

Racehorse Ownership

IN SOUTH AFRICA





To protect and advance the interests of all owners, while ensuring an excellent racehorse ownership experience.



Introduction

The game of thoroughbred ownership can be played at many different levels and fun and excitement are there at any level of participation.

This includes unique sights, sounds and anticipation at the training tracks in the early morning, the bond with the horse, the build up to the race day, the anxiety in the parade ring and the rush that you get from seeing your horse in your silks enter onto the track. Better still, the sight of your horse galloping down the straight towards the winning post with a chance to win the race. This is available to all owners

Being a racehorse owner involves much more than making an investment; it provides an owner with the opportunity to forge a network of business contacts and friendships. Owners inevitably rub shoulders with fellow owners and close bonds are often forged between patrons of the turf.

Just as significantly, racehorse owners acquire a rich social life within the racing stables they support. If they own horses in partnership with others, they will experience an extraordinary sense of camaraderie with their co-owners.

They will share moments of anticipation, exhilaration, triumph and, of course, despair too. A cement-like bond binds racing partners together forever.

Individual owners also share in the lives of the stables where their horses are housed. They will meet fellow stable supporters at track gallops and functions, exchange news and stories with them, and become part of a small racing family.

One of the most rewarding experiences for owners is to stand alongside their trainer during early morning gallops and watch their horses do track work prior to a race. A few quiet words in the early morning mist can lighten the heart and send the expectant spirit soaring in anticipation of the contest to come.

Individual colour holders or members of a syndicate or partnership may become voting members of the Racehorse Owners Association, this membership entitles you to several exclusive benefits available to owners as well as assistance in the many aspects of racehorse ownership. Turn to page 6 for the benefits currently available to members.

The Racehorse Owners Association has also launched a new social membership option, this enables potential owners and horseracing enthusiasts a preview to the thoroughbred ownership experience.

This membership option is open to all and is a good first step on the way to owning a thoroughbred racehorse.





Getting Started

The National Horseracing Authority of Southern Africa is responsible for the granting of colours and ownership registration. It is a simple matter to become a registered owner and share in the fun and endless excitement the industry has to offer. A horse can be owned by an individual, a partnership, a syndicate, a closed corporation, a company or a trust. The entire process has become user-friendly, and is tailored to assist prospective new owners in

every way possible. As always, the Racehorse Owners Association is there to help.

All you have to do to register colours is to complete an application form, obtainable from the National Horseracing Authority in Johannesburg or from the regional offices around the country. An application fee is payable in order to complete your registration.

Selecting Advisors

Thoroughbred racing and breeding is a team sport. Success in the game is dependent on more than the natural talent of its athletes.

As with any good team, in addition to outstanding athletes, the team must have a good coach, astute scouts, a quality physician, adequate support personnel and a savvy owner.

Recognise early that the success of one's racing or breeding operation will depend to a significant extent, on the make up of the team. Exercise as much care in selecting a team of consultants as you would expect to exercise in the selection of your first horse.

Selecting a Trainer

It is a good idea to select your trainer before purchasing your thoroughbred. This is a very important consideration as he or she can give invaluable advice in the selection and purchasing process.

There are training centres around all the major cities in South Africa. In choosing your trainer it is advisable to select one that is based within driving distance of your home.

Some trainers specialize in preparing their young horses to run as two-year-olds; others prefer to stable their unraced horses until they are three years old, which means you may have to wait a few months longer before your purchase steps out onto the track.

Most trainers are happy to be a part of the selection process and will offer free advice, providing they are nominated to train your horse.

With all factors considered, it is most important to choose a trainer you are comfortable with on a personal level. Very often trainers and their owners become lifelong friends. If you don't feel totally at ease communicating with any individual trainer, chances are you won't ever get along with him or her. Allow your intuition to quide you in this respect.

Trainers' phone numbers can be obtained from the Racehorse Owners Association or the National Horseracing Authority.

Owning versus Leasing

Ownership entails purchasing a horse from a bloodstock auction, or privately from a trainer, breeder or stud farm. You could also keep an eye on racing magazines and form guides that carry adverts from time to time, from owners selling their horses.

From the time of purchase you, as a new owner, will be responsible for the horse's well-being. This would include transport from the auction ring to stud farm or to the trainer of your choice, stabling fees, training fees, veterinary bills, and all other associated costs such as National Horseracing Authority registration fees.

Owning a horse means you will have full control over all decisions and will reap all the rewards. When the owned horse gets to the racetrack, you will be entitled to the prize money it earns. Leasing a horse on the other hand, does not involve an up front purchase price. Leasing involves renting a particular horse from a breeder, stud farm or owner for a set period. Throughout the term of the lease you, or your

partnership, will be considered the owners of the horse. You will therefore be required to pay all the costs associated with stabling and racing the horse.

Quality horses to lease are not easy to find, but the sales arena at any auction is as good a place to start as any. When certain lots are unsold for not fetching their reserve prices, some breeders may agree to lease such horses to interested parties, in particular well-bred fillies which the breeder may wish to retain for future breeding. Some of them may have horses at their stud farms who were not considered good enough to go on sale, but may certainly be good enough for the racetrack. With a bit of luck good deals can be struck here.

In terms of National Horseracing Authority rules, both parties would be required to sign a lease agreement.



Become A Member of the Racehorse Owners Association

This membership option is available to all individual colour holders or members of a syndicate or partnership.

The mission statement of the Racehorse Owners Association is to protect and advance the interests of all owners, while ensuring an excellent racehorse ownership experience.

We believe this should be an experience that extends from the sales ring to the racecourse.

The Benefits Of Being A Member Of The Racehorse Owners Association

Services:

- A personalized members' badge plus guest badge which includes owners' racing colours that gives members and their guests free access to all racecourses and facilities in ROA jurisdictions
- A parking disc which entitles members to utilize the members parking area on racedays
- Added Stake bonuses on selected races
- · Complimentary access to 4Racing.TV
- Assistance in arranging trophies, photographs and mementos
- · Monthly Newsletter
- Eligibility to enter monthly giveaways
- Access to information webinars to address information and questions posed by members
- Assistance with
 - Horseracing syndicates and partnerships
 - Tax matters relative to racehorse ownership
 - Terms and conditions contracts between owners and trainers
 - Contracts relating to advertising on silks
 - Administration matters and dealing with the National Horseracing Authority

Social

- An invitation to quarterly networking/ social functions where members may interact with each other as well as members of the Board
- Free on-course entry to the Summer Cup
- Preferential meal prices and discounts in members' restaurants
- Preferential rate for Tuffontein Private
 Box hire
- A dedicated members restaurant at Turffontein, Vaal and Fairview
- Invitations as guests of the Racehorse Owners Association for special racedays, giveaways and competitions.

Representation

- The right to nominate and/or vote for representation on the Racehorse Owners Association Board
- Representation by the Racehorse Owners Association Board in matters relating to racehorse ownership, such as
 - Stakes
 - Racing facilities
 - Training facilities
 - Programming
- Liaison with Thoroughbred Breeders Association
- · Liaison with National Horseracing Authority
- · Liaison with Operators

Racehorse Owners Association Social Membership Option

In addition to providing a superior service to existing owners, we strive to encourage the participation of new owners to horseracing. It is the current as well as the prospective owner that the ROA must attract, retain and reward. In response to much of the research we have conducted and as an attempt at removing some of the barriers to entry for potential ownership, one of the initiatives we have developed and are proud to present is the Racehorse Owners Association – Social Membership

With this new option, our aim is to attract and retain 18–35-year-old, diverse, and upwardly mobile individuals through social membership. While we will strive to enlist a new younger audience, there will be no age limit on this membership option. Any person interested in horseracing and ownership is welcome to apply.

Social members need not be individual colour holders with the NHRA nor own shares in a thoroughbred racehorse just yet. By partnering with select, established owners within the ROA, social members will have the opportunity to preview racehorse ownership and enjoy the many benefits that come along with it. Members will also have the chance to meet fellow young racing fans as well as network with professionals in the industry. Our focus is to introduce new patrons to the sport through positive experiences participating in horseracing, hearing the stories first-hand and therefore removing intimidating factors and preconceptions. Racehorse ownership should be aspirational but attainable and we believe this initiative provides one way where we can enable potential owners to begin their journey to owning a racehorse.

Benefits Include the Following:

- A glimpse of thoroughbred ownership including meeting in the parade ring prior to races, visits to stables, morning gallops and visits to the winner's circle
- Regular updates and involvement with top quality racehorses
- Networking opportunities with other members and industry professionals
- Personalised members badge and parking disc
- Eligibility to enter monthly giveaways
- Access to information webinars and monthly newsletters
- Invitations to quarterly networking/social functions
- Free on-course entry to the Summer Cup
- Preferential food and beverage prices and discounts in members' restaurants
- Invitations as guests of the ROA for special racedays, giveaways and competitions
- · Complimentary access to 4Racing.TV
- Preferential rate for Turrfontein Private Box hire.

Social members will be non-voting members of the Racehorse Owners Association and this membership option will open for applications from January 2022.



Racehorse Owners Association Website



www.racehorseowners.co.za





Features of the Racehorse Owners Association Website

Owner of the month Horseracing calendar Useful contacts Galleries Newsletters Memorandum of Incorporation
Engage with the ROA board
Book a table
Become a member
Awards of excellence

Contacts

Racehorse Owners Association

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Racehorse Owners Association – Eastern Cape

Cell: (076) 301 5449

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Cape Racing

Tel: (021) 700-1600

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www.caperacing.co.za

Thoroughbred Breeders' Association

Tel: (011) 323-5700

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National Horse Trust

Tel: (011) 683 4388

E-mail: nationalhorsetrust@mweb.co.za

National Horseracing Authority

Tel: (011) 683-9282

E-mail: info@nhra.co.za

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Durban: (031) 314–1740 W. Cape: (021) 700–1900 E. Cape: (041) 366 1686

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4Racing

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Gold Circle Racing & Gaming Group

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CTS - Cape Thoroughbred Sales

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