

SPORTING FIXTURES, ETC.

COMING EVENTS.

Table listing upcoming racing events with dates and club names, including Onehunga Racing Club, Avondale Jockey Club, and others.

NOMINATIONS CLOSE.

Table listing closed nomination events with dates and club names, including South Auckland Racing Club Entries and Auckland Racing Club.

WEIGHTS APPEAR.

Table listing weight appearance events with dates and club names, including Auckland Racing Club and Drury Racing Club.

ACCEPTANCES DUE.

Table listing acceptance due events with dates and club names, including Northern Wairoa R.C. and Avondale J.C.

GENERAL NOTICES.

THE SPORTING REVIEW will be published at Vulcan Lane. All communications respecting subscriptions or advertisements should be addressed to the publisher.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Table showing subscription rates: 3 Months (2s. 6d.), 6 Months (5s.), 12 Months (8s.).

HARRY H. HAYR, PUBLISHER.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. ROWE, Te Aroha, writes:—"Which of the two greyhounds is credited with the best performances, according to the dogs they have met, Ruby or Lady Hinemoa, on the Plumpton at Auckland?" Answer: Ruby undoubtedly showed the best performance, as she beat that crack little bitch Mystery. —[CONTANGO.]

Sporting Review.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1891.

TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB.

THIS Club held their Spring Meeting last Saturday. The weather was fine, with a nice sea breeze blowing; consequently the attendance was large. The course, owing to the dry weather, was hard. Since last season the saddling paddock has been enlarged; still there is not sufficient accommodation for the number of people that now attend this pleasant suburban meeting; as it is easy of access, and the admission is very low. The Club intend to build a new stand; also to enlarge the lawn, as both at present are far below requirements. Impey's band as usual was present. The arrangements were good, the secretary, Mr. Wynyard, doing all he could to make things pleasant; but the stewards were not quite as active in taking cognizance of two or three cases of "curious" running, especially in the Hurdle Races; also what was a case of suspicious riding in the Maiden Plate, when Hammond on Warrior greatly interfered with Brigade, coming up the straight. There was a talk of an objection, but it came to nothing, as Mr. "Burke" refused to enter a protest. In the Maiden Hurdle Race, Rae rode a peculiar race on Lonely, who was top weight. He lay so far out of his ground that when he tried to pick up his position, half a mile from home, it was impossible for him to do so. Bit o' Blue in the Hurdle Race showed a great improvement in form. At the same time Orakei, who seemed to tire at the finish; did not run nearly so well as he did at Ellerslie; the excuse being that he did not like the hard ground. Ingorina, by the way he won the St. Andrew's Handicap, showed that he is coming to his form again; while old Leorina, who ran second, and afterwards won the Spring Handicap, looked wonderfully well, and fit to go through another hard season's campaign. Bit o' Blue made an example of his field in the Steeplechase, which was a series of blunders. Yardman and Chance ran off at the rails at the top of the hill, where Neck or Nothing came a fearful "purler," giving Williams a nasty fall. It was a wonder he was not killed, as the horse turned a complete summersault. It was rather a surprise to see Neck or Nothing come down as he is looked upon as a safe jumper, and the fence is nothing. Kate also fell dead beaten at the last hurdle, having been most injudiciously ridden; but Crowl, her jockey, escaped uninjured.

The racing was not of a very interesting character, as there were no close finishes, and the fields were all spread out, while the starting was something disgraceful, and it was a wonder the stewards did not interfere. There was not a good start during the whole day; the two worst being the Devonport and Spring Handicaps. In the former only four two-year-olds came to the post, His Worship being given a flying start, and when the flag fell there must have been some seven or eight lengths between the first and Adelaide, who was last. For the latter race the start was just in front of the stand. Te Kooti and Master Pat were away and over the line before the majority of the jockeys knew it was a start. Lady Belle, who was favourite, was half turned round; while Bulrush was left at the post. This was the last race of the day, or there is little doubt there would have been a disturbance.

As the committee are giving good stakes at the Summer Meeting, there are two or three things they should do to make matters a success. Get a good handicapper; also a starter that understands his business; or owners will not send their horses to lose their money. They would also do well to pay more attention to the riding and language of some of the jockeys and stablemen. Owners would do well to pay more attention to this, as they can stop it. The races commenced with the Maiden

Hurdle Race, one and a half miles, for which eight came to the post. Lorace, followed by Stepper and Barshot were the first to show in front. At the second hurdle the latter took command, and led down the back of the course. On coming round the turn before entering the straight Stepper went up to Barshot, Tommy being third. When fairly in a line for home, Stepper, 9st 4lb, came away, and won easily by two lengths from Tommy, 9st; Barshot, 9st 12lb, the same distance away, third. Lonely, 11st 4lb, who laid a long way out of his ground, was eased up when he found pursuit was hopeless, finished fourth. General 9st 12lb, Lorace 9st 7lb, Nightcap 9st 4lb, and Tim 9st, were the other starters.

All four came to the post for the Devonport Handicap, 5 1/2 furlongs. This race was spoilt by the wretched start. His Worship, 8st 10lb, getting well away, made all of the running, and won easily by three lengths from Tit, 7st; King Cannibal, 6st 10lb, a moderate third. Adelaide, 8st 10lb, who did not get away with them, finished a long way last.

Nine out of the ten acceptors faced the starter for the Maiden Plate, resulting as follows:—Warrior, 8st, 1st; Brigade, 7st 4lb, 2nd; Maid of Erin, 6st 10lb, 3rd. Octopus 8st 10lb, Brian Boru 7st 12lb, Van Diemen 7st 10lb, Lorace 7st, First Love 7st, and Bulrush 7st, also started. Brigade was made a great favourite; Warrior being second in demand. There was great delay at the post. Lorace and Bulrush bolted, and ran once round the course before being pulled up. First Love also broke away two or three times. The flag at last fell to an indifferent start. Octopus, followed by Brigade, were the first to show in front; Lorace heading the remainder; Maid of Erin last. On rounding the bend Octopus fell back, and Warrior went up to Brigade. When fairly in the straight Warrior came away and won easily by three lengths; Maid of Erin, who came very fast at the finish, being two lengths away. The remainder struggled in.

The following came to the post for the Hurdle Race, one mile and three-quarters:—Bit o' Blue, 9st 8lb, 1st; Stepper, 9st, 2nd; Orakei, 11st 2lb, 3rd; Good Day, 10st; Tawhana, 9st 5lb; and Kate, 9st. At the fall of the flag Bit o' Blue went to the front, followed by Good Day and Stepper. As they passed the stand the latter assumed the lead; Orakei and Tawhana improving their positions. On entering the straight Bit o' Blue, passing Stepper, went to the front, and was never afterwards headed, winning easily by half a dozen lengths; three lengths between second and third; the rest tailed off. Time, 3min 55 1/2 sec.

The St. Andrew's Handicap of 28sovs. one and a-half miles, resulted as follows:—Ingorina, 8st 2lb, 1st; Leorina, 6st 6lb, 2nd; Try Fluke, 7st 2lb, 3rd; Glaucus, 7st 4lb, 4th; Scot Free, 7st, and The Barb, 6st 7lb, also ran. Leorina was the favourite, but all, with the exception of The Barb, were well backed. The flag fell to an indifferent start, Scot Free getting away last. When they had fairly settled down The Barb went to the front followed by Glaucus, Ingorina, and Leorina last. Passing the stand Scot Free led, followed by Glaucus, the rest close together. Before rounding the bend for home, The Barb and Scot Free were beaten, Ingorina going to the front, Leorina, Try Fluke, and Glaucus close up. When fairly in the straight the latter was beaten, and Ingorina, striding along, won comfortably by two lengths, the same between second and third; Scot Free and The Barb beaten off. Time, 2min 44sec.

Seven came out for the Hack Race, five and a-half furlongs. Vasator, making all the running, won easily from Orina, Nosegay third. Badger, Eagerness, Bribery, and Heiress were the other starters. Time, 1min 12sec.

The Handicap Steeplechase of 80sovs, three and a half miles—Bit of Blue, 10st 4lb, 1st; Try Fluke, 9st 7lb, 2nd; Relation, 9st 10lb, 3rd; Yardman 10st 5lb, Chance 9st 10lb, Neck or Nothing 9st 8lb, Kate 9st 7lb, Pawa 9st 7lb, and Prospector 9st 7lb, also ran. Bit of Blue started a great favourite, being at five to four. Relation was the only other one supported with any spirit. Bit of Blue was the first off, but was soon pulled back, Pawa going to the front, making the pace a cracker leading up the hill into the country to the water jump, when Kate, by quick jumping, gained a length or two, racing down the back of the course proper followed by Chance and Pawa and up the hill