

third horse 5sovs out of the stake. Winner of any flat race after the declaration of weights to carry 5lb extra. Nomination 1sov, acceptance 1sov. Distance, six furlongs.

**NOMINATIONS, WEIGHTS AND ACCEPTANCES**

NOMINATIONS for all events close with the Secretary, at Temple Chambers, High Street, Auckland, on FRIDAY, April 12, by 9 p.m.

WEIGHTS will be declared for First Day on or about MONDAY, April 15; and for the Second Day on THURSDAY, April 25.

ACCEPTANCES for First Day close on FRIDAY, April 13, by 9 p.m.; and for Second Day on THURSDAY, April 25, by 9 p.m.

H. H. HAYR,  
Secretary.

**ROTORUA JOCKEY CLUB.**  
(Registered under the A.R.C.)

**ANNUAL MEETING,**

ARAWA PARK, RACECOURSE,  
FEBRUARY 14th, 1912.

**OFFICERS:**

President: F. Goodson, Esq., J.P. Vice-Presidents: Messrs. A. G. Cottrell, G. M. Brown. Judge: W. H. Herries, Esq., M.P. Clerk of Scales: Mr. D. McDowell. Clerk of Course: Mr. J. D. Sherriff. Time-keeper: Mr. H. W. Howden. Hon. Surgeon: Dr. H. Bertram. Handicapper: Mr. R. Wynyard. Starter: Mr. M. Foley. Stewards: Messrs. J. Brown, W. T. Carr, D. Gardner, A. J. Iles, J. P. Lawrie, A. A. Maxwell, J. Richards. Treasurer: Mr. C. M. Innes. Secretary: Mr. E. Dyson.

**PROGRAMME:**

1. MAIDEN HANDICAP of 25sovs; second horse to receive £2 10s from stakes. For horses that have not won a race exceeding 20sovs in value at time of start. Nomination 10s, acceptance 10s. Distance, six furlongs.
2. WAIMANGU HANDICAP of 30sovs; second horse to receive 3sovs from stakes. Nomination 12s 6d, acceptance 12s 6d. Distance, four furlongs.
3. ROTORUA CUP of 50sovs; second horse to receive 5sovs from stakes. Nomination 20s, acceptance 20s. Distance, one mile and a-quarter.
4. HACK HANDICAP of 20sovs; second horse to receive 2sovs from stakes. For horses that have not won a race exceeding 10sovs in value at time of entry. Nomination 7s 6d, acceptance 7s 6d. Distance, five furlongs.
5. THERMAL SPRINGS HANDICAP of 30sovs; second horse to receive 3sovs from stakes. Nomination 12s 6d, acceptance 12s 6d. Distance, six furlongs.
6. TOURIST PLATE of 30sovs; second horse to receive 3sovs from stakes. Nomination 12s 6d, acceptance 12s 6d. Distance, four furlongs.
7. ARAWA PARK HANDICAP of 40 sovs; second horse to receive 4sovs from stakes. Nomination 17s 6d, acceptance 17s 6d. Distance, seven furlongs.
8. FAREWELL HANDICAP of 25sovs; second horse to receive £2 15s from stakes. Nomination 10s, acceptance 10s. Distance, five furlongs.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

1. All races run under the New Zealand Racing Conference Rules of Racing.
2. Names, age, pedigree, performance to date, and colours with nomination.
3. No nominations or acceptances will be received without the necessary amount of cash.
4. All protests must be made in writing to the Secretary with a deposit of £2 within 15 minutes of race, which deposit will be forfeited if protest is not upheld.
5. Winners of any race after declaration of weight may be re-handicapped.
6. Owners are responsible for all penalties and allowances.
7. All persons intending to withdraw horses are required to give notice to that effect to the Secretary or Clerk of the Scales one half-hour before the official time for starting the race. Any person neglecting or refusing to comply with this Rule shall be fined by the Stewards a sum of not less than 1sov, nor more than 20sovs.
8. Nominations for all events close on FRIDAY, January 26th, 1912, at 9 p.m., with the Secretary, E. D. DYSON, Box 73, Rotorua, and with Mr. H. HAYR, Auckland.
9. Weights appear in Auckland "Herald" and "Star" on Friday, February 2nd, 1912.
10. Acceptances close FRIDAY, February 9th, 1912, at 9 p.m.

E. DYSON,  
Secretary.

**SOUTH AUCKLAND RACING CLUB.**

**ANNUAL MEETING,**

23rd AND 24th FEBRUARY.

**£910 IN STAKES.**

ENTRIES for All Events close 9 p.m. on FRIDAY, 2nd FEBRUARY, with Mr. F. D. Yonge, High-street, Auckland, or the undersigned, Hood-street, Hamilton.

Pocket Programmes forwarded to any address on application.

W. I. CONRADT,  
Secretary.

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**HALF-MILE EVENTS.**

In drawing up the season's programmes if all races of four furlongs were deleted the change would be of benefit, although it would be certain to raise opposition from the owners of speedy "squibs," while again we should hear the contention that the two-year-olds would suffer. As for the former class of animal their total extinction would be no loss to the turf or the breeding industry, says the "New Zealand Times." Some trainers contend that a race of four furlongs is much less severe than a race over a longer course. This seems plausible at first sight, but it by no means follows that it is a fact. Every runner knows that the hardest race of all is the quarter-mile, because one is kept up top speed with the strain on all the way. It is the same with horses, most of whom never get balanced in the short dashes.

In his recent telling speech at York Lord Villiers, a steward of the English Jockey Club, was very emphatic in his opinion that the half-mile events should go. One of the excuses advanced in their defence, he said, was that it was all right with an experienced jockey, as if he did not get well away he had sense not to persevere or knock his horse about, knowing that he had no chance of winning. No more eloquent condemnation could be wished for by any counsel for the prosecution, for it admitted two things—firstly that four furlongs races were practically lost or won at the start, and secondly that the jockey was acting rightly in not trying to win if he did not get well away. In other words they were avowedly misleading for future events. It has also been argued that, like the selling race, the half-mile event gives people a chance of getting rid of a bad horse, but is that what a race is for? Racing should be for the encouragement of good horses and not to make a market for inferior animals. Lord Villiers further emphasised the point by remarking that he could not see how these races benefited horses either as regards the breed or the individual, and even from the point of view of the onlooker there could surely be but little pleasure or interest to a real lover of horses in watching a scramble, which was of necessity devoid of those varying changes and incidents in which were found the chief interest and charm of races over a distance of ground. Exactly the same argument hold good as regards racing in the Dominion, and they should give our turf legislators considerable food for reflection.

**THE ENGLISH DERBY FOR 1913.**

Although there has not been any betting worth a quotation on next year's Derby, says the "London Sportsman," there is no doubt that when books are opened on the big Epsom race Lomond (trained by Woodcut) and White Star will be the two leading favourites. There are, however, 201 other horses left in, and of these some of the following, given alphabetically, will doubtless figure more or less prominently in the wagering. French candidates are not for the time being taken into account: Aigler, Charmian, Clodus, Coriander, Cylad, Jaeger, Javelin, Jangling, Geordie, Kempson, Lom, Lorenzo and Sweeper II. A few others might easily be included, and two or three of those mentioned might perhaps be omitted, but opinions are bound to differ, and the list is only given to afford some idea of what the opposition to the champions of Mr. Hulston and Mr. J. B. Joel may be like.

It is rather peculiar that the yearling colt and the two-year-old filly from Marseillaise, should both die within a few hours of each other (says the "Dominion"). Inflammation caused the death of Massilia, but it is not known what was amiss in the case of Mr. E. J. Watt's colt.

Ex-New Zealand horses in Lady Medallist, Chief Lochiel, Mary Seaton, and Sharpshooter, have been entered for the Doncaster Handicap, to be run at Randwick on 6th April, but no horse at present owned in this country is engaged. Wild West, another ex-New Zealander was entered for the Doncaster Handicap, but has since been scratched. This in view of Vice-Admiral, Miss Mischief, and Maxwell being entered for the Sydney Cup, seems rather strange. Sunburnt, Chief Lochiel, Mota, and Sharpshooter figure in the list of entries for the Newmarket Handicap.

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