



## DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

### WINNER DUNSTAN TRAINERS' MAIDEN NZ AWARD

The meeting selected for November was the Taranaki Racing day held at New Plymouth Raceway on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Te Ao Honey Co Maiden 1100m for 3 Year Olds was won by hot favourite, Madam Hass, trained by the partnership of Roger James and Robert Wellwood from Cambridge. As Roger and Robert are members of the Trainers' Association, they will receive a bag of Dunstan Speedfeed and a bag of Equifibre Lucerne-Pro.

### BAD DEBT ASSISTANCE

The Trainers' Association are available to assist trainers in collection of bad debts. The NZTA can write a letter to a slow payer on your behalf. A template is provided for trainers to complete the necessary information and then a letter is sent to your debtor. This has had the desired effect on a number of occasions as it represents an official and neutral approach.

Please go to the Business Hub on the Trainers' Association Website. Here's the link to the Debt Collection section <https://nztrainers.co.nz/business-hub-for-trainers/debt-collection/>

This also includes advice on where applying a lien may be an option.

The Trainers' Association are also pushing for the proposed reforms that NZTR have drafted to come into effect next year. This will see a default training contract in place and recognition of a debt when an account to a trainer is overdue. We will keep you updated with progress, but in the interim, a template for a Trainer/Owner contract is available to be downloaded on the website:

<https://nztrainers.co.nz/business-hub-for-trainers/ownership/>

### WELFARE RESPONSES

Trainers may get approached/attacked by those animal-rights activists who have very little appreciation for the facts. The recommendation is to not engage with them. You're never going to win an argument, particularly in the heat of the moment and when they have absolutely no idea of reality. They are protesters who simply want to be inflammatory and goad you into reacting.

This same subject was very much at the fore in the media at the time of the Melbourne Cup. Mary Burgess wrote a very good article that countered many of the flawed arguments, with actual facts and backed by scientific research. Click here for the very informative article:

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/life-style/life/117164013/melbourne-cup-the-industrys-frustration>

## HEALTH & SAFETY REMINDER

Trainers need to be compliant with the Health & Safety legislation as part of holding a licence. NZTR conduct random spot checks to ensure trainers have H&S plans that are put into practice, as well as necessary signage and identification of hazards. The Trainers' Association have templates that can be utilised by members in the Business Hub on the website: <https://nztrainers.co.nz/business-hub-for-trainers/health-safety/>

There are also some recommended H&S Advisors who can assist to ensure procedures are in place for compliance. This will be increasingly important when the new Immigration legislation comes into place next year. For a trainer to be able to employ immigrants, they will need to prove H&S compliance as part of their accreditation process.

## RACING REFORM UPDATE FROM DEAN MCKENZIE, CHAIR OF RITA 22/11/19 (ABRIDGED VERSION)

*We provided an update on racing reform at the RITA Annual General Meeting last week and I also spoke at NZTR's AGM this week and covered some of the key elements and our understanding of the timeline.*

*Good progress continues to be made against all of the Messara recommendations and in some cases they have been delivered.*

*In terms of legislation, it's the Minister's expectation the second Racing Bill will be introduced next month, with a standard Select Committee process of about four months that the industry will be able to submit through. All going well, the Bill is scheduled to be passed into legislation before the end of June (as it needs to be enacted from 1 July). Among other things, the new Bill will put the new structures and responsibilities of the TAB (wagering, gaming and broadcasting) and the Codes (racing administration) in place.*

*In terms of regulation, the first and most important is the regulations which allow us to charge offshore bookmakers for their use of New Zealand racing and sport product, and for taking bets from New Zealanders. We have two focuses for these charges: the first is doing whatever we can to support the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) and Parliamentary Council Office (PCO) to draft and implement them as soon as possible; the second is signing up as many offshore bookmakers to voluntary agreements in the meantime. We have already secured voluntary agreements with Tabcorp, Betfair, Sportsbet and Ladbrokes - with negotiations underway with others. This means we have about 80 percent of the Australian online bookmaker market now contributing back to the industry (for Betting Information Use Charge).*

*There are a few other regulations around payment of the betting duty savings (which are being held separately by RITA), the formula for payments to the Codes (Section 16), and the formula for minimum payments to National Sport Organisations. We expect these to be progressed next year but we have started a conversation with the Codes around Section 16. There will be other regulations that flow out of the second Bill that will need to be considered too.*

*We expect the Racing Minister will outline Cabinet's decisions on the content of Bill 2 in due course and that will provide further context to the proposed legislative changes ahead. We will update the industry when we can confirm what is in the Bill.*