



APRIL 2004

NSWROA DIRECTORS

Rob Albon – President

Benedict Chan – Vice President
Max Whitby – Secretary
John Leslie – Treasurer
Noel Bracks
Chris Keogh
Bernard McMahon
Reg Richardson
Stephen van Eyk
Caroline Fara – Office Manager

JAMIE WALTER COLUMN

This month's Newsletter carries the first column written by member Jamie Walter, Bloodstock Dealer and media consultant.

Jamie will be contributing regularly to the Newsletter; the opinions expressed will be his own but will be on issues of interest to our members.

HORSE MOVEMENT SAFETY POLICY

Debate continues on this issue and thanks are due to all the members who have contributed and offered assistance. Full details of the proposed policy and the Association's response to it are on the NSWROA's website. It is our intention to make a final submission immediately after the Golden Slipper Festival.

PROGRAMMING

The Racing Review Panel recently announced changes in Provincial and Country race programming to commence in June this year.

These are:

- A reintroduction of 3-year old maidens;
- A reintroduction 3-year old Class races;
- A reintroduction of Class-3 races;
- Further increases in races for fillies and mares; and
- An increase in distance races such that by 2005/06 30% of provincial races and 25% of country races will be over distances greater than 1500m.

These changes directly reflect the Association's submissions on programming. Together with the other changes previously announced for metropolitan racing, all of the major points the Association has made have been adopted.

SURVEY RESULT

Members' response on the question of extra funding being put into prize money or improved starters incentives was significantly in favour of the latter; 65% of respondents favoured increased incentives and 35% more prize money. The Association has passed this information onto Racing NSW and race clubs in support of our previous submission for payment of incentives of \$1,000 down to 10th place in Metropolitan races and correspondingly at provincial and country level.

QUICK SURVEY

In the event of an oversubscribed race at final acceptance, would you prefer:

- The race to be run as programmed with horses balloted out or otherwise excluded, or;

- More frequent use of the discretionary powers of race clubs under AR LR 29(a), LR 30 & LR 32, to divide races, with 80% of the original prize money for each race.

In other words, would you prefer your horse to run in a race you have accepted for, albeit for only 80% of the original prize money, or wait for another race?

You can respond in one of three ways:

- Email your answers to nswroa1@ozemail.com.au;
- Complete the survey on line at www.nswroa.com.au, or;
- Circle your preference on the Newsletter and fax this page to 9221 7816.

BERNARD McMAHON

Bernard McMahon has been appointed to the NSWROA Board to fill the casual vacancy created by the resignation of Michael Kissane.

Bernie has a distinguished career in business and a deep involvement in racing as an owner.

The Board welcomes the opportunity to benefit from his expertise and experience.

EASTER CARNIVAL RACEDAY LUNCHEON

The luncheon on **Saturday 17 April** has proved to be very popular and is almost booked out. Call Caroline **TODAY** to secure your seat at what should be an exciting day at the races.

HARBOUR CRUISE

Our annual harbour cruise has been booked for **Tuesday 4th of May**. Members are invited to join the Directors and guests from the media, for a wonderful day's cruising aboard the **Olympic Storm** on Sydney Harbour. The occasion will be the official launch of the 2004 Racing's Night of Champions.

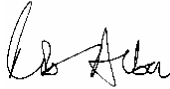
Cost is \$100 members and \$120 non-members. This includes a sumptuous buffet, coffee/tea & chocolates; wine, beer & soft drinks. Call the Office Manager TODAY to book your seat.

FREE ENTRY* - APRIL

1 st	Hawkesbury
2 nd	Canberra, Tamworth
3 rd	Bathurst, Kembla Grange, Muswellbrook, Tare
4 th	Ballina
5 th	Orange
8 th	Gosford
10 th	Broadmeadow, Lismore, Morree, Moruya
11 th	Cowra, Nowra
12 th	Coonabarabran, Tamworth
13 th	Nowra
15 th	Kembla Grange
16 th	Canberra, Cootamnudra (Picnic), Grafton
17 th	Albury, Hawkesbury, Muswellbrook
19 th	Taree
20 th	Scone
22 nd	Hawkesbury
23 rd	Ballina
24 th	Broadmeadow, Sapphire Coast (Kalaru)
25 th	Bathurst, Gosford, Deniliquin
26 th	Goulburn
29 th	Wyong
30 th	Canberra, Muswellbrook

(*conditions apply, contact NSWROA)

Yours in Racing



Rob Albon
President

JAMIE WALTER'S COLUMN

When Racing NSW (aka TRB) was conceived five years ago, the make-up of the Board was a hot issue. Industry groups lobbied hard for a position. Two major players, Owners and Breeders, were forced into accepting the same representative on the eight man board and whilst appointee, Bob Lapointe, is a highly qualified and very able man, the interests of the two parties were never going to be best served by the same member.

The Department of Gaming & Racing may argue that anyone not reconciled to compromise shouldn't be in racing but owners and breeders, though inextricably linked, are representative of two fundamentally different markets.

One generates the product to sell, the other consumes it. The Breeders' market puts a price on, say, a service fee to a sire. Yet, in the sale ring, that price is largely irrelevant in the assessment of the relative worth of the progeny.

Example? Strategic, in 2002 served a record number of mares (188) at his highest advertised fee of \$27.5K, surely indicative of an impressive performance to come at the 2003 yearling sales. But no, buyers shunned him.

This confirmed yet again that what is deemed value by Breeders is not necessarily shared by owners, trainers and agents who constitute the buying market. The two groups are different and should be treated as such.

Would any government committee on food, for example, have the same delegate for farmers as the consuming public? Don't think so, nor should Owners and Breeders be forced into such an unacceptable compromise.

Anyone who has sat on any committee at any level will tell you the only possible outcome from two voices speaking at the same time is inaudible din.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

I can help with a selection of 10 names for your horse, and all are available for registration in Australia.
Alan Eason, tel: **(07) 5554 5414**
or **easona@ozemail.com.au**

Upper Hunter Valley

Timor Creek Stud

Murrurundi 2338
Tel/Fax: 6546 8140

We offer agistment at reasonable rates with **the very best of individual care**



Our limestone hills & flats develop horses with

**SOUNDNESS
CONSTITUTION
VITALITY**

- Mares, inc. Walkons
- Foals to race & sell
 - Racehorses
 - Colts too



For all your Bloodstock

Call us now
1800 652 006 or 02 9635 3100

