



# DEC 2007

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Brent Crawford – Executive Officer

## RACING RIGHT BACK ON TARGET

We would all agree that the last three months for New South Wales Racing has been the toughest times in the history of Australian Racing.

When Dec 1 arrived, any one with racing blood running through their veins would have woken up on that Saturday morning with more than a spring in their step, it was the resumption of racing in Sydney and Royal Randwick certainly turned it on.

With all marquees, dining packages and event rooms booked out, it was certainly going to be a return to racing that Sydney needed.

With a crowd of just over 25,000 people, it had the atmosphere and theatre of an AJC Derby Day as you walked through the main gates. Ladies dressed to the nines in the latest spring fashion and gents rising to the occasion looking slick in collar and tie.

As the gates were released for the opening event at Royal Randwick, it was as if they had

jumped in the Melbourne Cup, the crowd joining in chorus as one with an almighty roar, racing had finally resumed.

To capture such a memorable day, could it have been scripted any better than the main race (Arrowfield Sprint) with multiple Group One winners, Dance Hero and Champion World Class galloper Takeover Target settling down to a tenacious battle over the final 200m with The Target claiming victory right on the line. As owners, breeders, trainers or whatever role you may hold within the racing industry, we are over the first hump but still have a long road ahead of us.

As quoted by an Ancient Roman in 43BC...”The Spirited horse, which will try to win the race of its own accord, will run even faster if encouraged.”

## CHAPS

Racing NSW is pleased to announce that it has reached agreement with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry for a revised date for the commencement of CHAPS II.

In addition to the original date of 19 November 2007, the CHAPS II payment will now be made for all horses that are in stable/in work with a licensed trainer on or before Monday, 3rd December 2007.

Therefore, two dates now apply:  
**19 November 2007** - for horses that were in stable/in work on 19 November, payments commence 20 November 2007, and

**3 December 2007** - for horses that have come into work between 20 November 2007 and 3 December 2007, payments commence on the day that they entered the stable.

CHAPS funding will continue until 8th February 2008, or until

all bans on horse movements are lifted, whichever is earlier.

All applications for CHAPS remain subject to payment guidelines issued by the Federal Government and Racing NSW. Trainers are also reminded that according to Federal Government requirements, all claims for CHAPS I payments must be lodged with Racing NSW by 5pm, Monday 17 December 2007.

CHAPS I covers 25 August - 19 November 2007.

Claims for CHAPS I received after 17 December cannot be processed.

**Note:** All CHAPS monies not properly claimed, approved or accounted for are recoverable. Trainers MUST note that it is compulsory to provide the owner(s) with 70% of the CHAPS Payment.

Any trainer found not to have passed on the 70% credit referred to above could be required to refund all CHAPS monies paid. Random audits ensuring compliance will be undertaken.

## BRENT CRAWFORD JOINS NSWROA AS EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Brent has been involved in the racing industry his whole life as his father, Mick Crawford, has been a horse trainer for many years in Melbourne.

Since finishing his VCE in 1994, Brent has always held a position in the racing industry.

Brent firstly worked for his father for three years at their Caulfield stables before deciding to join the media aspect of racing where he worked for Radio Sport 927 for the following four years. During his time at Sport 927, Brent was producer of the “Raceday Show” for leading racecaller Bryan Martin as well as



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doing roving reporting and Master of Ceremonies for major functions throughout Victoria and Tasmania. Brent then headed to Tasmania where he held the position as Secretary/Manager of the Devonport Racing Club for two years. While at Devonport Brent won the prestigious Australian Racing Boards "Chairman's Fellowship Award", which saw Brent travel on a scholarship through Hong Kong, Europe and America for 3 months, studying Horse Racing. On returning to Australia Brent took up the position as Public Relations Manager for the leading Victorian stud, Eliza Park, where he has spent the past three years. Brent is looking forward to the challenge of being the Executive Officer for the NSWROA. "I understand that I have walked in at a very difficult time but with my passion and experience in racing I will do my utmost to try and make a difference for the NSWROA", Brent said. "As an owner myself, I can certainly sympathise with what our members have gone through at the moment. My phone is always available to take calls from our members and my office door is always open."

#### WEBSITE

The NSWROA is currently doing a total overhaul on its website. We would certainly like your feedback or any suggestions that you feel can make this website more user friendly and attractable to the owner. Contact us at [www.nswroa1@ozemail.com.au](mailto:www.nswroa1@ozemail.com.au)

#### VALE JIM FLEMING & DANIEL BAKER

Over the past couple of weeks the Thoroughbred industry has lost two racing identities. Well know breeder and former STC Chairman Mr Jim Fleming

past ways after having a stroke at the age of 75.

Jim was one of the most influential men in racing over the past 40 years and this was shown by the Rosehill grandstand being named in Jim's honour.

Also Jim owned the first class boutique breeding farm in Tyrell Stud where their broodmares have produced 17 Group One winners. Our deepest sympathy goes to his wife Angela and all of the Fleming family.

Tragedy struck at Grafton races on Dec 2 where young Coff Harbour apprentice, Daniel Baker was killed in a race fall.

At the tender age of 23, Daniel was lost to racing and leaves a massive hole in the racing community.

Daniel was a very popular young man and was extremely well liked by all of his racing peers, on and off the track.

Our sincere sympathy goes to his mother Debbie, brother Tim and the rest of the Baker family.

#### AT LEAST SOME GOOD NEWS FOR EARLY 2008

For years the total TAB distribution paid out to race clubs has not been returned to the industry in prize money. For instance, had EI not hit NSW this year, some \$106.67 million would have been paid in prize money out of a TAB distribution of \$144.472 million. In other words, only 74% paid out, with \$37.795 million absorbed in overheads and club profits.

How much better the experience of owning racehorses would be if TAB distributions were paid out in full. We are in agreement with Racing NSW that club accounts need to be transparent in reporting the amount of revenue coming from TAB distributions versus other sources. Also, achievable percentage targets need to be set on the payout of TAB distributions.

However, the good news for 2008 is that those distributions not paid out due to EI can now be added to prize money from January 2008 onwards. The amount after costs should total around \$15 million, with approximately \$7 million for city prize money and the rest in the provincial and country areas. To give a rough guide, if the \$7 million were spread over 75 race meetings, with eight races each, some \$11,666 could be added per race.

At the provincials the amount would be \$5,400 per race, etc. However, the extra payments could be extended right through to 2009, reducing the amount per race, but extending the benefit further and setting a new benchmark for prize money. Given the hardship EI has caused, and will continue to cause the industry, this extra prize money will be a real bonus in 2008. A decision on what will be done with BOBS bonuses not paid for the period has not been made. However, at this stage it is unlikely that the period will be extended, with bonuses likely to be increased for a period until spent. The NSWROA will be liaising with Racing NSW on both of the above issues.



The NSWROA would like to wish all our members a very Merry Xmas and a Happy and safe New Year.

Yours in Racing

Stephen Van Eyk  
President  
11 December 2007



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