

UPDATE ON THE REVIEW OF THE NZ RACING INDUSTRY BY JOHN MESSARA AM

This was released on 30th August in Hamilton with a presentation by the Right Honourable Winston Peters. It is a very comprehensive report and the contribution by John Messara who provided his time for free, is hugely appreciated. Feedback from trainers to date has been very positive and there seems to be a huge amount of unity within the industry, particularly for Parts 1 & 2 of the review.

TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION SUBMISSION

The Executive of the Trainers' Association have met and discussed the report and the recommendations made and have written a letter of support to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Racing as follows:

The NZ Trainers' Association (NZTA) would like to advise it fully supports the recently released Review of the New Zealand Racing Industry by John Messara.

This was a unanimous agreement at a meeting of the Executive of the NZTA held earlier this week. Further feedback from trainers around New Zealand has also been very positive since the release.

We look forward to assisting with the advancement of the recommendations as soon as possible. We are happy to be involved in the consultative process and to distribute correspondence to our members

A further submission will be made to the DIA as requested below which is also relevant for individuals.

INDIVIDUAL TRAINERS – THEIR STAFF/OWNERS/SUPPORTERS

The NZ Trainers' Association accordingly request trainers, their staff, owners and racing supporters to also make submissions to the DIA. It is the view, not only of the Executive, but many trainers who have already provided feedback, that unless drastic change is made as outlined in the report, then our industry will continue the downward spiral it is currently on. You may not agree 100% with everything in the review, however the majority focussing on the necessary change is a way forward for the industry and stakeholders.

We have the support of the Deputy Prime Minister and we need to show him the industry is ready for change. The following is a release from the Department of Internal Affairs requesting feedback:

The public is being asked for feedback on John Messara's Review of the New Zealand racing industry, Racing Minister Winston Peters announced today.

"As requested, Mr Messara conducted an independent assessment of the state of New Zealand's racing industry and made a number of recommendations for change," Mr Peters said.

"The review delivers a blunt appraisal and concludes the New Zealand's racing industry is in a state of serious malaise. It is important that those most vested in the industry have the opportunity to provide feedback on the recommendations." Public consultation will run for five weeks, closing 5pm 19 October 2018.

Feedback can be emailed to racingreview@dia.govt.nz

For a copy of the full report see: <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Racing-report>

QUICK LINK TO SHOW SUPPORT

The message of support to ensure the future of our industry needs to be substantial and strong. The quickest way you can show support for the Review, is for trainers, staff, owners and race fans, to go to the following link:

[Click here to show your support for the Messara Report's goals & principles](#)

WINNER DUNSTAN TRAINERS' MAIDEN NZ AWARD FOR SEPTEMBER

The meeting selected for September was held on the 12th at the Matamata Racing Club meeting. The Redoubt Bar & Eatery 1200 Maiden was won by Caleb's Shadow, trained by Craig Amrein from Tauranga. As Craig is a member of the Trainers' Association he will receive a bag of the new Dunstan Speedfeed and a bag of Equifibre Lucerne-Pro.

Research Study on Concussion Awareness in Equestrian Sports

The aim of this research study is to find what people involved in equestrian sports know about concussion. The questionnaire will take about 10 minutes to complete. Please click here to complete the questionnaire:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2N8R7FD>

IMMIGRATION

It is clearly becoming more difficult for immigrants to obtain a working visa. The Trainers' Association is currently working on a way to ease this problem. In conjunction with NZTR and NZ Thoroughbred Breeders' Association we are trying to convene a meeting with Immigration NZ. It is hoped we can possibly see if there can be an assigned person with Immigration NZ who can get an understanding of the industry and be a point of contact. We will keep trainers up to date with progress.

STAFF FROM THE PHILLIPINES

The NZ Trainers' Association has been in discussions with RD1 Recruitment. They are a fully NZ owned and operated recruitment agency dedicated to supplying quality

local and international staff to the rural sector nationwide. They have relocated over 200 Filipino workers and travel to the Phillipines throughout the year to carry out interviews and skills testing. They have built strong relationships with reliable agencies, service providers and Embassy's at both ends of the process. They have the ability to help source suitably experienced trackwork riders and jockeys, ensuring they have the necessary skills, English language capability and look after all the paperwork – visas, employment contracts... If you are interested in employing someone from the Phillipines and to find out more about how they operate you can check out their website www.rd1recruitment.co.nz or contact either:

Ihaka Rongonui, Managing Director on 021983394 ihaka@rd1recruitment.co.nz
Samaria, Immigration Manager on 0220966033 Samaria@rd1recruitment.co.nz

SANTA'S PICK AND THE SUMMER SELECTION

The Christmas at the Races and Summer Festival franchises have been running for 12 and 13 years respectively and in this time, have welcomed more than two million guests to racecourses around the country. In 2017, more than 35 thousand guests experienced their first time ever on a racecourse which was 18% of the total attendance

The Santa's Pick and Summer Selection promotions were created to help these first time racegoers to place a bet on course by identifying favourite horses with a distinctive helmet cover and saddle blanket for thoroughbred races. Santa's Pick will have a red helmet cover with a Santa's style pom pom, and a saddle blanket for Thoroughbred. The Summer selection will have a lime green version of these.

Although this may seem trivial, it engages those totally new to racing by encouraging them to participate in not just the party, but also to watch the horses racing. The helmet covers and blankets make it easy for first time race goers follow their horse during the race and help build their confidence in placing their first bets. Because we understand the importance of premiere races, these helmet covers are not worn during Black type or Group races however a favourite horse is still selected for these.

In the 2017/18 season, these betting promotions attracted almost 60,000 entries generating a massive \$298,000 additional revenue across the totes.

This initiative is supported by all three racing codes and we ask for the support of owners and trainers to help engage the public with the sport of racing. Should you not wish to be part of this or have any questions, please email the Franchise Manager Hugh Devereux-Mack before 19 October 2018.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you on-course this summer.

BRANCH NEWS:

NORTHERN BRANCH PRESIDENT

President, Lee Somervell has moved from his base of Cambridge to the sunny Hawkes Bay. He was elected as the Northern Branch President in July 2016. It was his second time in the role as he had previously been President in the 1990's. Always approachable, Lee has represented his local and Northern area trainers well and we thank him for all his efforts.

Vice President, Andrew Forsman now takes over the role of President. If there are any local issues for trainers Waikato and North, please contact either Andrew, or secretary, Wendy Cooper.

JOCKEY WORLD CUP

Like last year, the Auckland Racing Club will be staging the Jockey World Cup at their Twilight meeting on Thursday, 13 December.

The format will be the same as last year with jockeys to wear silks chosen by the Club and jockeys randomly drawn against accepted horses.

SOUTH ISLAND TRAINERS INVITED TO MEETING AT KUROW

South Island Racing Meeting, Oamaru Racecourse 1pm Thursday 4th October
Meeting to discuss Messara report

Items for agenda please email to

- simon@glenbrookstation.co.nz<mailto:simon@glenbrookstation.co.nz>

A light lunch and refreshments provided.

Simon Williamson
President Kurow Jockey Club
Phone - 0212859303

CD SECRETARY RECOGNISED FOR SERVICES TO RACING

A very well deserved presentation to Paul Claridge, pictured here with the trophy and his beautiful wife Liz. PC has been the secretary for the CD Branch of the Trainers' Association for around 30 years!!!! The Trainers' Association put PC forward for this award for his dedication and constant work all done on a voluntary basis - and we are delighted that NZTR agreed that he was a worthy winner!