

# May 2022

# From the desk of the CEO

Dear Members

Welcome to the May edition of ROA Today.

The Highveld Feature Season ended on a very high note on April 30th where TAB Champions Day was run at Turffontein. I must congratulate Fundi Sithebe and her team, although only taking over mid-way through the season, they were able to stage an exciting and inspired feature racing programme.

The champions of the Highveld were celebrated at the Highveld Feature Season Awards at the Venue, Melrose Arch on Saturday 21 May and I thank all of the guests who were able to join us on the evening.

It had been 3 years since we were able to celebrate the Highveld Feature Season together and in person. We were able to crown a Triple Tiara winner this year and were thrilled to have horses travelling up to Johannesburg to contest several major races at Turffontein. I must thank all of the connections involved for their courage and competitive spirit. We were also pleased to honour long time owner and ROA member Laurence Wernars with a Special Achievement Award. Laurence makes a huge contribution to racing, particularly on the Highveld and we were delighted to recognise his achievements. Turn to page 2 for more on our champions, both human and equine.

I was thrilled to hear of the appointment of Brian Finch as the new Chair of Epsom Downs Racecourse, Brian is a well known figure in South African racing and has been a member of the ROA since 2013. He also served as a ROA appointee on The Thoroughbred Horseracing Trust. Turn to page 7 for more on his appointment.

In the Eastern Cape this month, the East Cape Derby (L) took place on Friday the 13th of May. The race was run over 2400m and won by the Glen Kotzen trained Chollima. The Dahlia Plate (L), run on the same day, was won by Ekoria. Congratulations to all of the connections. The ROA was delighted to invite and entertain guests in the Bold Silvano Room at Fairview and an enjoyable day was had

In the Western Cape, the 2nd leg of the Winter Series was run on Saturday, 21 May. Gem King won the World Sports Betting Legal Eagle Stakes (Grade 3) at Kenilworth over 1800m. This follows up on his fluent victory in the World Sports Betting Variety Club Mile last month, which was the opening Leg of the Winter show-down. Congratulations to owners Greenacres Trust (Nominee: Mr N M Shirtliff) and Mr Bryn Ressell. The R150,000 WSB Stormsvlei Stakes (Listed) over 1800m was won by Maria Querol and congratulations go to owners Greg Bortz and AJ van Huyssteen.

As the temperature in Gautena begins to drop and we move in to the winter months, feature racing moves to Kwa Zulu Natal. We have already had some memorable racing with, just this weekend, Drakenstein Stud (Nominee: Mrs GA Rupert) earning another two Grade 1 wins with Woolavington 2000 (G1) winner Silver Darling victorious

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with Grant van Niekerk aboard and Safe Passage piloted by Muzi Yeni, winning the Daily News 2000 (G1) at Hollywoodbets Greyville. We certainly look forward to the rest of the KZN Champions' Season and the exciting racing that is yet to come.

I was saddened to hear of the passing of racing legend and arguably the greatest jockey of all time, Lester Piggott. The Cazoo Derby to be held this week, will be run in his memory. We pay tribute to Piggott on page 11 of our newsletter.

In closing, I once again want to thank all members of the ROA for their resilience and commitment to this industry. I ask for your continued support as we prepare to build a sustainable future for the benefit of all the stakeholders and I wish you all an enjoyable and profitable month's racing.



Natalie Turner CEO

# FEATURE SEASON

Awards

2022

"I would like to acknowledge all of our stakeholders, owners, trainers, punters, jockeys, apprentices, work riders and grooms. All of whom have contributed to the success of our season. I would also like to thank all staff members and every single person who works so tirelessly behind the scenes.

We simply could not do this without you."

Natalie Turner





"I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the sponsors who have supported our sport over the season. World Sports Betting, Wilgerbosdrift, Betway, TAB, Allied Steelrode, Studio 88, HSH Prince Albert and HSH Princess Charlene of Monaco, the SA Sport of Kings Monaco Group, Mr Mike Wittstock and 4Racing TV."

Natalie Turner





#### 2022 HIGHVELD FEATURE SEASON AWARDS

# - WINNERS

#### Champion 2 year old filly: Maharanee

Owner: Mr MK Nkale & Hyperpaint Syndicate (Nom: Mr JT Peter)
Trainer: Paul Peter; Breeder: Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein

#### Champion 2 year old colt/gelding: Karangetang

Owner: Messrs JF & LMF Wernars, Varun Kewal, W Pirzl & Mr LW & Mrs NJ Evered-Hall Trainer: Johan Janse van Vuuren; Breeder: Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein

#### Champion 3 year old filly: Rain in Holland

Owner: Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs GA Rupert)
Trainer: Sean Tarry; Breeder: Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs GA Rupert)

#### Champion 3 year old colt/gelding: Master Archie

Owner: Messrs Vasan Harry & SA Hanna Trainer: Paul Peter; Breeder: Messrs V Harry, SA Hanna & AA Azzie

#### **Champion Older Horse:** MK's Pride

Owner: Mr MK Nkale Trainer: Paul Peter; Breeder: Summerhill Stud (Pty) Ltd

#### **Champion Sprinter:** Master Archie

Owner: Messrs Vasan Harry & SA Hanna Trainer: Paul Peter; Breeder: Messrs V Harry, SA Hanna & AA Azzie

#### **Champion Middle Distance Horse: Astrix**

Owner: Mr GD Tooch & Hyperpaint Syndicate (Nom: Mr JT Peter)
Trainer: Paul Peter; Breeder: Riverton Stud

#### **Champion Stayer:** Nebraas

Owner: Al Adiyaat South Africa (Pty) Ltd Trainer: Sean Tarry; Breeder: Al Adiyaat (Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Maktoum

**Special Award:** Laurence Wernars

Work Rider of the Season: Sam Mosia

**Champion Apprentice Jockey:** Jeffrey Syster

Champion Breeder: Wilgerbosdrift (Pty) Limited and Mauritzfontein

**Champion Jockey:** Warren Kennedy

**Champion Trainer:** Paul Peter

**Champion Owner:** Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs GA Rupert)

Horse of the Season: Rain in Holland

# Champion 3VO Colt & Sprinter



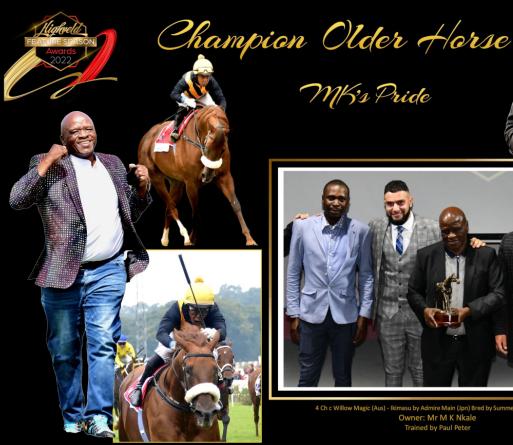








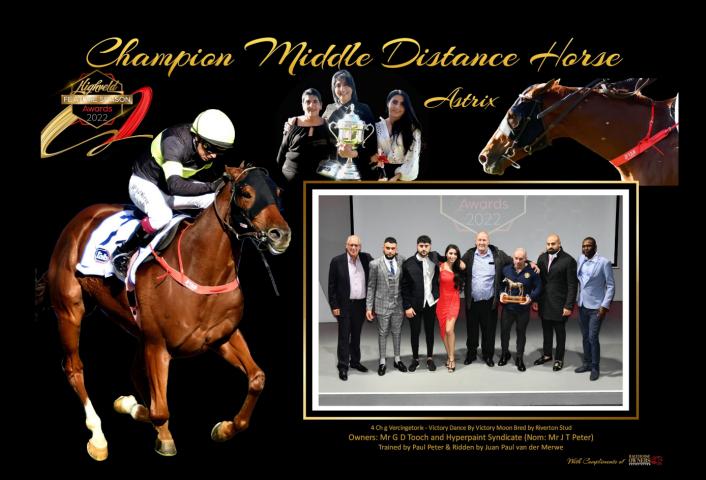
With Compliments of OWNERS





MK's Pride

With Compliments of OWNERS







# TAB4RACING, TABKENILWORTH RACING and TABGOLD MEDIA RELEASE



TAB is committed to making betting as convenient as possible for all customers and in terms of that TAB betting on all South African race meetings will open as early as is possible in future.

Historically TAB has opened betting pools on the day of local race meetings with the exception of selected major meetings. Going forward, however, TAB betting will be available from the day after the official racecard for a local meeting has been published subject to certain limitations arising from the betting keys used for each area by TAB4Racing, TABKenilworth Racing and tabGold.

In the case of TAB4Racing and TABKenilworth Racing, Vaal, Turffontein, KwaZulu–Natal (Hollywoodbets Greyville and Scottsville), Eastern Cape (Fairview) and Western Cape (Durbanville and Kenilworth) each has an allocated betting key. Betting on any of those venues/racecourses can be opened once the official racecard is published provided there is not another race meeting utilising the same betting key beforehand. Thus if there are Turffontein meetings on say a Wednesday and a Saturday, TAB betting on the Saturday meeting cannot be opened until the Wednesday meeting is completed.

In the case of tabGold there are only three betting keys for South African race meetings – Eastern/Western Cape, KZN and Vaal/Turffontein.

Consequently if there is racing at Kenilworth on a Wednesday and Fairview on a Friday, tabGold will only open betting on Fairview once the Kenilworth meeting is completed.

# Brian Finch announced as Chair

# Epson Downs Racecourse

Brian Finch will succeed Julia Budd as the Chair of Epsom Downs Racecourse, The Jockey Club announced in May.

The appointment will take effect from Monday 6th June, immediately after the 2022 Cazoo Derby when Julia Budd's term concludes.

A passionate racing fan since childhood visits to Borrowdale Racecourse in Harare, Zimbabwe, Brian has been involved in racehorse ownership for more than 25 years in various countries including the UK.

Also a keen student of bloodstock and pedigrees, his first experience at Epsom Downs came in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee year of 2012. Brian joined the Epsom Racecourse Committee in 2021.

Brian, who has had a home in Epsom since 2005, spent most of his working career with a British multinational company. Currently retired, Brian is a member of the Racecourse Committee at Sandown Park Racecourse and a Trustee of the National Horseracing Museum.

Julia Budd became Chair at Epsom Downs in June 2016 and during her tenure has overseen a rise in The Derby's prize money value to £1.5million, ensuring it remains the richest race run in the UK.

Her leadership was instrumental through the challenges created by the pandemic and her term has also seen the strengthening of ties between the racecourse and the local community in which it sits.

Brian Finch said: "I am delighted and hugely honoured to succeed Julia at Epsom Downs, a racecourse that will soon host the 243rd running of the iconic Derby.

"I very much look forward to working with the Jockey Club team to build on the great work of my immediate and past predecessors ensuring that the Derby and Epsom Downs racecourse continue to remain part of the national social fabric." Sandy Dudgeon, Senior Steward of The Jockey Club, said: "I am delighted that Brian has agreed to become Chair of Epsom Downs Racecourse following this year's historic Derby.

"His experience both inside the racing industry and beyond, coupled with his huge enthusiasm for the sport and Epsom Downs will be a huge asset as our stewardship of this iconic racing venue and its most famous race enters a new and exciting chapter.

On behalf of the Racehorse Owners Association, we wish Brian all the best in his new position.







## **ROA OWNER OF THE MONTH**

# MAY 2022 **JOHNNY PETER**

Well done Johnny Peter on winning the ROA Owner of the Month Award. There were huge celebrations at Turffontein Racecourse on 30 April when his brother, Paul Petertrained Astrix (Vercingetorix (SAF) romped home winning the Grade 1 Champions Challenge. Earlier that day, Maharanee (Flower Alley (USA) Indira (SAF) by Tiger Ridge (USA) delivered her third career victory from three starts when winning the SA Fillies Nursery.

When asked, Johnny said that all of his horses are with his brother Paul Peter, but he may look to give horses to other trainers in the future. I would think it goes without saying that it is not only because Paul is his brother but also because he runs an incredibly successful stable. Johnny said "We are Lebanese and full of traditions, many of which I uphold in my family."

It was some 40 years ago when he entered the exciting world of thoroughbred horseracing and he is proud of the fact that he received his first set of colours when he was 21 years old from the late respected gentlemen, Laurie Jaffe and Gerald Rosenberg. At the time he was the youngest colour holder registered with the Jockey Club. His first acquisition was named Shooting High – trained by Jean Heming, who earned him two Grade 1's and the rest was history. He was totally hooked and got the impression that the game was easy – Johnny has been an addict ever since.

Johnny announced that the stable has just received a yard of 30 boxes in KZN so our horses will be split between Gauteng and KZN. He said he is extremely impressed by the way Hollywoodbets have turned around KZN racing for the better.

He felt it appropriate to say a few words about his "baby brother" Paul Peter. "Paul has brought such joy and satisfaction in all his achievements as a race horse trainer. It reminds me of the race between the tortoise and the hare. The other trainers let Paul nibble away at the maiden plates and when they realized that he was so far in front on the trainers log, they all started chasing their tails. Hopefully he is far enough ahead to win it. My late Dad who was an avid racing supporter, would be very proud of Paul today."

Victory continued for this gentleman of the turf during this month as there was much to celebrate at the 2022 Highveld Feature Season Awards on 21 May. Astrix owned by Mr GD Tooch and Hyperpaint Syndicate (Nominee: Mr JT Peter) was awarded the Champion Middle Distance Horse and Maharanee owned by Mr MK Nkale and Hyperpaint Syndicate (Nominee: Mr JT Peter) won the Champion Two year old filly Award.

I am sure we can wish this humble family well on behalf of all ROA members and may they go from strength to strength.

# Feature Race Winners

#### 30 April 2022 (Highveld – Turffontein) 4Racing SA Fillies Nursery (G2)

#### Maharanee

Jockey: Warren Kennedy
Trainer: Paul Peter

Owner: Mr MK Nkale & Hyperpaint Syndicate (Nom: Mr JT Peter)

#### Heineken SA Nursery (G2)

#### Miss Cool

Jockey: Gavin Lerena Trainer: Paul Peter

Owner: Mr Allan F Peters & Hyperpaint

Syndicate (Nom: Mr JT Peter)

#### Racing 240 Camellia Stakes (G2)

#### Winter Smoke

Jockey: Ryan Munger Trainer: Ashley Fortune

Owner: Messrs F Vahab, Deon Anthony,

AC Fortune & ME Wilken

#### **Computatorm Sprint (G1)**

#### Master Archie

Jockey: **Gavin Lerena** Trainer: **Paul Peter** 

Owner: Messrs Vasan Harry & SA Hanna

# TAB The Premier's Champions Challenge (G1)

#### Astrix

Jockey: Juan Paul van der Merwe

Trainer: Paul Peter

Owner: Mr GD Tooch & Hyperpaint Syndicate (Nom: Mr JT Peter)

# 4Racing Gerald Rosenberg Stakes (G2)

#### Rain In Holland

Jockey: Richard Fourie Trainer: Sean Tarry Owner: Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs GA Rupert)

#### The Citizen Gold Bowl (G3)

#### Nebraas

Jockey: Richard Fourie
Trainer: Sean Tarry

Owner: Al Adiyaat South Africa (Pty) Ltd

#### 1 May 2022 (Kwa–Zulu Natal –Scottsville) In Full Flight Handicap (L)

#### Isivunguvungu

Jockey: Keagan De Melo Trainer: Peter Muscutt Owner: Hollywood Syndicate

(Nom: Mr A Delpech)

#### Strelitzia Stakes (G3)

#### Ameena

Jockey: Richard Fourie
Trainer: Glen Kotzen

Owner: Messrs GS Kotzen & JM Singh

#### Godolphin Barb Stakes (G3)

#### **Prophet**

Jockey: Craig Zackey
Trainer: Corne Spies
Owner: Ben Botha (Pty) Ltd

#### Poinsettia Stakes (G3)

#### **Full Velocity**

Jockey: **Keagan De Melo** Trainer: **Sean Tarry** 

Owner: Hollywood Syndicate

(Nom: Mr A Delpech)

#### 7 May 2022 (Kwa–Zulu Natal – Greyville)

# Independent On Saturday Drill Hall Stakes (G2)

#### Silver Operator

Jockey: Richard Fourie

Trainer: Vaughan Marshall

Owner: Messrs RM Sewgoolam &

**KP Truter** 

# World Sports Betting Fillies Guineas (G2)

#### **Under Your Spell**

Jockey: Calvin Habib Trainer: Sean Tarry

Owner: Sean Tarry Racing (Pty) Ltd & Mrs BMA Lahoud & Messrs MA Currie, CN Francis, A Lahoud, Jarryd Lahoud, Allan F Peters, Larry Pogir & Craig Zoghby

#### World Sports Betting Guineas (G2) Zapatillas

Jockey: Luyolo Mxothwa Trainer: Brett Crawford

Owner: Drakenstein Stud
(Nom: Mrs GA Rupert), Mrs PA Isdell &

Mr Ravi Naidoo

#### 13 May 2022 (Eastern Cape – Fairview) World Sports Betting Dahlia Plate (L)

**Ekoria**Jockey: Juan Paul van der Merwe

Trainer: Gavin Smith

Owner: Messrs BC Ralph & M Greene

#### World Sports Betting East Cape Derby (L) Chollima

Jockey: Corne Orffer Trainer: Glen Kotzen

Owner: Messrs Kenny K Govender,

T Muthusamy, KP Naidoo &

Pops Soobben

#### 14 May 2022 (Kwa-Zulu Natal- Greyville) KRA East Coast Cup (L)

#### She's A Keeper

Jockey: Anton Marcus Trainer: Gareth van Zyl Owner: Missing U Syndicate (Nom: Mr RC Knuppe)

#### World Sports Betting 1900 (G3)

#### Do It Again

Jockey: Anton Marcus Trainer: Justin Snaith Owner: Messrs N Jonsson & B Kantor & Nancy Hossack

#### 15 May 2022 (Highveld – Turffontein)

#### Syringa Handicap (L)

#### Ululate

Jockey: Muzi Yeni Trainer: SJ Gray Owner: St John D Gray

#### 21 May 2022 (Western Cape – Kenilworth)

#### World Sports Betting Stormsvlei Stakes (L)

#### Maria Querol

Jockey: Craig Zackey Trainer: Justin Snaith Owner: Messrs Greg Bortz &

AJ van Huyssteen

# World Sports Betting Legal Eagle Stakes (G3)

#### **Gem King**

Jockey: Richard Fourie Trainer: Piet Steyn Owner: Greenacres Trust

(Nom: Mr NM Shirtliff) & Mr Bryn Ressell

# Feature Races -

# June 2022

DATE	W Cape	Gauteng	E Cape	KZN
June, 3			Lady's Slipper Stakes LR	
June, 4				Golden Horse Sprint G1 SA Fillies Sprint G1 Gold Medallion G1 Allan Robertson Championship G1
June, 5	Somerset 1200 LR Perfect Promise Sprint LR			
June, 11				Gold Challenge G1 Tibouchina Stakes G2 Cup Trial G3 Gatecrasher Stakes LR Devon Air Stakes LR Durban Dash NB
June, 12		Jubilee Stakes G3 Highveld Winter Juvenile St NB Highveld Winter Juvenile Fillies Stakes NB		
June, 15	CTS Farm Sales Race NB			
June, 18				Track and Ball "Oaks" G2 Track and Ball "Derby" G3
June, 25	Pocket Power Stakes G3 Langerman G3 River Jetez Stakes LR Irridescence Stakes LR Ladies Mile LR Olympic Duel Stakes LR			
June, 26				KZN Breeders Mile (Turf) NB KZN Breeders 1200 NB KZN Breedersd 1200 FM NB KZN Breeders 1600 NB KZN Breeders 1600 FM NB KZN Breeders 1900 NB KZN Breeders Juv Plate NB KZN Brd Fillies Juv Plate NB

# **ROA Bonus Races**

#### Highveld

Sun 12 Jun - Turffontein Standside MP 1160m

MP F&M 1160m

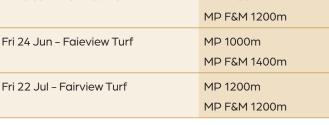
MP 1800m

#### **Western Cape**

Sun 5 June - Kenilworth MP 1200m

MP F&M 1200m

#### **Eastern Cape** Fri 10 Jun - Fairview Turf MP 1200m MP F&M 1200m Fri 24 Jun - Faieview Turf MP 1000m MP F&M 1400m









#### **ROA Bonus Race Winners**

Congratulations to:-

Mr Geoffrey van Lear

Mrs S Viljoen

Ms Nancy Hossack

Mrs D Jithoo, Messrs Kenny K Govender and Rajan Naidoo

### **GO IN PEACE LESTER PIGGOT**

mainly out of the English popular sportsman would to capacity and Piggott would be a familiar sight.

Bull Brand International

by Cyril Hurwitz. There is Piggott was swearing at the starter. He then took off and produced a convincing win on the Malster and said it was

 $5 \times 2000$  Guineas and 2 x 1000 Guineas. Piggott





# Studio 88 Highveld **Golden Grooms Initiative**

#### PRESENTS

#### GOLDEN GROOMS



"I love my horse "Master Archie". He made me so proud and I helped my family back home with money from the big win" - Aurellio Mabunda



#### **Milagre Aurelio**

Milagre Aurelio is Winter Smokes groom. He was extremely proud when Winter Smokes won the Camellia Stakes at Turffontein on 30th April. Milagre has been with the Fortune stable for three years. Ashley comments that he is a very nice rider and kind and caring to his horses. He has a great sense of humour and gets away with far too much!!! Having said that, he is a areat asset to the team.





"I love my horse Miss Cool, and I feel very proud because she beat the boys in the SA Nursery" -

**Mnqhopiso Makhosonke** 



"Maharanee is a tricky filly to work with because she could get hot at times but we aet on well and I hope that she can remain unbeaten"

– Sabelo Dube

"Astrix has been such a pleasure to work with. He suffered a career threatening injury a few years ago and I'm so happy that he finally got his big win"

- Conrad Mereki





# Eastern Cape Epol Grooms Initiative

Trainer Alan Greeff boasted that Thembile Pendu is one of his oldest grooms and loves his horses. Glacier Gold, winner of the Milkwood Stakes on 27 May is one of his 3 horses. Always has a smile on his face. Very proud of his horses win. His is also the Groom of the horse that ran second, Franca.



# Meet The Team - Annick Breton

I am a Joburg girl, born and raised. After matriculating, I studied hospitality management at the Swiss Hotel School (SHS).

In our second year, SHS gave us the opportunity to study and work abroad. I then spent a year in Aachen, Germany working for an events company and taking on various roles and responsibilities such as hostessing, waitressing, bartending, banqueting, silver services and functions. I returned to Johannesburg in 2012 and graduated from SHS with a Diploma in Hospitality Management. Following graduation, I worked as a Junior Manager for a local guesthouse for a year before being offered another opportunity by my mom to continue my education at Varsity College, Sandton. I transferred to the Cape Town campus in 2016 and went on to complete a Bachelor's Degree in Corporate Communications.

Cape Town has now become my home. I have worked in tourism and production management. Cape Town has opened many doors for me and I adore everything it has to offer. Moving here has inspired me to pursue hobbies I would never have considered before, such as surfing and roller skating.

I currently work in a digital marketing role for a medical assistance company where I manage all online platforms, content creation and events. In March of this year, I was offered the position of Western Cape Representative and Raceday Coordinator for the Racehorse Owners Association (ROA). This position is a key role in one of the main pillars of re-popularizing racing at Kenilworth Racecourse and I look forward to the opportunity of working and growing the ROA community.

I have never personally been involved with horses or horse racing; dancing was my passion growing up. However, I have already begun to learn a great deal about the racing world from ROA Members, and I have discovered that all participants are very passionate about our industry.



# Competition Time

All members in good standing are invited to enter a competition, the prize being a classy box framed miniature of your silks courtesy of Odds On Colours. In order to enter, kindly send an email through to natalie@racingassociation.co.za with your name and contact details by midnight on the 23 June 2022. All eligible entries will be entered into a random draw and the winner will be announced in the June edition of ROA Today. T's and C's apply.





# Competition Winner The winner of the voucher towards a framed on-course photo is... Denis O'Driscol Congratulations on your win!

#### Welcome to new ROA members:

Mr Denis Woolley
Mrs Ronel Woolley

Ms Janine Andalaft

Mr Freddie Andalaft

# Congratulations to our new Life Members

Mr DJ Vereb

Mr RJ Garner

Mr AJ Sham

Mr TJ Fagri

Mr JM Gerber

Mr JG Gomes



#### CONTACT DETAILS: Head Office | (011) 683-3220

#### **Race Day Bookings:**

Turffontein Racecourse Elevation Room (ROA Members) Contact Angie (011) 683 3220 or <a href="mailto:angie@racingassociation.co.za">angie@racingassociation.co.za</a>

Furious Room Contact Khanya (011) 681 1796 or khanyal@4racing.com

Vaal Racecourse Contact Angie (011) 683 3220 or angie@racingassociation.co.za

Fairview Racecourse HB Christian Room Contact Gail on (041) 372 1859 or email gailr@4racing.com

Kenilworth & Durbanville Racecourse Contact Annick Breton on 082 578 5394 or annick@racingassociation.co.za