



# RACING.



## RACING CALENDAR.

### SEASON 1907.

#### FIXTURES.

May 30, June 3 and 6—Auckland R.C.  
June 3 and 4—Dunedin J.C.  
July 9, 10.—Gisborne R.C.

#### NOMINATIONS.

July 6—Gisborne R.C.

#### WEIGHTS ARE DUE.

June 20.—Gisborne R.C.

#### ACCEPTANCES.

July 1.—Gisborne R.C.

## THE GREAT NORTHERN HURDLE RACE.

The star event on the opening day's programme of the Auckland Racing Club's Winter Meeting was, of course, the Great Northern Hurdle Race, and it provided a race well worth watching. Unfortunately a series of accidents happened which robbed the closing struggle of a good deal of interest, and one is left speculating as to what might have been the result if such an incident had not to be recorded. A nice field of fourteen went to the post, most of the best hurdlers in the Dominion being there, and the result was regarded as being open. After his fine effort at Wanganui it was not altogether surprising to find Mr. A. F. Douglas' gelding Waipu installed favourite. The track being in a very heavy state owing to the rain of the previous evening, it was generally considered that it was a day for a good light weight to score, and this, of course, was in Waipu's favour. Local sportsmen were very keen on the chance of Paritutu, who, despite his big weight, was very highly esteemed by his connections, who would not hear of the defeat of the son of Castor. Another Southerner in Aorangi met with plenty of support, while the best of the local brigade was considered to be Sol, whose fine running at Takapuna betokened a return to form.

Soon after the start Omati set out to try and win from end to end. He has done this before, but not over such a long course as two miles and a-half, or against such good company. Still, as the Leolantis gelding always does better if allowed to run his own race, Phillips could not do otherwise than he did. Whether similar tactics would not have paid better with Paritutu is an open question. Mr. George's gelding was fighting for his head for a mile and a-half, almost pulling Johnston out of the saddle, and this undoubtedly took a lot of the steam out of him. As they passed the grandstand the second time, Omati was three lengths in front of Paritutu, with Aorangi next. At this point the latter was galloping beautifully, Cairns riding a very nice race, and keen judges immediately scented danger from the son of Merriwee. Running round the back of the course for the last time Julian made a forward move on Sol, while Waipu crept up a bit nearer the leaders. With three furlongs to go Omati began to tire, while Aorangi passed Paritutu and then went to the front. Sol and Waipu also joining the leading division. It was at this point the accident happened which spoilt the race, just at the time, too, when it looked like providing a great finish. As they came to the ninth hurdle near the entrance to the straight, Aorangi was about half a length in front of Omati and going strong. He failed to judge the jump properly, and toppled over, Omati coming down at the same moment. Paritutu, who was following immediately behind, tumbled over the fallen pair, Dolores also coming to grief. Fortunately for themselves Waipu and Sol were running a bit wide at the time, but Sol was knocked out of his stride. The result was that when the straight was reached Waipu was in front, just showing the way to Sol, with nothing else near the pair. Waipu jumped the last hurdle half a length ahead of Sol, and, coming on, defeated Mr. Morgan's gelding by two lengths. Lady Hune,

who came from a long way back, just got up in time to beat Cuiragno on the post for third place. Loch Fyne, who had been toiling in the rear for most of the race, stayed out the last half mile when some of the others were stopping, and finished fifth, while he was followed home by Le Beau, Showman, Kiatere, and Cavaliero, the last to finish being Landlock. None of the riders of the fallen horses were injured, but Aorangi was so knocked about that he was struck out of all engagements at the meeting.

As to which would have won had the accident not have happened it is difficult to say, but the subject has been well threshed out during the week. In the writer's opinion Aorangi would have been hailed as the victor so well as he going at the time. Many consider that Paritutu would have done the trick, but this is very doubtful, for the going was very heavy, he had a big weight in the saddle, and had been fighting with his rider most of the time. It certainly looked as though both Waipu and Sol had his measure, and probably this pair would have chased Aorangi home. This, however, is but idle conjecture.

Waipu, the winner, is an aged brown gelding belonging to Mr. A. F. Douglas. He was bred at the Te Mahanga station by his owner, being got by the Musket horse Torpedo from Ua, by Mute from Waitiri, by Musket from Uira, by Traducer from Young Sharkie, by Glaucus. He thus is strongly inbred to Musket. Waipu was very leniently treated by the handicapper, who allotted him 9st 3lb, for even the 10lb penalty which he incurred through his win at Wanganui failed to stop him. Mr. A. F. Douglas won the race last year with the Merriwee horse Merriwal.

## THE GREAT NORTHERN MEETING OF THE AUCKLAND RACING CLUB.

### WAIPU WINS THE BIG HURDLE RACE.

On Saturday the Auckland Racing Club made a commencement with the Winter, or as it is more generally known, the Great Northern Meeting. Overnight the weather conditions had been bad, rain descending in torrents, with much thunder and lightning. When Saturday morning broke fine there was much jubilation among racegoers who intended assisting at the meeting. Before noon, clouds came up and there was a light sprinkle of rain, but it soon passed off, and very pleasant conditions prevailed. The attendance at Ellerslie when proceedings commenced was small, the hour for starting being too early to allow business folk to be present. Later on it was greatly augmented, but even then fell considerably below the average. A good many people had come in from the country to witness the racing, and there was a sprinkling of Southern visitors, but Aucklanders did not patronise the meeting in the manner which might have been expected. Mr Hill had the enclosures in fine order, and the flowers, especially the chrysanthemums and begonias, made a bright display. The course was very heavy after the copious downpour. Mr Hartland, the club's secretary, had all the arrangements well in hand for the smooth running of the meeting, and everything passed off without mishap. Mr O'Connor did well at the starting barrier, although he had some big fields to deal with, and Mr Lusk's decisions were given with the utmost promptness.

After his running at Wanganui it was generally expected that Waipu would win the Great Northern Hurdles, and so it happened, but the victory was a somewhat lucky one, as, but for the mishap two fences from home, where Omati, Aorangi, Pari-

tutu and Dolores fell, it is fairly safe to assert that Aorangi would have been hailed as the winner, so well was the son of Merriwee going at the time, with possibly Paritutu second. However, it is somewhat idle conjecturing what might have happened for the fact remains that Waipu got the verdict after being hunted home all the way by Sol, whose victory would have been very popular.

Betting was very brisk, for, although the figures handled at the totalisator, viz., £10,025, showed a decrease of £5,930 10s, no less than thirty-one bookmakers were licensed to bet, and these all seemed to be doing a heavy business. The actual racing was not very interesting, there being an absence of any close and exciting finishes.

A commencement was made with the Maiden Steeplechase, 2½ miles, four going to the post. After his running at Takapuna, Bullworth was made a very strong favourite, Good Faith being the most fancied of the others. Directly they were sent on their way Bullworth took on the role of pacemaker, and he led up the hill from Lady Lanta. These two were in front at the double, followed by Matakokiri, Cinque, and Good Faith. At the jump near the mile post, Bullworth came down, but Phillips quickly remounted and went in chase of the others. In the meantime Good Faith had gone to the front, and he was in the van at the top of the hill, followed by Cinque and Lady Lanta. Cinque closed on the leader coming down the hill and was almost on terms at the last jump. Good Faith had a little bit in hand, however, and hard ridden by Selby, the Federation gelding won by three lengths. Lady Lanta was a dozen lengths off third, Bullworth, who had made up a tremendous lot of ground, a close fourth, and Matakokiri last.

A great field of seventeen turned out for the Jervois Handicap, 5 furlongs, Wauchope, Vasa, and Lady Frances being most sought after. With such a cavalcade to deal with it was only to be expected that Mr O'Connor would have trouble, and when the barrier did rise after some delay, the start was a bit ragged. Wauchope immediately took up the running from Inaha, and as they neared the home bend the order was Wauchope, Inaha, Octoroon, Lochbuie, and Lady Frances. It was a good race all the way up the straight, but Mr Ring's colt was always able to head his lead, winning all out by over a length from Dogger Bank, Octoroon being third, Lucio fourth, and Lady Frances fifth.

Eight went to the post for the Maiden Hurdles, one mile and three-quarters, and of these English was in most demand. Directly they settled down from the start Noteorini and Miss Crispin were seen in front, but they had not gone far before the latter had assumed command. As they passed the stand the order was Miss Crispin, English, Rotoiti and Flint Island, with Pierre last. Down the back Miss Crispin was two lengths ahead of English, who drew up alongside the mare at the six furlongs mark, while Julian made a forward move on Franklin, and Pierre came through from the rear. As they neared the home bend Franklin was showing the way to a bunch, but here he came down. This left Tui and Pierre in front, and a good race home resulted in a two lengths' win for Pierre, Noteorini being four lengths off third, Flint Island fourth, and English fifth.

Then came the big event, the Great Northern Hurdles, two and a-half miles. From this the absentees were Mahoe, Hautapu, Prospector, Defeat, and Kapakapa. This left a nice field of fourteen to contest the rich stake, and of these the popular picks were Waipu, Paritutu, Sol, and Aorangi. A splendid start was effected, Landlock showing the way over the first fence, with Paritutu, Omati and Aorangi next and so they ran past the stand. Down the back Omati went to the front, being three lengths ahead of Landlock, with Paritutu pulling double, third. As they turned for the home stretch Omati was still running along three lengths ahead, and at the stand the order was Omati, Paritutu, still

reefing hard, Aorangi (going beautifully), Cavaliero, Waipu, Sol, Le Beau, with Loch Fyne whipping in the field. Six furlongs from home Aorangi commenced to go up to the leader, and Sol also made a forward move. Two jumps from home Aorangi, who was in front and looking a likely winner, toppled over, as did Omati, and these brought down Paritutu and Dolores. This left Sol and Waipu, who had been coming fast in front, and these two landed into the straight together, with Cuiragno next. The two leaders jumped the last hurdle together, but in the last little bit Waipu drew out and won by nearly two lengths from Sol, who was fifteen lengths ahead of Lady Hune, the latter just beating Cuiragno, and then came Loch Fyne, Le Beau, Showman, Kiatere, Cavaliero and Landlock.

When the excitement had cooled down the Cornwall Handicap, one mile and a-quarter, was called on for decision, and for this eight faced the barrier, Maharani and Bobrikoff being in best demand. The start was a good one, Bobrikoff and Uranium getting under weigh the quickest. Passing the stand Uranium, Leonator, Bobrikoff and Celtic constituted the leading quartette. At the back the order was much the same, except that White Lie and Rauparaha had gone up to the leaders. Mr Banks' mare was first into the straight, but then the weight told its tale, and she faded out. At the distance Bobrikoff asserted his claim, and, coming with a strong run, won easily by nearly two lengths from Leonator, Celtic being over a length away third, followed by Uranium, Maharani, Rauparaha, White Lie and Recreation.

The Ladies' Bracelet, one mile and a-half, was not a very interesting event. The majority of the public were unaware who the riders were, and it seemed a pity the names could not have been given greater publicity to. There were nine runners, Mrs. Bull's gelding Belario being made a piping hot favourite. Directly the field was sent away Mr. Alison took Mark Time to the front, and he led past the stand from Kottli and Belario. Down the back the favourite had gone up second, while First Gun was mending his position. Mark Time showed the way into the straight, but then compounded, and Belario, coming away, won without an effort by three lengths from Ahei, with First Gun two lengths off third, and Mahoe fourth.

The concluding event, run long after time, by the way, was the Members' Handicap, five furlongs, thirteen comprising the bunch. With four consecutive wins to her credit, punters came open-mouthed at Tauriki, who, on paper, looked "a moral," carrying, as she was, 15lb less than when she won her last race. There is no such thing as a certainty in a five furlongs' scamper among a big field. After a display of temper by Waihou, that particularly smart beginner, Mighty Atom, was first away, and he led round the bend from Foremost, Loongana and Haldane, with Waihou last. At the distance the pony was done with, and Foremost coming on, won by a length from Tauriki, who, when she got out, finished at a tremendous pace, but could not quite reach the winner. Haldane was three lengths off third, Waihou fourth, and Imprimus fifth.

The particulars were as follows:—

THE MAIDEN STEEPLECHASE of 150sovs: second horse to receive 20 sovs and third horse 10sovs out of the stake. About two miles and a-half.	
Mr. F. P. Selby's b g Good Faith, 5yrs, by Federation—Nelson mare, 9.7 (Selby) .....	1
Mr. H. Munn's b m Cinque, aged, by Saracen—Daudine, 10.6 (Barron) .....	2
Miss T. Daley's b m Lady Lanta, aged, by Leolantis—Flying Quail, 9.9 (W. Raynor) .....	3
Also ran: Bullworth 10.0, Matakokiri 9.7, Time, 4m. 57s.	
THE JERVOIS HANDICAP of 100sovs: second horse to receive 10sovs out of the stake. Five furlongs.	
Mr. W. C. Ring's b c Wauchope, 3yrs, by Freedom—Black Watch, 9.6 (Whittaker) .....	1
Mr. T. Wylie's br g Dogger Bank, 4yrs, by Menschikoff—Mysterious, 9.1 (Ryan) .....	2
Mr. J. Murphy's ch g Octoroon, 4yrs, by Menschikoff—The Slave, 9.1, including 5lb penalty (Cress) .....	3