



NEW ZEALAND  
**TRAINERS'**  
ASSOCIATION



## **TIME TO LOBBY YOUR LOCAL NATIONAL MP**

It's crucial for the future of racing that the legislation proposed by the Right Honourable Winston Peters is enacted. This is part of the process for the Messara Report recommendations to be introduced. The Racing Reform Bill has passed it's first reading, however there was some disappointing and inaccurate comments from senior National Party members who spoke against it. . A full transcript can be found as follows: Source: NZ Parliament website; [https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/hansard-debates/rhr/combined/HansDeb\\_20190528\\_20190528\\_16](https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/hansard-debates/rhr/combined/HansDeb_20190528_20190528_16)

If you have National Party member in your electorate, please feel free to contact them and let them know that racing should be supported. It is not just a "sport" or "dull" as Gerry Brownlee suggested. In fact, the National Party should not only support the Bill, but suggest that the repeal of the betting levy be immediate and not stretched out over the 3 years so there is a more substantial return to the industry. Contacts for National MP's can be found here: <https://www.parliament.nz/en/mps-and-electrates/members-of-parliament/?PrimaryFilter=Party&SecondaryFilter=national-party>

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## **BRANCH AGMS PLANNED FOR JULY**

The following dates are planned for the Trainers' Association branch Annual General Meetings. Further details will be confirmed closer to the time.

- **Central Districts – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July, midday at the White Horse Inn**
- **Canterbury – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 11.00am at Riccarton**
- **Southland/Otago – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 6pm, Ascot Park, Invercargill**
- **Otago sub-branch – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July, 11am Wingatui**
- **Northern Branch – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July, midday Cambridge**

Any apologies or issues to be raised, please advise National Executive Officer,

Wendy Cooper – wendy@nztrainers.co.nz

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### **WINNER DUNSTAN TRAINERS' MAIDEN NZ AWARD FOR MAY**

The meeting selected for May was held on the 17<sup>th</sup> at the South Canterbury Racing Club meeting held at Phar Lap Raceway, Timaru. The winner of the Johnny Walsh and the Hanley Formula Stayers Maiden 2100m was King of the Dance, trained by Terrill Charles and Peter Corbett from Ashburton. They had a double on the day with Head of Office winning the R72 Central SI Owners and Trainers' Association Handicap. As Terrill and Peter are members of the Trainers' Association they will receive a bag of Dunstan Speedfeed and a bag of Equifibre Lucerne-Pro.

### **NEWS FROM DUNSTAN - DOING THEIR BIT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

*The Team at Dunstan have a keen environmental conscience and would like to think that there is an easy solution to re-purposing our Dunstan polylaminate bags.*

#### ***Dunstan Polylaminate Bags***

*Recycling the Dunstan polylaminate bags – we keep in contact with our bag supplier on a regular basis as there will be, soon we believe, some innovation which will enable these bags to bio-degrade after use.*

*They will, however, bio-degrade quite quickly now – but only in the presence of UV sunlight and oxygen – which of course aren't present on landfills! So, if the bags are used for instance as weed matting, they will degrade and break down quickly.*

*Check out our [Dunstan Facebook](#) and [Instagram pages](#) - you will see that a lady has made shopping bags from our empty bags – imagine if all Dunstan bags were converted to shopping bags – they would last for years and there would be no need for the present carnage caused by all the one way bags used in the supermarkets now!!*

*With the quality standards Dunstan needs to maintain, we cannot accept empty bags back to re-use as we could not rely on all returned bags being clean and rubbish free – there would simply be too much hygiene and brand damage risk involved for us.*

*We are launching a competition on social media to seek ideas from everyone (maybe through Schools also – as most Schools these days are teaching*

children about environmental responsibility and sustainability) as to innovative ideas on how best to re-use/recycle Dunstan bags.

#### **Dunstan Grain Kegs**

Dunstan introduced the Grain Keg concept a number of years ago, and since then, we would have saved many hundreds of thousands of bags from the landfill. This initiative was driven mainly from an environmental viewpoint, although the Kegs also provide other benefits such as saving the product from rodent /rain damage, and an OSH benefits from not lifting a whole lot of bags. However, the Kegs (which hold close to 1000 kg) are only logistically viable for large Dunstan users (2-3 tonnes / week plus users – the large Studs/Breeders/Racing Stables) which are located in “clusters” so that our Carrier can pick up empty Kegs/drop off full Kegs within a close proximity. Dunstan owns the Kegs – they are a swappable bulk delivery concept. So, unfortunately, it is not viable to offer the Keg concept to smaller users in more remote locations from our plants in the Waikato.

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#### **WEBSITE BEING REVAMPED WITH A BUSINESS HUB FOR TRAINERS**

The Trainers' Association Website is currently being redeveloped. It is a great source of information for both trainers and those wanting to find out more about trainers.

The Trainers' Association recognise that there are many requirements common for all trainers when conducting their business. The revamped website will have a business hub which includes advice templates you can download on:

- Employment – sourcing staff and compliance
- Immigration
- Apprenticeships
- Debt Collection
- Health & Safety
- ACC
- Insurance
- Accounts
- Ownership- Accounts, Contracts, Leases & Syndication
- Corporate Discounts
- NZTR Policies – racing, handicapping, criminal records check

## DID YOU KNOW?

Visits to the Trainers' Association website ([www.nztrainers.co.nz](http://www.nztrainers.co.nz)) were analysed over a recent 28 day period. The following is of interest:

- 1683 page views
- 268 were looking up trainers' addresses
- 106 looked at the Employment page
- 57 looked at the Trainers' Profiles page

Please note this is prior to the new site being launched.

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## **gavelhouse.com news**

gavelhouse.com has continued to be a popular addition to the trading landscape in New Zealand with plenty of opportunities to secure quality stock on the fortnightly auctions.

Most recently the site has celebrated the success of Gr.2 Adelaide Cup winning graduate [Surprise Baby](#) who was sold for just \$5,500 as an unraced son of Shocking on account of Rich Hill Stud. His earnings now sit at just over \$400,000 having narrowly missing automatic Melbourne Cup entry in the Listed Andrew Ramsden Stakes at Flemington on Saturday.

Heading into the next gavelhouse.com sale, Waikato Stud have ensured there will be plenty of interest, opting to sell their weanling draft online this year rather than at traditional auction. In total 26 youngsters comprise their draft with parades at the stud from 10am to 2pm on June 6, 9 and 10 with a barbeque lunch provided. The catalogue for this sale, which is also open to other entries, will go online at 5pm on Tuesday 4 June and bidding will close from 7pm on Monday 10 June.

The standard entry fee to sell on gavelhouse.com is \$250 + GST with entries for this sale due online at [www.gavelhouse.com](http://www.gavelhouse.com) by 7pm on Monday 3 June. Email [haylie@gavelhouse.com](mailto:haylie@gavelhouse.com) or call 09 296 4436 to discuss using the site.

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## **NEWS FROM NZTR: "BLINKERS OFF"**

Blinkers Off, is an NZTR initiative designed to take those with limited exposure to racehorses behind the scenes in a racing stable. It was created from a welfare angle to allow people to see for themselves the relationship trainers and their staff have with the horses in their care. It also allows participants to ask questions about the care and training of horses.

A pilot of the initiative was held on Sunday 19 May with a group of 10 people visiting Moria and Kieran Murdoch's Isola Racing Stables and Lance Noble hosting them at Lindsay Racing Stables.

The overwhelming feedback was around the dedication and passion of the trainers and the insight into various training methods they were able to give. After reviewing the feedback it is planned to conduct another event in the spring, incorporating a stud and sales complex visit, and capturing the event on video to be shared online.

What was particularly impressive was the way Moria, Kieran and Lance were able to talk about daily activities in their respective stables in such a way as to totally engage with their audience. If you didn't know better you would almost think these tours were something they did regularly – totally professional in every way! Many thanks to them and for the fantastic effort they made.

### **STRAPPER OF THE YEAR**

Nominations will be called for shortly for the CJ Waller sponsored Strapper of the Year award which is presented at the annual Horse of the Year Awards. Trainers are encouraged to think about recognising those members of their staff who regularly go above-and-beyond and who demonstrate professionalism and passion. For more information contact [Mary.Burgess@nztr.co.nz](mailto:Mary.Burgess@nztr.co.nz)

### **AMENDMENTS TO NZTR HANDICAPPING POLICY**

The maximum re-rating for winning non-black type open races and benchmark races has been reduced from 12 points to 10 points. The maximum re-rating for a horse that places in such races remains at five points. The revised maximums, which come into effect immediately, do not apply to group and listed races, age group races, maiden races and jumping races. A re-rating ceiling was introduced in June 2018, to provide a clearer indication of the likely impact of running horses out of their grade, particularly in open handicaps.

1. The maximum of 12 points had been applied only once, and the Committee decided that a 10-point maximum would provide further

encouragement for trainers to enter horses in higher grade races and still allow the handicapper enough discretion. This change is reflected in the current Handicapping Policy (from 1 May 2019).

2. Changes have also been made to the maximum topweight for all Group III and Listed races run at 2200m or further. The current topweight is 60kg but from August 1 it will be based on a sliding scale, beginning with 59kg for horses rated at 97 or less, 59.5kg for horses rated at 98 and 60kg for horses rated from 99 to 103. Previously, the topweight was always given at least 60kg. Horses rated over 103 will have a starting point of 60kg, with another 0.5kg for each point over 103, which is the current policy. The minimum for those races will remain at 53kg.

3. The handicapping review will also result in more opportunities for two-year-olds next season. From April 1, 2020, two-year-olds will be eligible to compete in rating 65 races and will be weighted 3kg below the weight allocated to three-year-olds on the same rating.

All three changes are incorporated in the Handicapping Policy that will apply from 1 August 2019.

The Handicapping Policies can be read in full

via: <https://loveracing.nz/nztr/resources/rules-directives-and-policies>

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## **RIU REMINDERS FOR TRAINERS**

A reminder to trainers that **all** employees that work with any horse must be licensed by NZTR (Rule 327).

327 (1) A Trainer shall not, without the previous written consent of NZTR, employ or otherwise permit to work or to assist in any capacity in connection with the care, control or training of any horse:

(b) any unlicensed person;

Please ensure that stable returns are completed when a horse comes into the charge of a Trainer, ceases to be trained by them, (or a horse is spelling Class B Trainers). This can be done by phone to the National Racing Bureau, electronically under the trainers service centre, or by printing and completing an

SR35 Stable return form and sending this to NZTR.

304 (2) For the purpose of this Rule only, a horse which is spelling is not being “trained”.

(3) A person holding a Class B trainer’s licence shall, within seven days after a horse trained by him commences to spell or ceases to be in his charge or under his supervision for the purpose of being trainer, notify NZTR in writing of that fact.

326 (1) Within seven days after any horse is taken or comes into the charge of a Trainer for the purpose of being trained the Trainer shall complete and forward to NZTR the form prescribed for that purpose by NZTR and in completing that form the Trainer must ensure that he has correctly identified the horse.

(2) Every Trainer shall, within seven days after a horse trained by him:

(a) ceases to be in his charge or under his supervision for the purpose of being trained; or

(b) commences to spell, if that Trainer is a holder of a Class B trainer’s licence, notify NZTR in writing of that fact.

Trainers are reminded that due to media deadlines, all riders are expected to be declared by the required time. Any Trainer having difficulty complying with this rule needs to contact a Stipendiary Steward.