



**IFAR**  
International Forum  
for the Aftercare  
of Racehorses



# Global Aftercare

Issue Two

February 2020

## IN THE NEWS

### Racing Victoria Press Release, \$25 million commitment to equine welfare in Victoria

Racing Victoria (RV) announced a \$25 million plan dedicated to the welfare of Victorian thoroughbreds with an immediate focus on their post-racing wellbeing.

The landmark commitment will fund the first three years of an ongoing program to accelerate and expand RV's Equine Welfare Strategic Plan.

RV also called on all sectors of the racing industry, as well as those outside the industry with a thoroughbred in their care, to step up and be accountable for treating thoroughbreds with the humanity they deserve in life and in death.

The \$25 million commitment launched will deliver:

A statewide re-homing program: An extended re-homing network which takes advantage of existing infrastructure to support retired thoroughbreds transitioning into second careers or forever homes.

To read full article visit <https://www.racingvictoria.com>

### Japan Racing Authority launches new retraining website.

The JRA have recently developed a website to promote how former racehorses can play an active part in the equestrian world, once retired from racing.

To view website visit <https://retraining-jra.jp/>



## #ThisBreedCan

Racing, Dressage,  
Polo, Hunting,  
Showing ...





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# Welcome to the second edition of Global Aftercare

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## Introduction by Di Arbuthnot, IFAR Chair

IFAR is an independent forum established to help advocate lifetime care and to increase awareness within the international racing community as well as educate the sport horse world and the general public on the welfare of Thoroughbred racehorses.

The first forum was conducted at the Pan American Racing Conference in Washington, D.C., in 2017 and highlighted to the racing world its responsibility to provide an aftercare plan. The second forum, held in association with the 37th Asian Racing Conference in Seoul, South Korea, in 2018, brought the aftercare message to a new Asian audience. Last May, as part of the European and Mediterranean Horseracing Federation General Assembly in Oslo, Norway, IFAR launched an aftercare toolkit designed to help the racing communities around the world to establish aftercare programmes for Thoroughbreds in their jurisdictions.

The forums and progress of IFAR would not have been possible without the support of Godolphin and the commitment of the members of the Steering Committee. They developed a vision and remain focused on driving new initiatives for the lifetime care of the Thoroughbred. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank The US Jockey Club, particularly Jim Gagliano and Andrew Chesser, for their time and support since the start of IFAR in 2015.

Outside the forums, help has been made available to racing jurisdictions on request; the first was a trip to Japan. Since our visit, so much has already been achieved by the Racing Authority to provide an aftercare programme and I am very much looking forward to an update on their progress in Cape Town. Following the IFAR Conference in South Korea, Dr. Eliot Forbes visited the country on behalf of IFAR and made several presentations. Our thanks to him for giving up his time in support of the movement.



On writing this introduction, work is underway ahead of the fourth IFAR conference at the Asian Racing Conference in Cape Town, South Africa and I look forward to seeing those of you making the trip at our session at the conference.

There is so much more work to be done and with your help and support, all racing jurisdictions will have an aftercare plan. Aftercare is non-negotiable.

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## How far we have come?

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IFAR's first forum was conducted at the Pan American Conference in 2017 and was successful in bringing aftercare responsibilities to the racing world's consciousness. Three years on, we can say that Thoroughbred aftercare has become a priority around the world and racing participants, from regulators to charitable groups, all have an important role to play.

During the forums, IFAR has discussed topics including establishing racehorse aftercare programs, standards of aftercare providers, the use of equine therapy, owners' responsibility and produced a set of six strategies for aftercare practices called the Aftercare Toolkit.



The six strategies can be applied by any racing jurisdiction in the world to help facilitate best practices in racehorse aftercare.

IFAR is delighted to see a rapid progression of aftercare frameworks in various racing jurisdictions including Japan, France and South Korea, together with improvements in traceability among regulatory bodies.

IFAR maintains a website dedicated to hosting content generated from previous IFAR forums with a range of aftercare resources, videos and scientific papers.

While much progress had been made, IFAR remains focused on driving new initiatives for years to come.

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## Top news

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In November 2019, IFAR was invited by the Korea Racing Authority (KRA) to speak on aftercare. Dr. Eliot Forbes, a member of IFAR's steering group and the chief executive officer of Australia-based AniMark Limited, made the trip to South Korea.

Attendees at the workshops, which were held in Seoul and Busan, represented a range of sectors of the Thoroughbred industry, including veterinarians, stewards and registry staff. During his workshops Forbes discussed IFAR's "Aftercare Toolkit" as well as the global animal welfare debate.

"We are attuned to the risks of activism in many Western countries; however, the global nature of the racing industry means that we are all interconnected," Forbes said. "The KRA has a strong focus on racehorse aftercare and the level of audience engagement during the seminars was evidence of the importance of this topic in Korea."

Mr. Song Daeyoung, general manager of the Equine Veterinary Center of the KRA, stated, "Equine welfare and aftercare is recognised as a key issue and we were pleased to have the opportunity to learn from the expertise and experiences of Dr. Forbes."

"We are very appreciative of the work that IFAR undertakes, and these seminars have given us many good ideas to assist us with our aftercare strategies going forward."





## News from around the globe



### Thoroughbred Incentive Program Winners Announced

The third Thoroughbred Incentive Program (T.I.P.) Championship Horse Show was held Saturday, September 7 and Sunday, September 8, 2019, at the Kentucky Horse Park in conjunction with the New Vocations All-Thoroughbred Charity Show.

During the championships, 248 Thoroughbreds competed in a total of 26 divisions comprising English Pleasure, Western Pleasure, Dressage, Western Dressage, Hunters and Jumpers. More than \$30,000 in cash and prizes was awarded.



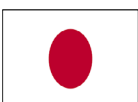
Due to an increase in entries, the Hunter, Jumper and Pleasure divisions of the T.I.P. Championships were split over two days and held in rings, in addition to the Rolex Stadium, for the first time.

Additionally, the United States Eventing Association hosted the American Eventing Championships from August 27 through September 1, also at the Kentucky Horse Park. Of the 949 starters, 218 were Thoroughbreds, making up 23% of the competition.

The New Vocations All-Thoroughbred Charity Show was held Friday, September 6, through Sunday, September 8. All proceeds from the New Vocations show will support Thoroughbred aftercare. Between the two shows, a total of 450 Thoroughbreds from 26 states competed.

"I am thrilled with the growth of the T.I.P. Championships since it's inception in 2017 and the enthusiasm of all participants toward showcasing off-the-track Thoroughbreds," said Kristin Werner, senior counsel for The Jockey Club and the administrator of T.I.P. "This weekend showcases the versatility of Thoroughbreds in a wide range of disciplines and we hope that Thoroughbred-centric competitions will encourage horse owners to consider riding and competing with former racehorses."

"We are proud to work with T.I.P. to organize a weekend of horse shows that display the ability of Thoroughbreds to excel in careers beyond the racetrack," said Sarah Coleman, director of Public & Community Relations, New Vocations. "We at, New Vocations, believe that Thoroughbreds have unlimited potential and love seeing this potential turn into results in the show ring." For full story visit <http://www.jockeyclub.com>



### Elite US Olympian shares aftercare secrets with Japanese riders, Northern Horse Park, Japan

Boyd Martin, an Australian native, is one of the leading eventing riders in the United States. Boyd has significant experience in retraining and competing with former racehorses at the highest levels of eventing and he is now sharing his knowledge with riders in Japan.

After Boyd introduced himself, he spoke to the 70 attendees on the advantages of utilizing the retired racehorse as a potential sport horse and giving these wonderful animals a second career.

Boyd spoke very highly of the Japanese Thoroughbred and all of its wonderful attributes that make it the perfect horse to work with in redirecting its life after finishing its racing careers.

Boyd then shared the important techniques and considerations when retraining retired racehorses.

Following the lunch break, the clinic moved to Northern Horse Park's indoor riding arena where Boyd was



presented with three off-the-track Thoroughbreds in different stages of their careers.

Boyd built a number of gymnastic exercises to gently improve the horses throughout the session.

For more information visit <https://www.boydandsilvamarin.com/blog/>

## News from around the globe



### The Retired Racehorse Training Project USA

Formed in 2010 by a small group of friends who felt strongly that Thoroughbred ex-racehorses were in need of advocates, educators and in the sport of recreation riding world, the Retired Racehorse Project's mission is to facilitate placement of Thoroughbred ex-racehorses in second careers by increasing demand for them in equestrian sports and serving the farms, trainers and organizations that transition them.

#### Retired Racehorse Project Emphasizes Equine Welfare with New Arrival Exam at The Thoroughbred Makeover September 23, 2019

In keeping with the organization's goal to better serve the Thoroughbred and continue to educate the owners, trainers and farms who seek to help transition these horses to second careers, the Retired Racehorse Project's new arrival exam at the 2019 Thoroughbred Makeover and National Symposium, presented by Thoroughbred Charities of America, emphasizes soundness, body condition and microchipping.

"The aim of the arrival exam is to not only verify each horse's identity and ensure he or she is healthy and sound for competition, but to also set the standard of horsemanship associated with off-track Thoroughbreds," said RRP executive director Jen Roytz. "In addition to the actual exam, which is reminiscent of what competitors might experience at higher levels of competition with horse inspections, we also hosted webinars with Q and A's and published educational materials focused on topics such as nutrition, hoof care, the Henneke Body Condition scoring system, vaccination protocols and injury rehabilitation and prevention."

Every horse that competes at the 2019 Thoroughbred Makeover will undergo an arrival exam performed by veterinarians from Hagyard Equine Medical Institute. Arrival exams will include an assessment of body condition score and vital signs, examination for lameness at the walk and a scan for a microchip.

Microchipping is rapidly becoming the equine industry standard as a means of permanent identification and every horse participating in the 2019 Thoroughbred Makeover is required to have a microchip registered with The Jockey Club. For full story visit <https://www.retiredracehorseproject.org>



### Good behaviour and versatility lands Kikos the Ri-Dry Racing to Hunting Challenge 28th October 2019

The 17-year-old gelding Kikos was the winner of the 2019 Ri-Dry RoR Racing to Hunting Challenge, the award given to the former racehorse judged to have best adapted to their second career in the hunting field. Kikos and his owner rider, Amy Morgan, are regulars with the Heythrop Hunt and the combination beat five other finalists when they were assessed by a panel of judges at Aintree Racecourse on Sunday afternoon.

In a career spanning six years, Kikos raced 48 times, winning on four occasions when trained by Renee Robson before finishing his racing career in the care of Kerry Lee. Since being switching to the hunting field, Kikos has acquired an enviable reputation on account of his good manners and versatility.

His owner Amy Morgan says of him: "Kikos has proven to be the most honest, calm, kind and generous hunter. I can lead my god daughter on her tiny Shetland, jump the biggest of our vale country up at the front of the field, stop and shut gates, jump the gates and walk across fields when 200 of our Saturday field are galloping. He is as well known for his sanity as he is for his tongue which hangs out constantly!"

Run by the charity Retraining of Racehorses (RoR) and sponsored by Ri-Dry waterproof clothing, the Racing to Hunting Challenge is in its third year of celebrating former racehorses that have best adapted to a second career hunting. Once again it produced a very competitive final at Aintree Racecourse.

To read full story visit <https://www.ror.org.uk/news/good-behaviour>





## News from around the globe

### New Senior Appointments in Horse Racing Ireland New roles for John Osborne and Paul Dermody

Horse Racing Ireland (HRI) announced a reorganization of its senior management team with the appointment of John Osborne to the new position of Director of Equine Welfare and Bloodstock. In a related move, Paul Dermody will take over the position of Chief Executive of HRI Racecourses. The appointments will align the senior management team within Horse Racing Ireland with the strategic ambitions of the organisation, particularly in the area of equine welfare.

HRI Chief Executive, Brian Kavanagh, stated: “We are delighted to appoint John Osborne to the position of Director of Equine Welfare and Bloodstock. John’s vast experience in the racing and breeding industry, together with his formal qualifications as a veterinary surgeon, means he will bring a unique set of skills to an area that will be a priority for Horse Racing Ireland and the industry in 2020. He will also have responsibility for HRI’s liaison with the bloodstock industry, including oversight of Irish Thoroughbred Marketing. To read full article follow <https://www.hri.ie/content/>

### Au-delà Des Pistes General Assembly:

The 2019 General Assembly of the charity Au-Delà Des Pistes, which works for the promotion and retraining of thoroughbred horses in France, was held on Friday 17th of January, in the Salon Katko at Chantilly training centre.

Representatives of 14 of the 24 retraining establishments referenced by the charity were present from across France:

- Gildas Mabilais and Arthur Schwob from Haras de Boscherville (Normandie)
- Christophe Desormeaux from Brandeau Equidation (Nouvelle Aquitaine)
- Nathalie Sigaud from Cheval de Cœur (PACA)
- Ludyvine Crépeau from Cœur de Course (PACA)
- Marine Cioccolini from Domaine Hope (PACA)
- Charlotte and Alexandre Masseron of Equiconnect (Grand Est, specialist in ethological equitation)
- Anne-Eva Bourgoïn of Esprit Réformés (Pays de la Loire)
- Nicolas Dalous and Martial Delumeau of l’Etrier de Granlieu (Pays de la Loire)
- Philippe Audigé and Thomas of Haras d’Oakland (Centre, member of the. group Brimbo-Equitation)
- Marie-Pierre Pélus of Domaine de Perry (Occitanie)
- Mathieu Bodier of Ecurie de Reconversion (Pays de la Loire)
- Léa Klein of Ecurie de Roquelance (Nouvelle Aquitaine)
- Marine Marge of Refuge Equin de Terre Plaine (Bourgogne)
- Cécile Lefeuvre and Sébastien Criado of Ecuries Wallace (Nouvelle Aquitaine)



Following a visit to Fabrice Chappet’s stable and watching morning training on the Lions training track, a first for some, the representatives were able to enter into long discussions with trainers, breeders, agents, vets and other racing professionals. For more info visit <https://www.audeladepistes.fr>



### Australian Bushfire Updates

Bushfires in South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria have affected racing industry participants and their properties as well disrupted a number of race meetings. Race meetings have been cancelled due to air quality which continues to be monitored.

The Principal Racing Authorities in affected states have been coordinating responses and providing financial and other support as required. This support extends beyond the racing industry to the wider community and some racecourses and other industry facilities are acting as refuge centres. The racing industry across Australia is working with communities to aid their recovery. Support for those affected by the fires is expected to continue for some time once the extent of the damage is fully understood and where the racing industry’s efforts are best directed.

Those states that have not been affected, or have had limited disruption are actively fundraising to assist those affected by the bushfires.

## Aftercare stories

Aftercare conversations encompass many dimensions, however some of the most compelling and heart-warming stories emanate from passionate people using retired Thoroughbreds to assist people in need.

IFAR forums have provided a worldwide platform for organisations to share their stories and remind us of the remarkable versatility and gentleness of the Thoroughbred. Please see the below stories from around the globe.



### Fighting Furrari, USA

Better known as the primary horse used in the 2003 movie “Seabiscuit,” has been retired from his duties as Santa Anita Park’s mascot and has been relocated to TAA-accredited Square Peg Foundation in Half Moon Bay, California, which specializes in equine-assisted programs for children with Autism.

“Like the original Seabiscuit, he also as always connected with the people around him. Fred earned less than \$5,000 on the racetrack, but he was a champion in the show ring.”

While the winner of just one of his 16 career starts on the track, Fighting Furrari was one of the most recognized horses at Santa Anita. Also known by his barn name Fred, the 21-year-old gelding has been tacked up in the authentic Seabiscuit attire and led to the infield round pen on weekends to the delight of fans. His handler would educate, answer questions and allow people to pet him, watch him do tricks and be lunged or ridden around the ring.



### Native Caption, UK

Native Caption now known as Donald, is 24 years old and was purchased by Karen Harrison in 2001 from Doncaster Sales.

Karen says that Donald has “completely transformed her life. He has the most amazing character, when he finishes his dressage test, he holds up his front legs and salutes, which some judges love and others are not so happy.”

During Karen’s cancer treatment, he was such a gentleman allowing Karen, to ride him round their local farm before each of her chemotherapy sessions. This kept Karen going through a very hard time in her life.

To Karen, he really is one in a million and has given and is still giving her so much fun and pleasure.



### All Chances, Hong Kong

All Chances is a New Zealand bred gelding imported to Hong Kong where he made his first official start in May 2005.

His entire racing career in Hong Kong was under the management of champion trainer John Size – resulting in six wins from 28 starts and a total of HK\$3 million in prize money over four racing seasons.

Retired in late 2008, All Chances was transferred to the Hong Kong Jockey Club’s retraining and rehoming programme at Beas River Equestrian Centre. It is fair to say that even back then the 7 year old was noted as a mighty talented jumper, but at the same time, a notorious handful to ride, with a penchant for catching riders off guard with a spin.

After 18 months of retraining, he was selected for the Beas River Riding School ‘Competition Pool’, where talented junior riders gain competition experience show jumping at increasing levels as they developed.

Despite his quirks, he was incredibly successful at the highest level of show jumping in Hong Kong, beating considerably bigger and purpose-bred warmbloods to the Hong Kong Equestrian Federation Horse of the Year Show and FEI World Jumping Challenge titles at 120 and 130cm classes.

Now in his late teens, he has stepped back from high-level competition and is teaching the next generation of Hong Kong’s junior riders competing in 90-100cm classes – still spinning around if he thinks they’re not paying him the attention and respect he so rightly deserves!



## Our Mission & Objectives

Our mission is to promote the care of Thoroughbred horses during their lifetime.

- To raise awareness globally of the importance of welfare for Thoroughbred racehorses.
- To improve education on lifetime care, including end of life issues, to all international racing communities and the general public.
- To develop a network which allows best practice to be easily shared between aftercare organisations.
- To promote the versatility, adaptability and potential of Thoroughbreds for equestrian sport.

### Dates for the Diary 2020

#### Aftercare Events

##### Australia

7th February – Barastoc Horse of the Year Show (Showing)

15th February – Twilight Polo Event at St Kilda Beach

4th April - Victorian Equestrian Interscholar State Championships

6th June - Melbourne International 3 Day Event

1st August – Equestrian Victoria Awards Evening where the RV Acknowledged Retainer of the Year will be awarded.

##### United Kingdom

8th February - RoR Parade at Warwick Racecourse

10th March - RoR Parade at Cheltenham Racehorses

15th July - RoR Polo Challenge at Cowdray

27th-30th August - RoR Goffs UK National Championships at Aintree Equestrian Centre

##### Hong Kong

14th March - CCI\* and Eventing Horse of the Year

10th-11th April - HKJC Riding High Together Festival

24th-25th April - CSI\* and Jumping Horse of the Year

30th-31st May - Dressage Horse of the Year

##### United States

1st March - RRP Master Class at Grand Prix Eventing at Bruce's Field, Aiken, SC

18th July - RRP Master Class at Pony Club Championships, Lexington, KY

25th-30th August - (T.I.P. awards) American Eventing Championships

3rd-6th September - The Jockey Club T.I.P. Championships at New Vocations All TB Show

4th October - The Jockey Club T.I.P. Championships (Dressage)

7th-10th October - Thoroughbred Makeover and National Symposium, Lexington, KY

12th-15th November - RRP Master Class at Ocala Jockey Club International, Ocala, FL



Below you will find links to the websites of IFAR Steering Group Members



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#### Supporting IFAR

IFAR comprises members with significant knowledge and expertise and is ready to assist those seeking help. This assistance may be general advice or guidance or it may be tailored to specific issues relating to the welfare of Thoroughbred racehorses and how to develop aftercare provision in their countries, taking into account cultural differences.