

Watershed Day for NSW Thoroughbred Racing

RACING NSW AND THE ATC ANNOUNCED THAT FROM THIS MONTH, THE MINIMUM PRIZEMONEY FOR SATURDAY METROPOLITAN RACES WILL INCREASE TO \$100,000 PER RACE



From 1 October 2016, Metropolitan Saturday minimum prizemoney increases to \$100,000 per race – up almost 18% from \$85,000 per race.

“This increase headlines several prizemoney initiatives totaling almost \$53 million annually which has been announced this year, capping off a surge in NSW prizemoney over four years,” said Racing NSW Chairman, Mr John Messara AM.

“This announcement is a further step towards achieving a vital component of Racing NSW’s Strategic Plan, intended to financially stimulate the NSW Thoroughbred Racing Industry.

“In 2012, total NSW prizemoney was \$118.9 million. Now I’m delighted to advise that annual prizemoney in NSW will be more than \$204 million; an increase of \$85 million over that time.

“These increases are entirely sustainable and are fully-funded from the proceeds of the sale of digital media rights, Race Fields legislation fees and tax parity,” Mr Messara added.

Increases to prizemoney are highlighted as follows:

- Metropolitan Saturday minimum prizemoney increasing to \$100,000 per race or almost 18% on 1 October 2016 from \$85,000 per race.
- Provincial minimum prizemoney increasing to \$30,000 per race or 36% on 1 October 2016 from \$22,000 per race in June 2016.
- Country TAB minimum prizemoney increased to \$20,000 per race or 33% on 1 July 2016 from \$15,000 per race in June 2016.
- Country Sky 2 minimum prizemoney increasing to \$10,000 per race or 25% on 1 October 2016 from \$8,000 per race.
- Addition of an eighth race to 20 selected midweek and night ATC race meetings from 1 October 2016, injecting a further \$800,000 in prizemoney.
- Inclusion of an \$80,000 feature race on ATC night meetings from 1 October 2016, injecting an additional \$320,000 in prizemoney.
- Group 2 race prizemoney increasing to a minimum of \$200,000 per race or 14% on 1 October 2016 from \$175,000.
- Group 3 race prizemoney increasing to a minimum of \$150,000 per race or 20% on 1 October 2016 from \$125,000.
- Listed Race prizemoney increasing to a minimum of

\$125,000 per race or 25% on 1 October 2016 from \$100,000.

- Inclusion of a \$150,000 feature race on selected Metropolitan meetings.
- BOBS bonuses of \$20,000 to be added to two and three-year-old Listed races from 1 October 2016.
- Country and Provincial Championships qualifying heats to be run for \$150,000.
- A fortnightly \$40,000 Provincial maiden race on selected meetings from 1 October 2016.
- Thirty \$40,000 Country restricted maiden races on selected Showcase meetings from 1 October 2016.

Australian Turf Club's CEO, Darren Pearce, said the depth and breadth of the announcements for Sydney racing were among the most significant in the Club's history.

"The ATC is fully funding more than \$4 million to increase all Metropolitan Saturday races to \$100,000, setting the new benchmark in Australian Racing," Mr Pearce said.

"All Stakes races will benefit from newly increased minimum prizemoney levels, and new feature races will be added to Night Racing fixtures and the Melbourne Cup Raceday at Royal Randwick.

"These prizemoney increases are just one part of the ATC's focus and long-term strategy to grow a stronger and sustainable future for Sydney racing for decades to come.

"The ATC will continue to help fund investment into racetracks, training infrastructure and our spectator facilities, for the benefit of everyone in racing.

"It's time to make Sydney racing the strongest and most competitive racing in the world," Mr Pearce added.

SUMMARY OF INCREASES

Prizemoney in NSW has increased by a total of \$85 million annually, since June 2012. The table below summarises movements in minimum levels of prizemoney during that period.

Race Category	Prizemoney at June 2012	Prizemoney from October 2016
Metropolitan Saturday	\$70,000	\$100,000
Group 1	\$350,000	\$500,000
Group 2	\$175,000	\$200,000
Group 3	\$125,000	\$150,000
Listed Race	\$100,000	\$125,000
Metropolitan Midweek	\$27,000	\$40,000
Metropolitan Public Holiday	\$40,000	\$50,000
Provincial (Week day)	\$16,000	\$30,000
Provincial (Saturday)	\$14,000	
Country TAB	\$10,000	\$20,000
Country Sky 2	\$6,000	\$10,000

The full details of the prizemoney and bonus initiatives are provided in Appendix 1 that follows.

APPENDIX 1

Metropolitan Racing

- Sydney Saturday prizemoney will increase to a minimum of \$100,000 per race, providing an annual \$4 million boost to prizemoney.
"Race prizemoney of \$100,000 on Saturdays has been an aspirational target for NSW Thoroughbred racing and we're delighted to be racing at this level from October," said Racing NSW Chairman, Mr John Messara AM.
- From 1 October 2016, prizemoney for ATC feature races will be further boosted with \$25,000 per race increase in minimum prizemoney levels for the ATC's Group 2, Group 3, Sydney Saturday and Listed Race prizemoney. These increases are in addition to the creation of \$150,000 feature races at selected Metropolitan Saturday and Public Holiday race meetings, with total annual increases of more than \$1.8 million.
- Midweek and night racing will be boosted by the addition of an eighth race at a total of 12 Metropolitan midweek meetings leading into and out of Carnival periods as well as on the ATC's night race meetings.
- The night racing program from 21 October 2016 will be elevated with a selected race carrying a total stake of \$80,000. The total annual boost to midweek and night racing will be \$1.1 million.
- In a further incentive for owners to race in NSW, BOBS bonuses of \$20,000 will be extended to Listed races that are restricted to two and three-year-old horses. It is estimated that this will see an additional \$400,000 per annum paid in bonuses, with the measure being trialled over a two-year period.

Provincial Racing

- Prizemoney for Provincial races will be increased to a minimum of \$30,000 per race from 1 October 2016 at an annual increase of \$3.1 million. This follows the increase by \$5000 per race to \$27,000 in prizemoney from 1 July 2016, which added further prizemoney of \$5.15 million per year.
- A maiden race carrying \$40,000 in prizemoney will be run approximately every two weeks at a Provincial race meeting boosting total prizemoney by a further \$260,000 per annum.

Country Racing

Country racing received an injection of more than \$16 million annually from July 2016 with increases in TAB minimum prizemoney to \$20,000 per race and Showcase race meetings carrying minimum prizemoney of \$30,000 per race.

Highway races, which commenced in October 2015, also now carry prizemoney of \$60,000 per race since August 2016, being more than \$2.5 million in prizemoney annually for country-trained horses.

The following increases will take effect from 1 October 2016:-

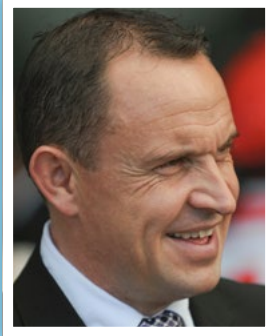
- Similar to additional prizemoney for maidens on some selected Provincial meetings, a maiden race will also be run for \$40,000 in prizemoney at 30 Country Showcase meetings. This will add a further \$300,000 in prizemoney each year.
- Prizemoney for Country Sky 2 meetings will also see an increase in prizemoney to \$10,000 per race from their present level of \$8,000 per race, or an annual boost of more than \$550,000.

Country and Provincial Championships Heats

- The Country and Provincial Championships have been highly successful for NSW during their first two series, with prizemoney of \$2.05 million in 2016.
- Prizemoney for the Country and Provincial Championships heats will be increased to \$150,000 from \$100,000, a further injection of \$600,000 into these important Series. **RNSW**

WHAT THEY SAID

Premier Sydney trainer, Chris Waller



“After a decade of tough times for NSW racing, it is now the best jurisdiction in the world. To hear the promises being made and then these developments take place one by one is extraordinary. People don't realise that \$100,000 prizemoney, you get \$2000 back to 10th place. There's just as many horses that run 10th as there are win races. We have the complete package in NSW now, not only for Metropolitan trainers but also for those trainers in the Country.”

Newcastle Jockey Club CEO, Matt Benson



“These prizemoney hikes are further proof NSW is the centre of racing in Australia now for owner returns. Everything we do is about attracting more horses and more owners to the sport, and obviously prizemoney is a key part of keeping people involved. The old rule of thumb used to be, in whatever environment you were racing your horse, you would have to win two races a year to keep paying the bills. The bottom line in Metropolitan Sydney now is that it's

probably less than one, and that would now bubble down through all the levels. It might not be quite down to one in the Provincials, but you're getting a much better go at not only washing your face with your investment in a horse, but of potentially making a quid.”

Newcastle trainer, Kris Lees



“To think that we're racing for that type of prizemoney in Provincial and Country areas is wonderful news. The prizemoney increases gives my diverse ownership base a chance to cover training fees by winning Country races. It's a really great influx for Provincial and Country racing.”

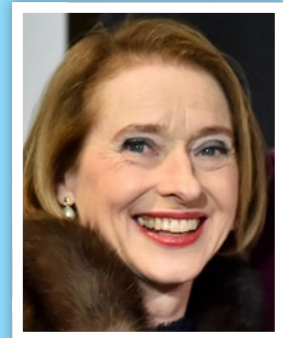
Inglis Managing Director, Mark Webster



“I'd personally like to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of the staff at Racing NSW and the ATC, especially their respective CEOs and board members, who have worked tirelessly for a long time to ensure these prizemoney increases have become a reality. Racing NSW Chairman, John Messara and CEO, Peter V'landys in particular have been

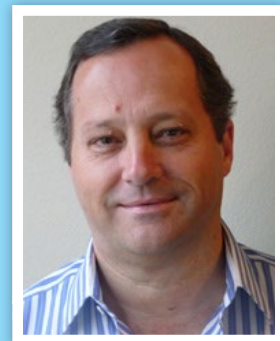
dedicated to a program of pro-active engagement and policy reform with the NSW Government which has paid off enormously for racing and breeding industry participants in NSW. These announcements further highlight the fact there has never been a better time to be involved in racehorse ownership and breeding in NSW.”

Hall of Fame trainer, Gai Waterhouse



“These prizemoney increases will help trainers and jockeys, and particularly the owners. Hopefully it will entice them to reinvest more in the industry which is great for everyone.”

NSW Racehorse Owners & Breeders Association Vice-President, Peter Beer



“The stakes boost is a fillip for our members but the welfare package was very important. Racing NSW and the ATC have done a great job to look after every aspect of the industry. The stakes increases make it more attractive to race a horse and we applaud the welfare fund.”