

Proposed move of the Guineas/Fillies raceday to a Sunday

The NZ Racing Board Dates Committee has indicated that they wish to move the iconic Guineas & Fillies spring feature race meeting from a Saturday to a Sunday in September as part of the 'Optimise the Calendar' project for the 2017/18 racing season.

The Wanganui Jockey Club strongly opposes this move and the change of day, and has provided detailed submissions against this proposal, which if passed, will see the meeting held on Sunday 10 September 2017.

Despite the WJC being promoted to a 'significant' venue last year the club now faces a further reduction of Saturday meetings which could now potentially leave us with only 2 per year (i.e. – Queen's Birthday weekend, and Cup Day at the end of November/early December). In 2013 we saw the last running of the Hospice Cup Charity Saturday raceday in October.

As we enter a consultative process with NZRB, we must now battle to retain the day scheduled for this fixture for the good of the club, community and key stakeholders. This has consistently been a very successful day for us as well the TAB and attracts many visitors from around the country especially trainers, owners, and industry participants from up north.

The club has been working with the main sponsors of the Wanganui Guineas (the Dyke family and Wanganui Motors) and financially committed to form a case to upgrade the status of this race and see the return of Group racing to Wanganui but this change would severely affect this.

One of the overarching objectives of NZRB and the project is to develop a domestic racing calendar that will maximise revenue and optimise the cost of delivering the calendar but we think this move is contrary to this objective and the interests of the club and racing.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

We want all of our major sponsors, members, stakeholders and supporters to support our submissions opposing this course of action, and to comment on their proposal:

Name: _____ Contact : _____

Comments: _____

Thank you for your support 😊