



NEW ZEALAND THOROUGHBRED RACING

RECOGNISED INDUSTRY ORGANISATIONS MONTHLY REPORT
NO. 127 | TUESDAY 12 AUGUST 2025
VIA TEAMS MEETING 10AM

New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing Inc
18 Dick Street, Cambridge 3434
e: office@nztr.co.nz | nztr.co.nz

NEW ZEALAND
THOROUGHBRED **RACING**

PUREI HŌIHO NĀI O AOTEAROA

A photograph of a horse race starting gate with several horses and jockeys lined up, ready to start. The image is darkened to serve as a background for the title.

MEETING SUMMARY AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

FY25 Key Performance Indicators	3
Licensing & Registrations.....	5
Tracks & Infrastructure.....	6
Racing Operations.....	8
Welfare.....	10
Marketing & Communications.....	12
Incorporated Societies Act 2022.....	14
Key Reminders.....	16
Options for Reporting Bullying & Harassment Issues	18
Recognised Industry Organisation Updates.....	19

FY25 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

KPI	FY25	FY24 Budget		Commentary	Status v. budget
Funded prizemoney	\$99.82m	\$91.22m	\$99.69m	For FY25 to 31 July. Slightly above budget, well above last year. Net impact of abandoned, rescheduled, split & races with less than 10 runners + summer lift.	
Average funded prizemoney	\$40,448	\$37,096	\$40,939	For FY25 to 31 July. Slightly below budget due to change in mix of races. Well up on last year due to impact of NZTR Summer of Racing increases.	
Race meetings	298	292	300	For FY25 to 31 July. 2 below budget, 6 more than last year although includes meetings partially run.	
Races run	2,468	2,459	2,435	For FY25 to 31 July. 33 more races than budget, 9 more than last year.	
Total starts	25,611	26,010	26,445	For FY25 to 31 July. Starts down 399 on last year and 834 on budget. Fewer starts per starter.	
Average field size	10.38	10.58	10.86	For FY25 to 31 July. Below budget and last year.	
Races with less than 8 starters	359	361	379	For FY25 to 31 July. 2 races fewer than last year and lower than budget.	
Individual starters	4,390	4,371	4,327	For FY25 to 31 July. Individual starters ended up 19 more than last season and 63 more than budget.	
Domestic turnover (FOB and Tote)	\$475.3m	\$446.4m	\$471.0m	For FY25 to 31 July. Final number \$4.3m (0.9%) above budget, \$28.9m (+6.5%) ahead of last year.	
Domestic market share (turnover)	59.17%	59.40%	57.94%	For FY25 to 31 July. Slightly below last season but well above budget (3 year rolling market share).	
Active customers	64,652	53,353	53,353	Individual NZ Thoroughbred Customers for July. Up on last season, includes betcha. Estimated 80% new customers included in growth.	

FY25 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

KPI	FY25	FY24 Budget		Commentary	Status v. budget
Domestic Gross Betting Revenue (GBR)	\$84.01m	\$84.21m	\$88.42m	For FY25 to 31 July. Entain NZ Gross Betting Revenue on NZ thoroughbred racing. Slightly up on last year but well down on budget due to lower fixed odds margin. Delay in reporting.	
Domestic market share (GBR)	59.78%	61.29%	60.39%	For FY25 to 31 July. Down 1.51 percentage points on last season and on 0.61 points on budget (3 year rolling average in Code Funding Agreement).	
TAB NZ distribution to NZTR (excl. Race Fields & Tabcorp, incl duty)	\$108.67m	\$106.88m	\$109.57m	For FY25 to 5 August (full year profit & duty payments for Aug to Jun). Above last year due to market share, behind budget due to recalculation.	
Export income (Race fields, now incl. Tabcorp)	\$19.22m	\$17.17m	\$17.05m	For FY25 to 20 July (Tabcorp & Corporate Bookmakers for August to June). Well ahead of budget and last year - includes back payments & some improved returns.	
Club & industry funding	\$27.40m	\$28.05m	\$27.59m	For FY25 to 30 June. Close to budget, slightly less than last year due to timing of infrastructure spend.	
NZTR operational expense	\$11.82m	\$8.83m	\$11.50m	For FY25 to 30 June. Slightly above budget, well above last year due to increase in commitments.	
Fillies & Mares as % of individual starters	51.25%	50.58%	50.00%	For FY25 to 31 July. Ahead of both last season and full season budget.	
Races at Strategic & Significant venues	71.88%	72.83%	76.26%	For FY25 to 31 July. Slightly behind last season, further behind budget.	
Starts from strategic training tracks (17)	80.75%	80.69%	80.00%	For FY25 to 31 July. Slightly ahead of last year and ahead of full season budget.	
Key				Favourable to budget or equal to or less than 1% unfavourable to budget	
				More than 1% unfavourable to budget but equal to or less than 5% unfavourable to budget	
				More than 5% unfavourable to budget	



KEY MATTERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

LICENSING & REGISTRATIONS

Ownership and Lease Changes – No Longer Backdated

Effective immediately, NZTR will no longer backdate ownership or lease changes subsequent to a horse having raced.

- If the relevant documentation is completed and submitted prior to a horse racing, the transaction will be processed accordingly.
- However, backdating ownership or lease details after a horse has raced breaches the New Zealand Rules of Racing, which may render the transaction invalid and illegal.
- Such changes can also create financial discrepancies, exposing NZTR to potential liability and administrative complications.

This approach aligns with our commitment to regulatory integrity and financial accuracy.

Stud Book Follow-Up: Stallion and Foal Registrations

The Stud Book team is actively following up on:

- Late 2025 Stallion Registrations
- 2024 Foals that have not yet been:
 - Branded
 - Microchipped
 - DNA tested

We appreciate your attention to these requirements and encourage early completion to avoid delays in processing.

GST Zero-Rated Purchases and Racing Eligibility

We have identified an issue involving horses purchased through Gavelhouse under zero-rated GST status, which were subsequently entered to race. This practice is inconsistent with GST conditions and racing eligibility.

- Gavelhouse has been advised of NZTR's ability to block horses purchased under zero-rating from racing until compliance is verified.
- This practice was previously applied only by New Zealand Bloodstock (NZB), but will now be extended to Gavelhouse sales moving forward.

All participants are reminded to ensure the correct GST status is applied when purchasing horses intended to race.

A photograph of a horse race starting gate. Several horses and jockeys are lined up in their stalls, ready to start. The jockeys are wearing colorful silks. The horses are dark-colored. The background shows a green field and some structures.

KEY MATTERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

LICENSING & REGISTRATIONS CONTINUED...

Administrative Reminders

- Stable and Owner Colours Renewal
- Please ensure all stable and owner colours are renewed promptly to avoid lapses in registration.
- Licensing Renewals
- A reminder for all licence holders who have not yet completed their 2025/26 renewal:
 - If you have not received a renewal notice, please contact the NZTR Licensing Team as soon as possible.
 - Holding an active licence is a requirement to participate in the industry.

TRACKS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Taupo Track Widening

The Track Widening project at Taupo Racecourse has been completed. The track width has almost doubled in size at some points around the track and cambers have been improved. The Return to Racing protocols have been completed following the work. Track gallops were held successfully before 12 heats of restricted trials were run on Monday 4th August. Comments from riders were all very complimentary of the track and what had been achieved, especially with the home bend. Taupo race on Sunday 17 August.

Riccarton Irrigation project

Progress at Riccarton is steady. Recent milestones include completion of pipe trenching and installation works for a majority of the racecourse; Backfill and compaction has been completed for several portions across Course Proper; The Bore – mechanical installation is complete; and, Electrical connections have been finalised for multiple bore pumps. Next week will see the completion of the tank liner, and some hardware installation and pressure testing.

Otaki Irrigation

Irrigation experts have been looking into upgrading the Otaki irrigation system. Some inefficiencies of the system were exposed last year during an investigation following an abandoned race meeting. This project is in very early design stages.

Te Rapa Irrigation

Work under the Steeplechase course at the Northern end of the track and the 1600m chute has been largely completed. The next stage of work, trenching inside the rail, will commence after Waikato Stud Foxbridge Plate Day on 23 August.

A photograph of several horses and jockeys in a starting gate, ready for a race. The horses are in various colors, and the jockeys are wearing colorful silks. The background shows a grassy field and some structures.

KEY MATTERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

TRACKS & INFRASTRUCTURE

Awapuni

Horses were galloped on the course proper 22 July. Following those gallops and after an assessment of the track, it was agreed that the Club can proceed to Restricted Trials on the 12th August. Track adviser Liam O'Keeffe and the RIB will continue to be involved in the decision making process. The main focus for the Track Team at Awapuni is grass growth and density. The cooler weather and heavy frosts have made growing difficult. Progress and future plans are being closely monitored by Living Turf. NZTR have purchased a new Redexim verti-core 2100, based at the Awapuni venue. This will be available for all Clubs to use during their annual renovation.

Regional Track Advisers 2025/2026 Season

NZTR has announced some changes to its Regional Track Adviser (RTA) Programme for the 2025-26 racing season. Jason Fulford, Bart Cowan, Alan Chapman and Wayne Stevens will all continue as RTA's and will be joined by Colin Cromarty (Waverley) and Jamie Phillips (Trentham). The RTA's will be supported by highly regarded Flemington Racecourse Manager, Liam O'Keeffe, as a specialist consultant.

Hawkes Bay Update

Liam O'Keeffe will undertake Turf Testing on his next visit in August with recambering scheduled to begin in September as previously planned to return the current Hastings Venue to racing by Spring Carnival 2026.

A photograph of a horse race starting gate. Several horses and jockeys are lined up in their stalls, ready to start. The jockeys are wearing colorful silks. The horses are dark-colored. The background shows a green field and a fence.

KEY MATTERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

RACING OPERATIONS

Jumps Season Update

Below is a short summary of some key metrics from the jumps season to date including Riccarton Day 1:

- 11 Race Meetings
- 41 Jumps Races
- 25 Hurdles – 16 Maiden, 9 Open
- 16 Steeplechases – 7 Maiden, 9 Open
- 9.15 Average Field Size
- 31 Individual Winners – 18 Individual Trainers

At the conclusion of the jumps season NZTR will provide a full breakdown of key statistics and commentary against previous years.

RSDF reminder

As per previous seasons, Clubs are invited to apply for funding for the first round of the 2024/25 Racing Safety Development Fund, with \$990,000 (GST exclusive) available for distribution over two rounds.

Applications to the Fund can be made through the Department of Internal Affairs' online system and need to be completed and submitted by no later than 17 September 2025.

Please note that priority will also be given to projects supported by their Code or RIB, so please contact NZTR's Head of Tracks and Infrastructure, Tim Lambert, with your proposed project plan.

Saddlecloth Pockets

NZTR is working with TripleS to gather data on the number of saddlecloth pockets required for each Club. Once this is confirmed NZTR will order the pockets in bulk from Hyland Sportswear and arrange shipping to each Club. It is the responsibility of each Club to have the pockets sewed on correctly to their saddlecloths, and to coordinate pockets for sponsor saddlecloths shared between Clubs.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Amy – amy.carter@nztr.co.nz who is managing the roll out on behalf of NZTR.

A photograph of a horse race starting gate with several horses and jockeys lined up, ready to start. The title 'KEY MATTERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025' is overlaid in white text.

KEY MATTERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

RACING OPERATIONS

TripleS Sectional Timing: Project Update

NZTR has received the following project update from TripleS on the roll out of sectional timing.

We are currently finalising preparatory steps and expect to have our team on the ground within the next two weeks to get going on the groundwork, starting North and making our way down South. Before deployment, we will be reaching out directly to each club to coordinate and ensure that the proposed timeline aligns with their schedules and availability.

Looking ahead, we are targeting October 1st as the start date for final installation and live testing across all participating clubs. Again, we will work from North to South but are currently looking into getting a second operational team to speed up the process. We remain committed to keeping all involved stakeholders informed and ensuring a smooth and coordinated rollout.

Camera Towers Safety Review Reminders

Scissor Lift Specifications and Approval

If the towers at your Club have been deemed not fit for use, your Club is required to provide a temporary structure (e.g. scissor lifts) until remedial works or replacements are completed. For the avoidance of doubt, please find the required minimum specification [here](#).

Temporary structures must be approved by NZTR, Entain, and the RIB at least 14 days before your next race day.

Remedial Works and Replacements

The same approval process of a minimum of 14 days' notice applies to any remedial work being done to make existing towers safe to use again. Evidence of this work will be shared with Goleman Group for sign off.

If your Club plans to replace a tower that can't be repaired, the new structure must also be formally approved by NZTR, Entain, and the RIB.

Note – funding for remedial works and replacements can be applied for under the RSDF.

For all queries and updates please contact Amy Carter – amy.carter@nztr.co.nz in the first instance.

A photograph of several horses and jockeys in a starting gate, ready for a race. The horses are in various colors, and the jockeys are wearing colorful silks. The background shows a green field and some structures.

KEY MATTERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

WELFARE

Equine Crematorium Now Operational

In addition to providing a dignified end for our horses, the Equine Crematorium facility will also offer learning opportunities for veterinarians via Massey University. Postmortem facilities will allow continuing work in the area of understanding the contributing factors of fatalities which can be complex. The findings of these studies will be used to then recommend measures that may mitigate future risk.

Equine Crematorium and Logistics for training, trial and race fatalities

To support this work, we have partnered with Animal Burials to ensure the respectful and timely collection of horses in the event of a fatality. Richard Logan (027 497 6058) is your direct contact for on-track collections. Richard has asked that you contact him immediately when an incident occurs to enable him to respond promptly. The quoted cost for collection ranges depending on location. For the upcoming season, we will fund 50% of the transport cost and fully cover the cost of cremation.

Equine Mortality Review Panel

The Equine Mortality Review Panel has been established to review any death associated with a race day within 72 hours. Where possible, post-mortems are conducted to determine whether identifiable factors contributed to the incident. However, to ensure a consistent and comprehensive approach, we are now extending this commitment to include training and trial fatalities that occur in public training facilities North of Taupo from 1 August.

The goal is to collect and review every fatality to identify any contributing factors, recommend preventative measures, and educate stakeholders about risk mitigation. The circumstances leading to an equine fatality are often complex and multifactorial—by gathering data in a structured, respectful, and thorough manner, we can support the health and safety of future generations of racehorses.

Raceday Fatalities

For the 2024-25 season we have recorded 15 raceday fatalities

In the 2023-24 season there were 18 fatalities and 14 in the 2022-23 season.

A photograph of several horses and jockeys in a starting gate, ready for a race. The horses are in various colors, and the jockeys are wearing colorful silks. The background shows a green field and a fence.

KEY MATTERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

WELFARE

On-Track Incident Preparedness and Post-Fatality Protocols

Before the start of each race meeting, a brief coordination meeting should be held involving all key personnel responsible for the running of the event. This ensures that in the event of a serious incident or fatality, there is a clear and coordinated response plan. It is essential that stewards, veterinarians, track staff, and emergency responders understand their individual roles and responsibilities in such situations.

Our Horse Ambulance drivers continue to provide outstanding support in managing these situations, and we are fortunate to have access to such a professional and compassionate service.

A designated area should be identified in advance for the secure and respectful placement of any deceased horse. This location must be discreet, out of public view, and allow the horse to be appropriately covered until collection. Ideally, Animal Burials will collect the horse at the conclusion of the race meeting, ensuring minimal disruption to the event while maintaining the highest standard of care and respect.

Now that the Equine Crematorium is fully functional, any race, trial, or training incident occurring at a public facility will be collected. This allows us to ensure consistency in post-incident processes, uphold high welfare standards, and maintain respect and dignity for the horse involved.

We acknowledge that conversations with owners in these circumstances can be sensitive. However, it is the responsible and ethical course of action. By collecting this information, we not only honor the horses involved but also contribute to research that will inform future welfare strategies and better protect at-risk horses. We also provide support for those associated with the incident via On Track 0800 667 224 (support line) Email: info@ontrack.org.nz

KEY MATTERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

REMINDERS

- The process for submitting Track Previews will change next month. We will be in touch shortly with details. In the meantime, please continue to send your Track Previews to trackpreviews@entaingroup.co.nz. Any problems, please reach out to [Leanne](#).
- For clubs on the NZTR website network:
- We'd love you to continue listing your new season events. [Billy](#) is happy to help if required.
- If you have any website related queries, or require training and/or support, please email [Billy](#). With Billy only working part-time with the marketing team, please also copy in [Leanne](#) if urgent.
- Photography Disclaimers – please can clubs remember to include a photography disclaimer in racebooks, and where possible, in prominent places on-course. This is to ensure racegoers know that photos and content is being captured for future promotional use. For privacy purposes, we request that extra care is taken when photographing children. We are happy to resupply Photography Disclaimer artwork for use, please request this from [Leanne](#).
- Should Clubs/RIOs have an industry roles you would like advertised on our Careers and Education site, careers.loveracing.nz/job-listings, please send them through to [Billy](#).
- All our 'fan' merchandise is available for purchase at shop.loveracing.nz. We are happy to offer Clubs a 10% discount on all orders. Please enter CLUB10 at checkout. Should you be interested in producing co-branded apparel with LOVERACING.NZ, please contact [Leanne](#) to discuss options.

NEW ZEALAND THOROUGHBRED HORSE OF THE YEAR AWARDS

- Tickets are now on sale for the 2024-25 New Zealand Thoroughbred Horse of the Year Awards, taking place on Sunday 7th September 2025, at GLOBOX Arena, Claudelands, Hamilton. Keep an eye on our [Facebook](#) or [Awards page](#) for updates and finalists announcements. Please reach out to Sarah Howard [via email](#) should you have any questions about the event.

KEY MATTERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

LOVERACING.NZ MARKETING UPDATE

- The LOVERACING.NZ Pony Scurry Series returns this month, with our next scurry taking place at Ruakaka on Saturday 16 August. New dates have now been announced and can be found [here](#). If Clubs are interested in hosting a pony scurry in the future, please contact Kirsty Lawrence, our Pony Scurry Coordinator, via email stevelawrence@xtra.co.nz.
- Planning continues for season 4 of The Grand Tour Racing Festival, with some exciting new initiatives planned! The Tour will kick off at NZ Cup Week at Riccarton, and run through until Champions Day at Ellerslie in March. We're looking forward to again showcasing our hero racedays over the spring/summer season, while encouraging our next generation to get on-course and enjoy a day at the races. Keep an eye on The Grand Tour socials for all the fun: [Instagram](#), [TikTok](#), [Facebook](#).
- We were thrilled to again partner with Riccarton Park for their Cure Kids Red Nose Raceday in late July. A great day was had by all, with a huge amount of money raised for a very special cause. And if you missed the annual Dino Derby, you can catch a replay [here](#). If Clubs are looking to host a charity raceday and would like support from a LOVERACING.NZ perspective, please get in touch with [Leanne](#).
- We're #HereForTheHorse and are delighted to be supporting [New Zealand Horse Ambulance Trust](#) with their winter appeal (you can donate [here](#) ❤️). To support the incredible mahi of the Trust and help raise awareness, we've donated one of the many fantastic items featured in their upcoming auction, with all proceeds going directly to the Trust. Keep an eye on gavelhouse.com later this month for your chance to bid. Our donation: a table for 10 in the Cuvée precinct at Ellerslie on Champions Day!
- Our dedicated jumps racing promotion continues to be a major focus for our team right through until the Great New Zealand Carnival at Te Aroha next month. We've loved showcasing and celebrating our jumping heroes over the winter months. Discover more at jumps.loveracing.nz.
- Promotion of racedays and our Clubs continue to be a key focus for our Sport Nation media partnership. To discuss potential opportunities for your club/organisation, please contact [Leanne](#).
- Please can Clubs keep us updated on key activity planned for upcoming racedays, allowing us to highlight all that is great about your events – please email [Leanne](#) and [Leigh](#) with details.
- Our events landing page - events.loveracing.nz is continually being updated with new events. Please review your events and let [Leanne](#) or [Billy](#) know if you'd like any changes made.

KEY REMINDERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

INCORPORATED SOCIETIES ACT 2022 – RE-REGISTRATION REMINDER

We would like to remind all clubs to take action to comply with the new legal requirements under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 (Act) as soon as possible.

- Has your club reviewed and updated its constitution?
- Have you submitted it to NZTR for approval?
- Re-registration is essential to maintain your club's legal status.

Are you eligible for Compliance Funding??

NZTR has incorporated compliance funding into the Funding Policy to support clubs meet the new legal requirements under the Act.

To be eligible your club must:

- Have its updated constitution approved by NZTR by Friday 29th August 2025.
- Successfully re-registered with Companies Office by Friday 30th January 2026.



Why do Clubs need to Re-registration Urgently?

Legal Protection and Continuity

Maintains your club's legal status, allowing it to continue to operate smoothly. Protects committee members and officers by safeguarding them from personal liability.

Access to Funding and Grants

Keeps your club eligible for funding and grant opportunities to support the clubs activities and growth.

Assets and liabilities

Ensures that clubs can continue to own property, enter into contracts and lease agreements.

Provides certainty for ongoing financial and operational commitments.

Future-Proofing Your Club

If a club fails to re-register within the specified timeframe, it will be removed from the Incorporated Societies Register.



KEY REMINDERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

INCORPORATED SOCIETIES ACT 2022 – RE-REGISTRATION REMINDER

WHAT EACH RACING CLUB NEEDS TO DO:

Review and update the Constitution

- NZTR together with Morrison Partners, previously provided clubs with guidance on the re-registration process, including compliance requirements, checklists, and template documents.
- Consider seeking independent legal advice if required.

Seek NZTR approval for the new Constitution or any amendments

- Under the Racing Industry Act 2020, NZTR must approve all club constitutions or amendments prior to having legal effect. We recommend seeking NZTR's approval prior to clubs AGM or SGM where these constitutions or amendments will be voted on.
- Approve the new constitution or amendments at the AGM or SGM Club meeting
- Organise an Annual General Meeting (AGM) or Special General Meeting (SGM) to discuss and vote on the new constitution or amendments

Complete the re-registration process through the Companies Office website

- Advise relevant parties, including NZTR re-registration has been completed to maintain compliance If you have any queries, please email jill.gregory@nztr.co.nz or rachel.dixon@nztr.co.nz.



KEY REMINDERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

NZTR MCKENZIE FUTURE LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are now open for the NZTR McKenzie Future Leaders Scholarship. Applications close 14 November. Please refer to Ts & Cs and apply [here](#).

NATIONAL THOROUGHBRED WEEK NOVEMBER 20-24

New Zealand is set to open its stable doors this November with the launch of the inaugural National Thoroughbred Week—a five-day initiative aimed at giving the public an inside look at the care, passion, and people behind the country's thoroughbred racing industry. Running from November 20-24, racing stables, stud farms, and aftercare facilities across New Zealand will welcome visitors for a hands-on experience—offering everything from observing morning trackwork to learning about equine welfare and life after racing.

Hosts can have as small or large a group as they like and only need to open their gates for a couple of hours, the emphasis is on bring non-racing people through the “doors”. Details for hosting are on the website <https://thoroughbredweek.com.au/industry/>

Held across Australia and New Zealand, NTW is a transparent and open invitation for the public to meet the horses and the people, break down misconceptions and experience the heart of the racing industry. It was inspired by the [Together for Racing International](#) initiative and UK National Racehorse Week.

We're calling on racing clubs, trainers, breeders, aftercare farms, and equine facilities across Australia and New Zealand to join this pilot program as Hosts. If you have Thoroughbreds in your care, you have a story to tell, so become a host and open your doors.

Pick a time, day, and activity that suits you and showcases your business. Open to the public or create a private event for a local community group, school, or aged care facility. The choice is yours, and the NTW team is here to support you.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Email any questions via reply, or directly to the NTW team at hello@thoroughbredweek.com.au

NEW ROLES AT NZTR

NZTR has introduced four new GM Roles in a strategic restructure announced Friday. The three remaining vacancies can be found at <https://careers.loveracing.nz/job-listings>



KEY REMINDERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

SECTIONAL DATA (TRACK MARKERS - RED)

NZTR has invested heavily in providing sectional times and data for interested parties. In order to produce accurate information, we ask that all clubs have red markers clearly displayed at the 200, 400, 600 and 800 metre marks and also 400m after the start of each start point (i.e. for a 1600m race there needs to be one at the 1200m, for a 2200m race there needs to be one at the 1800m)

- If you require more markers please contact Tim Lambert (tim.lambert@nztr.co.nz)


EQUINE FATALITIES IN TRAINING

To enable NZTR's proper equine welfare reporting, clubs are required to notify NZTR when a horse dies or is euthanised as a result of a training incident. Please advise traceability@nztr.co.nz with the horse name or breeding, and the trainer name.

RACEDAY BOX CONTAMINATION

Due to the risk that horses may swab positive for human drugs, NZTR reminds Clubs that they should:

- Regularly replace sawdust and straw in boxes which are used on race day; and
- Advise both through signage and race day security that participants must not urinate in horse boxes.



KEY REMINDERS AS AT 12 AUGUST 2025

OPTIONS FOR REPORTING BULLYING AND HARASSMENT ISSUES

NZTR emphasises that there are avenues available for any participants who feel they have been badly treated to report their concerns and have them addressed.

Industry participants can be assured that the NZTR Board and management have zero tolerance for sexual harassment and bullying in the industry. Fair and respectful treatment of all participants is a fundamental expectation for involvement in our sport.

The industry, in partnership with the Salvation Army, employs two full-time welfare support staff, who are available to discuss any personal issues, and complaints can be made to any NZTR staff member.

The complaints will be taken seriously, with the priority being the rights and wishes of the complainants.

Participants can also directly contact the Racing Integrity Board, through the racing integrity line, with the option of leaving their contact details or an anonymous message.

If you have any concerns about the way that you or anybody else in the industry have been treated, the following can be contacted:

- Andrew McKerrow (welfare support): 029 771 2398 andrew_mckerrow@nzf.salvationarmy.org
- RIB racing integrity line: 0800 748 123 [Online Message Form](#)
- Neil Grimstone (RIB Manager Integrity Assurance): 021 272 6009

NZTR seeks ways to collaborate with clubs and sector groups to ensure that awareness of this issue is increased, and that any persons affected by bullying or harassment feels aware and empowered to bring this to attention of their preferred contact.



RIO UPDATE AT 12 AUGUST 2025

NEW ZEALAND TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION

AGMs
Stakes structure submission

NEW ZEALAND THOROUGHBRED OWNERS FEDERATION

NZTROF is keenly awaiting a response from NZTR on its proposal that the Recognised Industry Organisations become full members of New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing Incorporated

General Health & Safety compliance - All



RIO UPDATE AT 12 AUGUST 2025

RACING INTEGRITY BOARD

RIB Advisories

The RIB has recently issued two advisories, summarised below and linked in headings in full for reference. It would be useful if this is communicated to club's local trainers and a printed copy of each displayed in the trainers' hut (if applicable).

- **RIB Contamination Prevention Advisory (August 2025)**

This provides trainers with clear guidance on minimising the risk of prohibited substance contamination through responsible medication use, good stable management, hygiene protocols, and staff awareness. It outlines best practices for treatment procedures, record-keeping, feed sourcing, and environmental controls to help avoid inadvertent breaches and support equine welfare.

- **RIB Use of Sedatives Advisory (July 2025)**

This advisory outlines the veterinary, safety and regulatory considerations associated with administering sedatives to horses during routine ridden work. It emphasises that such use should only occur under strict veterinary justification, with full documentation, and warns of potential risks to rider safety, diminished training efficacy, and compliance with the Rules of Racing and New Zealand health and safety laws.

RIO UPDATE AT 12 AUGUST 2025

TRACK WORKSHOP ACTIONS

DELIVERABLE	DESCRIPTION	STATUS UPDATE	NOTES
Benchmark Track Staff Salaries	Benchmark current track staff salaries across the industry to understand where they sit within the broader turf sector. Following this, consider whether the level of industry support for track manager salaries is appropriate.		Underway - engaging benchmarking firm
Rail Movement Guidance	Develop guidance regarding rail movements. Where possible, the rail should move progressively from the true position outwards, and then return to true – to help avoid creating fast lanes on the inside.		Verbal update at meeting
Rail Movements Schedule	Require Clubs to submit a rolling three-month schedule of probable rail movements as part of racecourse compliance. These can then be reviewed by the RTA Group or any new relevant structure.		
Non-Compliance of Rail Movements	Review and strengthen the escalation process for non-compliance with rail movement procedures.		
Data Portal (Confirm Timing)	Confirm the timing for the next data portal update and report back to the group.		In progress - testing ongoing
Confirm Data Portal Rollout	Confirm rollout process and support plan for track managers using the portal. Further develop the portal to ensure full industry uptake and utilisation.		
Return to Racing Procedures	Clarify the processes and procedures surrounding return-to-racing decisions and communication channels. Ensure these are mapped early and clearly, in consultation with RIB and RIOs at each stage.		In progress - Draft with RTAs for review
Australian Track Rating Changes	Review and if possible align with proposed Australian Track Rating Updates		NZTR to receive paper from Aus Racecourse Managers Association
Investigate Consolidated National Dataset	Investigate the feasibility of collecting benchmark data from all tracks to create a consolidated national dataset (e.g., including moisture meter data). Confirm the ability to effectively analyse and mine this data from both current and future sources.		Have reviewed available data - will work this together with Portal data

RIO UPDATE AT 12 AUGUST 2025

TRACK WORKSHOP ACTIONS

RTA Model Review	Review feedback and develop a proposal for changes and improvements to the RTA model, to be consulted on with the RTA Group.		Completed
Update Track Preparation Policy	Update the Track Preparation Policy to align with current track rating terminology (e.g., amend “Good 2”).		Completed
Track Preparation Standardised Datasheet	Include a standardised datasheet within the Track Preparation Policy and ensure it is uploaded to the portal.		Incorporated in portal and data benchmarking
Review Track Rating Calls (AM)	Collaborate with RIB and Track Managers to review the process for making race morning track rating calls — particularly for transitions such as Soft 5 to Good 4 — and assess whether a more predictive approach could be used to better reflect expected race-time conditions.		Closed - updates to track ratings in line with Australia will reduce these issues
Review Track Reconstruction Process	Review the personnel and processes involved in track reconstruction projects.		Completed
Consider Adopting Design Review Process	Consider adopting a design review process similar to Victoria’s, making more effective use of the existing RTA Group.		To be rolled out for current and future reconstruction projects
Track Handover Support	Build interim support structures into the transition phase between construction and ongoing track management, to ensure knowledge transfer and operational continuity.		Incorporated in all future projects
Review Decision-Making Processes (Awapuni)	Review decision-making processes relating to the Awapuni track construction.		Completed
Industry Update (Awapuni)	Provide an industry update on the Awapuni track.		Completed
Revisit Abandonment Policy	Revisit the Abandonment Policy.		Closed