



THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS WA

TBA PUSH FOR *Welfare Reform*

Thoroughbred Breeders Australia (TBA) has outlined an eight-point plan, including an audit of the horse retirement data, it says will help tackle the industry's horse welfare issues.

The publication of the plan comes after TBA chief executive Tom Reilly met with Racing Australia chair Greg Nichols to discuss issues highlighted in the recent 7.30 report on the ABC.

"There are no easy fixes in this welfare discussion, but having an independent task force will be the foundation of developing good policy," Reilly wrote to members last month.

"It goes without saying, that breeders must be widely consulted in any discussions."

"The board of TBA believe the issues that have been raised need a national and collaborative response and we are determined to play our part in good policy outcomes. I have already received a number of good suggestions from breeders with ideas to assist the industry and all are gratefully received."

Establish an industry welfare taskforce: This body needs to be chaired by an independent person of standing within the industry and make recommendations to Racing Australia and the wider industry. It must include welfare experts and senior veterinarians independent of the industry's regulators.

An independent audit and review of Racing Australia's retirement data: Their data, which provides information on where a horse goes to upon retiring from racing, has been heavily criticised in the past week. While some reports have misrepresented or confused what these numbers represent, it is crucial that both the thoroughbred industry and wider public have confidence in their accuracy. As such, there must be an independent audit

of the numbers and the collection and compliance with retirement forms.

A review of the number of thoroughbreds going to livestock sales, abattoirs and meatworks: It is essential the thoroughbred industry understand the extent of the numbers as we deal with issues of horses leaving the racing or breeding industry. This will enable the thoroughbred industry to appropriately fund rehoming and retraining programs.

TBA and RA to review patterns in the foal crop: The number of horses being bred has decreased by a quarter since the mid 2000s, but we need to better understand how supply meets demand. We also need to review the number of horses being bred that do not enter racing or return to breeding.

Ensure the development of a national horse traceability register: We need to be able to follow our horses after they leave the racing or breeding industry. An industry working group needs to be established urgently to build on the political momentum for the register.

Develop national standards and guidelines for horse welfare: At present horses are not part of the Animal Health Australia framework, unlike cattle or sheep. Developing this framework would encourage best practice, especially for horses that leave the racing and breeding industry.

Start a full circle program for Australian thoroughbreds: This scheme, developed by the US Trotting Association allows people with an interest in a horse to put their name on a register so that if the animal is ever discovered to be in trouble, for example is offered at a livestock sale, the person or people on the register can be contacted. It does not oblige that person to take over responsibility for the horse, but is a way of enabling people to assist a horse they care about in times of trouble. Read more here <http://lifeafterracing.ustrotting.com/full-circle.cfm>

Establishment of an organisation similar to Drinkwise: In 2005 the alcohol industry decided to collaborate – despite their fierce commercial competition – to form a body that could promote responsible drinking and also assist them with issues around perception. Such a body would be invaluable for the thoroughbred industry, especially if driven by participants. It would also be tasked with disseminating accurate and transparent information, even on challenging issues.



PROMISING *Amelia* WINNER AT ASCOT

Amelia's Contraire has the potential and the pedigree to make the grade in black-type company this season.

Trained by Simon Miller for a syndicate managed by Amelia Park owner Peter Walsh, she's still learning the trade but was a very impressive winner of the Fifth Leg Hcp (1200m) at Ascot's Melbourne Cup day program.

Amelia's Contraire (3f Hinchinbrook – Different To by High Chaparral) was resuming after a short break following a winter prep that included a Belmont maiden win in August. She levelled up with Admiration Street (My Admiration) at the furlong and sprinted clear to score by a length.

"We drew wide so I went back and then got a good cart into the race," winning jockey Chris Parnham said.

"We knew she had plenty of ability early on and I think she can improve into Listed races."

Amelia's Contraire is from a half-sister to the dam of Dorabella (G1 NZ 1000 Guineas) and cost \$200,000 at the 2018 Inglis Easter Yearling Sale. More black-type on the page in Perth will boost her residual value when she retires to Amelia Park in Vasse.

Amelia Park welcomed a stunning Kingman colt at Segenhoe Stud in the Hunter Valley last month. His USA-bred dam Bound Copy (Street Cry) was covered to southern-hemisphere time at Juddmonte Farms last year and arrived out here in February.

Bound Copy cost 45,000gns (AUD 84,190) at the 2018 Tattersalls July Sale not long before her first foal Chairmanoftheboard won his maiden by 8 lengths at Goodwood.

Second-dam In A Bound (Ashkalani) won a G2 Queen of the Turf Stakes at Rosehill for Gai Waterhouse before being exported to England. Third-dam Bounding Away (Biscay) was Australia's Champion 2YO in 1986 for owner-breeder Tommy Smith.



STUNNING KINGMAN COLT AT SEGENHOE STUD

SEGENHOE



All American Expat

SET FOR SAUDI CUP

All American's Hong Kong star Elusive State will be set for the world's richest horse race following his victory in the Kwangtung Cup (1600m) at Sha Tin last month.

Shouldering 59.5kg under Joao Moreira, the all-weather track-specialist posted his 8th win for owner Eden Wong and trainer Tony Millard. He had won on debut at Te Rapa before transferring off-shore in 2017.

Connections are hoping he can qualify for the \$20 million Saudi Cup (1800m) at Riyadh on February 29.

"I hope he gets enough points to go to Saudi Arabia," Wong said.

"But he needs to get a high enough rating."

Elusive State's rating has topped the 100 mark, nevertheless, his options at Sha Tin's all-weather are all but gone. "It's very tough because we've got to get an international Group class dirt horse qualified by running on the grass," Millard said.

"There are so few races for him in Hong Kong but we've got a plan and hopefully we can pull it off.

"There's more improvement to come. He won that with authority while giving the second horse 10 pounds and a hiding."

Elusive State was given the run of the race before taking over from front-runner Buddies (So You Think).

"When I pulled him out and gave him a clear run, I was always going to be the winner because I know his finish is strong," Moreira said.

"Even with top-weight, he was giving me so much confidence through the race.

"He's a nice horse and Tony has improved him tremendously. It's a real pleasure to ride him."

Elusive State (6g All American – Jarada by Redoute's Choice) is a half-brother to Absolut Excelencia (LR Gore Guineas) and Fasika (LR South Pacific Classic).

The Hong Kong result came a day after All American 2yo filly Too Spicy scored an eye-catching victory in Perth. She is the first of her sire's WA-bred progeny from Geisel Park Stud where he stands for a \$6,600 service fee.



SESSIONS WINNER FEELS LIKE A *ferrari*

Back in May, Oakland Park owner Neville Duncan predicted the winners would start flowing for Sessions towards the end of the year.

They're doing that and more in the spring and summer of their 3yo season with Massimo adding his name to the growing list of winners at Ascot last month. The Adam Durrant-trained gelding controlled the Myatts Field Vineyards Hcp (1200m) and was strong through the line for Willie Pike.

"He's a proper horse and I thought he could win wherever he landed although I didn't think it would be ideal in the lead," Durrant conceded.

"He's a natural and, when you're on board, it feels like a Ferrari"

"We will keep banking the Westspeed bonuses and set him for those 3yo stakes races at the carnival."

Massimo is an Oakland Park homebred and is raced in partnership with Adam's sister Renee Durrant. He's a half-brother to the dam of G1 Golden Rose winner Exosphere (Lonhro).

Sessions was purchased from Godolphin after a career that garnered five wins to Group 2 level in The Shorts (1100m) at Randwick.

"He has the temperament and physique to match that ability," Duncan said.

"The Lonhro connection also won me. He's really making a name for himself as a sire of sires."

Superstorm complemented the Sessions haul for Oakland Park in the Mrs Mac's Hcp (1400m) at Ascot on Tuesday. The Sebring 3yo is a homebred for Peters Investments but his dam Stormy Nova (Metal Storm) was catalogued for the 2017 Magic Millions National Sale and Duncan swooped with \$45,000 to take her back to WA.

Stormy Nova has a yearling colt by Street Boss and she had a delayed date with Sessions last December.

Sessions stands for a \$5,500 service fee at Oakland Park alongside King's Troop who is available for \$2,750.

