing activities but also presenting an independent voice on matters of importance to racing's future.

The Informant recognises the role that key stakeholder groups play in the racing industry and in a joint effort with the trainers' representative body, publishers Racing Media Ltd are making a special subscription offer to all members of the NZ Trainers' Association.

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Couriered to your door or stable every Thursday

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NZTA SURVEY

This survey is now closed. We had a response of almost 8% and a full analysis will now be conducted with a report in the next newsletter. Thanks to those who participated and were able to express their views.

YOUTH INITIATIVES

The NZTA was pleased that New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing has obtained funding for four initiatives that will aid youth participation. We need to attract new and young people into the industry at all levels.

NZTR intends to provide a conditional full licence fee rebate for Class A and B trainers under the age of 30. There are forty trainers who currently fit the criteria. We will follow-up with NZTR to ensure all those who qualify will be contacted directly.

All locally-based apprentices who complete a probationary period and gain a class B apprentice licence, which allows them to ride on race day, will be given a skull cap and body protector. This will be a welcome relief for trainers who often foot the bill for these essential but costly pieces of equipment.

The Ride To Time programme, which was successfully introduced with pilot programmes at Riccarton and Wingatui, will be extended to the North Island. It is hoped that by targeting young riders from pony clubs and equine schools will be a way of introducing them to racing and ultimately involving them in the industry.

There are also 10 new riding simulators being purchased and spread over the six apprentice academies. The current simulators are 20 years old and in need of regular repairs. The latest models have been developed by Richard Perham, the head riding instructor at the British Racing School, and designed to enhance balance, control, strength and fitness, which are key components for aspiring jockeys. Two simulators will be bought for each of the academies at Pukekohe, Cambridge, Awapuni and Riccarton, with one apiece at Wingatui and Invercargill.

Declaration times/scratching fee

With the contraction of time to fit in with publishing deadlines, some trainers may find it difficult to confirm a jockey in time. The Racing Bureau have advised there will be some leniency provided, as long as trainers communicate when they are facing such problems and let them know of their predicament. Trainers have reported that the Bureau can be very helpful in suggestions of other riders that may be available.

IMMIGRATION INFORMATION & UPDATE

Richard Howard from Pathways has prepared a comprehensive paper in regards employing overseas staff and the new government policy. The paper covers most of the information you need to know, including the transition from trackwork rider to apprentice jockey.

It is the changes in the visa conditions that effect trainers the most, however reviews are being undertaken. The following is a brief excerpt from a comprehensive paper:

“The wage thresholds introduced in August are unfavourable to the racing industry as any worker who is paid less than \$19.97 per hour can now only be eligible for a 12 month work visa. The Minister of Immigration has committed to further reviews of work visa settings which will take into account affected industry sectors, and the regional implications. These reviews are due to be undertaken by December 2017 and by mid-2018 respectively and it is hoped they will result in more favourable outcomes for the racing industry - but this is likely to be influenced by the incoming Government.”

To access the full paper that is well worth reading and easily understandable, please go to the Links page on the Trainers' Association website and under Immigration Information, click on the link to Employing overseas workers under the immigration policy introduced in 2017. The quick link is as follows: [Employing overseas workers under the immigration policy introduced in 2017](#)

FUNDRAISING FOR STEPHEN GILLIES

The Central Districts branch of the Trainers' Association wish to pass on their appreciation to Sir Patrick Hogan, Cambridge Stud and Coolmore Stud for donating the service to POWER. The auction conducted through gavelhouse.com raised

\$10,000 which is all going to Stephen Gillies so he can donate a kidney to his youngest son in Canada.

The Gillies have a budget and thanks to Sir Patrick Hogan's organising of services to both BURGUNDY AND POWER they are well on the way. However, more still needs to be raised and Sir Patrick is confident that the rest of the racing industry can also be generous so they can reach their goal. For any donations, funds can be deposited into the Central Districts Trainers' Association bank account with reference Gillies as follows: 06 0729 0131726 00

TARISSA MITCHELL

Please consider helping trainer, TARISSA MITCHELL with a donation to the GIVEALITTLE page set up by Shelly Hale and Peggy Eriksen. Tarissa really needs to be able to employ someone to help her after her nasty accident. Many of you know the situation but for those that don't the information is on the page. Please click through & make a donation. For those that don't do online banking please call into the Cambridge Jockey Club office where you can leave a donation. Any amount will help Tarissa at a difficult time. Many thanks. Also please SHARE SHARE SHARE <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/tarissacoulduseabitofhelp>

HELP IS AVAILABLE

The NZTA appreciate that many trainers are under immense amounts of stress and this is evident right throughout the country. The ability to be able to talk to someone can be of huge relief – it mightn't solve anything, but it can sure be good to have someone listening on the other end of the phone. There is nothing wrong with reaching out at any time, Anyone involved in the racing industry is able to contact Racetrack Support (NZ).

Racetrack Support (NZ) supplies chaplains (ministers) to The New Zealand Racing Industry for the purpose of providing support, care and encouragement for those within racing. Any enquiries about Racetrack support (NZ) can be directed to Andrew McKerrow on 029 771 2398. They also have a facebook page: www.facebook.com/Racetrack-Support-NZ-618271988321892/

WINNER DUNSTAN TRAINERS' MAIDEN NZ AWARD FOR OCTOBER

The meeting chosen for October was held at the Taupo Racing Club meeting on 13th October. I would love to say the winner of the Mills Reef Winery 1800m maiden was Woodloveto trained by Samantha Logan from Cambridge. Samantha is one of our youngest trainers and is fast making a name for herself with 4 wins already this season and an enviable strike rate of 4! As Samantha is a member of the Trainers' Association, she will receive two bags of Equifibre Lucerne-Pro.

NEWCOMER TO TRAINING AWARD

NZ Trainers' Association are re-introducing the Newcomer to Training Award for the 2017/18 season. It is performance based and awarded to a trainer who has had their licence less than 5 years and who has trained the most number of individual winners in a season. The trainer must be training in their own right and not as a junior partner.

We are pleased to announce that sponsorship for the award will be supplied by **gavelhouse.com** - it's a good fit for them as many young trainers have come through the pre-training ranks and are looking to sell and buy horses.

BENEFITS

- It is recognised widely that we need to promote the industry and ensure there is new blood coming in.
- Such an award can be an attraction for owners who would like to support up and coming trainers.
- New trainers bring new skills and a new network of owners into the industry.
- Promotion of the award throughout the year will be undertaken so the public are aware of the standings on a monthly basis

NEWS FROM gavelhouse.com

Other recent sponsorships undertaken by gavelhouse.com include the hotly contested Paced and Mannered class as part of the Beyond the Barriers competition at Equidays. This year it was won by one of New Zealand's leading eventers in Danni Lodder on her Perfectly Ready gelding Money Shot.

Committed to supporting New Zealand racing, the gavelhouse.com team are looking forward to their flagship sponsorship of the season, the \$300,000 Group One gavelhouse.com New Zealand 1000 Guineas at Riccarton on 18 November.

gavelhouse.com online auctions run fortnightly with the simple self-service online system allowing sellers to list their horses in the next sale at their convenience however the team happy to assist if required and can be contacted on 092964436 or email info@gavelhouse.com

Auckland Thoroughbred Breeders Golf Day

24th November at Clarks Beach Golf Course.

Start Time – confirmed - 11am – shotgun start – Ambrose tournament

Teams of 4 at \$75/player - \$300/team

Teams to register entry – phone Clarks Beach Golf Club [09 2321788](tel:092321788) speak with Rodney or Janine directly. Email teams to office@clarksbeachgolfclub.co.nz with name of team , 4 player

names and respective handicaps. Payment can be made directly to club bank account 12 3023 0391255 00 code Breeders Golf Day reference team name

All players to receive starter pack – includes golf balls , tees , bottled water, chocolate bar , pen , rules sheet , players card , GA ticket for Counties Cup raceday, 2 drinks vouchers

The Racing Industry Cup Week Triples Tournament

SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2017

At Burnside Bowling Club

PRIZE POOL EXCEEDS \$2250

Especially for, but not limited

to: Owners, Trainers, Jockeys, Drivers, Admin Staff, Support Staff, Punters and All

Bowls available. Flat soled shoes. Dress for comfort.

Continous breakfast from 9 am. Bowls start at 10.30 am

ENTRY \$75 per team includes breakfast and after match food.

AUCTION for 7 days accommodation at Marlin Waters of Palm Cove.

Entries to Barry.Bunting@burnsidebowlingclub.com or phone 021895063