

AUGUST 2003

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NSW RACING'S NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS 2003

This is racing's most prestigious Awards Night and showcases racing's generosity for those less fortunate. You can be guaranteed an excellent night out, with high-profile guests, superb entertainment and representation from all sectors of racing with the knowledge that the substantial funds raised are donated to the Matthew Talbot Hostel.

Tickets are \$165.00 pp (inc. GST). Tables are filling up fast so **BOOK TODAY**. Call Caroline Fara on 02 9232 4300 or email nswroa1@ozemail.com.au

**Bookings close 5.00 pm
Monday 4 August.**

OWNERS SURVEY

There has been an excellent response so far and the results are currently being analysed.

The results will be published shortly. Already it is clear that free entry to racecourses is an important issue for our members, who are a very social bunch, being much in favour of owners bars, marquees and social functions.

The winner of the draw is Michael Jonson of Maroubra and he will receive two free tickets [value \$330] to the Racing's Night of Champions.

SELLING RACES

At the June Board Meeting the Association endorsed the introduction of selling (and claiming) races in race programming in NSW. The concept had been raised by Max Presnell in his column in the Sydney Morning Herald and discussed on 'Racing to the Max'. The Board took the view that there appears to be no downside for owners from the introduction of selling and claiming races, but there are potential benefits for owners, race clubs and racing as a whole. They could enliven an otherwise ordinary race day and bring a touch of theatre to the occasion, as well as providing owners with a new opportunity to buy and sell bloodstock.

The concept of a selling race is essentially very simple. At the end of the race, the winner is sold by auction in the mounting yard. The race conditions would stipulate the selling price of the winner, thus setting the class of the race,

within whatever broader category of runners - maidens, no city wins, Class 6 - the race falls. If the horse is not sold, or fails to reach the stipulated price, then the owner who brought it to the races takes it home. An owner may also "buy back" the winner.

In most cases any surplus over the sale price in the race conditions goes to the race club.

In Europe "sellers" are a popular constituent of race programming and are held at most "mid-week" meetings as well as some of the major carnivals. They are popular with race clubs and crowds.

Claiming races do not provide the theatre of the selling race, but are common overseas and growing in importance in the UK. In these races there is a maximum price set for which any horse in the race may be claimed, with weight allowances for horses available for a lower price.

The joint NSWROA/NSWTRB Owners Forum, held at Randwick last year backed the introduction of claiming races, a decision which has yet to be taken any further. There is no impediment in the Rules of Racing to the running of either selling or claiming races in NSW.

BOBS SCHEME

The BOBS Scheme nominations for the coming season closed on 1 August. It is hoped that owners of eligible horses have nominated; the bonus is there to be won and is particularly valuable for country races, virtually guaranteeing a doubling of prize money. Some stallions were entered into the scheme very late in the period, including Snippets, Flying Spur and several others. Members are advised to check with the NSWTRB, or by visiting the TRB website to see if they have progeny that are now eligible, as there is the opportunity for a 'late nomination', but only for those stallions that were entered late. For further information contact Stephen Ferguson at NSWTRB.

TRAINING FEES

The Association has received representations from several members regarding recent increases in training fees. While fees are the individual responsibility of trainers, there seems to be a perception that the cost of racing in NSW is growing at a greater rate than costs in general. Members may be assured that the Association is monitoring the situation and is due to discuss this and other issues with the Australian Trainers Association. The ATA is equally concerned at the rising costs of racing, especially in these days of "cost free racing". Members will be kept informed of the discussions with the ATA.

RECOGNITION OF OWNERS

It is gratifying to see recognition for owners in the naming of races by the AJC,

Scone Race Club and the Newcastle Jockey Club in their recent programmes. In celebration of Choisir's achievements in England, races at Randwick, Newcastle and Scone have included the Wallace family in their names. This is a welcome change from horses generally being referred to through their trainers. NSWROA has sent notes of thanks to the AJC, NJC and Scone and hopes for more recognition of owners in the naming of races that celebrate achievements in the sport.

ADVERTISING

You may not be aware that you can advertise in the NSWROA Newsletter as well as in the Classified Section of our website www.nswroa.com.au.

For further information regarding rates and terms and conditions please call Caroline Fara on 02 9232 4300.

FREE ENTRY - AUGUST

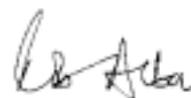
1st Canberra, Tamworth
2nd Cowra, Kembla Grange, Lismore
5th Muswellbrook
7th Wyong
8th Hawkesbury, Wellington
9th Newcastle, Corowa, Tamworth
11th Scone
12th Taree
14th Wyong
15th Canberra, Muswellbrook
16th Newcastle
18th Nowra, Quirindi
19th Bathurst
21st Gosford
22nd Taree
23rd Ballina, Kembla Grange, Narrandera
24th Taree
25th Tamworth
28th Hawkesbury

29th Canberra
30th Kembla Grange, Lismore, Moree

FREE ENTRY - SEPTEMBER

1st Grafton
3rd Wyong
4th Wyong Cup
5th Goulburn, Muswellbrook
6th Moruya, Newcastle
7th Nowra
8th Taree
9th Tamworth
11th Ballina, Canberra, Gosford
12th Hawkesbury
13th Grafton, Kembla Grange
14th Moree
15th Nowra
17th Newcastle
19th Quirindi
20th Cootamundra, Kembla Grange
21st Lismore
22nd Bathurst, Muswellbrook
25th Hawkesbury, Lismore
26th Canberra
27th Grafton, Newcastle
28th Goulburn, Scone
29th Albury
30th Kembla Grange

Yours in Racing



Rob Albon
President NSWROA

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