



*Media release  
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## **POSITIVE SIGNS OF THE RETURN OF RACING IN METROPOLITAN SYDNEY**

Racing on the Eastern Seaboard of Australia is preparing for the return of metropolitan racing for both the Thoroughbred and Harness Codes from 1 December following a three month shut down period.

The first Thoroughbred meeting to be held in metropolitan area since the outbreak of the Equine Influenza virus on 25 August 2006 will be held at Sydney's Royal Randwick on Saturday 1 December, followed by racing from Rosehill Gardens on Saturday 8 and Saturday 15 December.

New Zealand Racing Board General Manager Racing & Wagering, Bill Colgan, said "this is great news for our customers but they need to be aware that the traditional dates of the autumn carnivals will change dramatically.

"The AAMI Golden Slipper Day, previously run on Saturday 15 March, is tentatively scheduled for Saturday 19 April and the Australian Jockey Club Derby and the Doncaster Handicap previously scheduled for Easter weekend are expected to move to mid April. The Schweppes Sydney Cup Day, previously scheduled for 29 March, is expected to take place on 3 May.

"In addition, the Adelaide Cup is expected to run earlier than the advertised date of the 10 March 2008 and there may be date changes to Queensland's Winter Racing Carnival.

"We expect all dates for Thoroughbred racing in Australia to be confirmed by 1 December 2007, however, dates for Australian Harness racing are not expected to be confirmed before mid January 2008," said Mr Colgan.

Regular updates will be provided on [www.tab.co.nz](http://www.tab.co.nz).

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