



EVENT GUIDE



HARNESS RACING
NEW ZEALAND



WELCOME TO THE WORLD TROTTING CONFERENCE 2026

EVENT GUIDE

We're thrilled to host you for the World Trotting Conference (WTC) in New Zealand.

This booklet is your go-to guide for all official WTC functions and race day hospitality opportunities.

Inside, you'll find full details on each event.

We can't wait to see you in New Zealand in November



WTC WELCOME COCKTAIL FUNCTION

SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

CROWNE PLAZA SOCIAL BAR (Ground Floor)

TIME: 5.30pm-8.00PM

A relaxed and informal meet & greet to start the week. It's a great chance to meet everyone in a friendly setting.

There's no formal agenda just a welcoming atmosphere, light refreshments, and the opportunity to get to know each other before the week's events begin.

*Smart casual wear



KAIKOURA CUP DAY

MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER - KAIKOURA TROTTING CLUB
TIME: MIDDAY START - Bus departing Crowne Plaza at 8.00am.

One of New Zealand's most spectacular race meetings for Cup Day at Kaikoura. This iconic day features top-class racing in a breathtaking coastal setting and is a true highlight of the harness racing calendar in NZ.

WTC guests are invited to enjoy the action from our private marquee, offering a fantastic vantage point and relaxed hospitality.

Buffet style lunch and drinks included as well as the bus to and from Kaikoura. We will also stop for dinner on the way home in Cheviot.

*Summer casual race wear



MELBOURNE CUP DINNER AT EARL

TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER - EARL BISTRO
TIME: FROM 4PM

The group will depart the Crowne Plaza on foot at 4.00pm for the short walk to Earl Bistro, where we will watch the Melbourne Cup before enjoying a delicious three-course dinner.

As this event was not included in the registration process, we have assumed all conference delegates will be attending. If you do not wish to attend, please let us know.



ADDINGTON RACEWAY

FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER

TIME: Bus departs from Crowne Plaza at 3.00pm

An evening at Addington Raceway, one of New Zealand's leading harness racing venues.

The evening includes dinner and hospitality, along with the opportunity to experience live harness racing and enjoy the atmosphere of a race meeting alongside fellow conference guests

*Smart casual wear



EYES ON CHRISTCHURCH FUNCTION AT THE GONDOLA

SATURDAY 7 NOVEMBER

TIME: 5.30-8.30PM - Bus departs Crowne Plaza at 4.30pm

An unforgettable night high above the city! Eyes On Christchurch will be a stunning evening that begins with a ride up the iconic Christchurch Gondola, offering panoramic views of the city, the Canterbury Plains, and the Southern Alps.

At the summit, enjoy a relaxed and stylish dinner and drinks as the sun sets and the lights of Christchurch sparkle below.

This is a highlight event of the week, an evening of scenery, hospitality, and celebration you simply don't want to miss.

*Formal wear (no jeans, no ties required)



ASHBURTON RACES

**SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER - TIME: FROM MIDDAY - bus
timings to be confirmed**

The excitement of the Australasian Young Drivers Championship comes to Ashburton Raceway, where you will enjoy an afternoon of harness racing featuring one of the sport's premier international young driver competition

It's a great opportunity to experience the future stars of harness racing while connecting with industry colleagues in a welcoming race day setting.

*Casual raceday wear



ADDINGTON RACEWAY NZ CUP DAY

TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER – ADDINGTON
TIME: FROM 11.00AM

Experience next-level viewing of IRT New Zealand Trotting Cup Day from the exclusive Terrace, located on the stables rooftop.

Enjoy a full day of racing in style, with premium hospitality, all-day catering, Grey Goose cocktails, and more.

Cup Day package Includes:

- Entry to Addington Raceway, racebooks, and access to the private WDC marquee on the Terrace
- Premium all-day catering, including arrival platters, gourmet buffet lunch, sweet treats, and late afternoon bites
- Full beverage package featuring sparkling and premium wines, beers, and non-alcoholic options
- All-day espresso coffee station
- Private Bet & Collect facilities and Trackside TVs

Bus provided

* Formal race wear





HARNESS RACING NEW ZEALAND

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