

Media Release

30 November 2012

Introduction of 4YO and 5YO Consolations

In conjunction with the Ashburton TC, HRNZ is pleased to announce that for the 2013 Harness Jewels, three consolation races will be staged for horses that do not qualify for the four-year-old and five-year-old finals across all three categories (male and female pacers and trotters).

These consolations will be staged at the Ashburton TC meeting on Sunday 2 June 2013 and will be run for \$20,000 each.

In theory these races will be for horses 13 - 24 on the qualification list and enhance the programme for the second day of the Ashburton TC meeting. It is hoped that this will create additional opportunities for horses just outside the qualification for the four-year-old and five-year-old Harness Jewels Ruby, Diamond and Emerald.

These consolations will compliment the feature Jewels races staged on Saturday 1 June and help ensure a strong programme of racing at Ashburton on consecutive days. For the first time in 2013, Ashburton TC is to run on the Sunday of Queens Birthday weekend rather than the Monday, on the basis that this will be more convenient to travellers to the meeting who will hopefully now stay and take in both days of racing.

Full details of the conditions are available in the Harness Jewels section of HRNZ's website - <http://www.hrnz.co.nz/harness-jewels/conditions>