



NARA



INTRODUCTION TO ARABIAN HORSE RACING



GETTING STARTED

CONGRATULATIONS – BY OPENING THIS
PRESENTATION YOU HAVE JUST TAKEN THE
FIRST STEP TO BECOMING PART OF THE
ARABIAN RACING INDUSTRY IN AUSTRALIA

The first step to success in Arabian Racing is education. Learn as much as you can about the sport. The NARA web site can provide you with a wealth of knowledge. Read every section and visit it often.

Read books and articles on the subject and the breed in general. Arabian racing magazines and websites are an excellent way to familiarize yourself with the industry, its current events and bloodlines. Thoroughbred racing resources are often a good source of information since training an Arabian racehorse is similar in many ways. Seminars are another educational resource to take advantage of and are often announced in Arabian publications, web sites etc.

Because experience is the best teacher, seek others who are participating in the sport. Most Arabian owners are eager to help someone who wants to get involved. Finding a mentor who you trust and respect can be very beneficial as you start out.

After the education comes the horse. But before making this investment, use what you've learned and ask yourself if racing is indeed for you. It is critical that you feel confident in your decision and can make a long-term commitment to your horse and to the sport of Arabian racing. If the answer is yes, then you are ready to begin your search for a racehorse.



EDUCATION

The first step to success in Arabian Racing is education.

Learn as much as you can about the sport.

OVERVIEW

**Nothing is quite as thrilling as watching your own Arabian race.
No matter how many times you see it the feeling is always the same –
ELECTRIC.**

The excitement of Arabian Racing is undeniable but how do you get involved and who can provide you with the help that you may need. The answer is the National Arabian Racehorse Assoc. Ltd. More commonly known as NARA.

- Over the years Arabian Racing has expanded into a world- wide sport but still offers endless possibilities for newcomers and additional horses. Racing bloodlines are still being uncovered which has caused many owners to take a second look in his stables for racing talent. Australia, with our unique bloodlines, now has the opportunity to share these bloodlines with the rest of the world.



- Racing is not an exclusive sport either. Many Arabian owners have found that the athleticism and beauty of an Arabian racehorse can also lead to success in the show arena and endurance. Indeed, many Arabian racehorses start their career in the show ring before moving to racing and then endurance. Some have been known to do the three disciplines at the same time.
- It is now a perfect time to get involved and NARA is here to help you take your first step into the wonderful world of Arabian Racing.

When you are new to Arabian racing, where to go and what to do can be an overwhelming challenge. Wouldn't it be great to have an experienced owner help you? Introducing the NARA Mentor Program.

The goal of the NARA Mentor Program is to educate and advise new owners to make them feel comfortable in Arabian racing. We aim to provide anyone becoming involved in Arabian racing to get a mentor in their own area. All it takes is a call to NARA and you will be connected with an appropriate mentor. The relationship and level of involvement is up to the individuals.

If you are an existing Arabian racehorse owner and would like to volunteer as a mentor, and share your experience with a new owner, just contact NARA.

Mentor Program



YOUR FIRST HORSE

Leasing:

If you are not quite ready to commit to sole ownership of a horse, leasing provides a measured commitment. Here you pay all the expenses but you also reap all of the rewards. You do not officially own the horse, so the commitment is less.

A Horse you already own:

The first, and perhaps the simplest option is an Arabian you already own. Many racehorses have been plucked from the show ring or from backyard obscurity and have gone on to perform well on the track

Partnership:

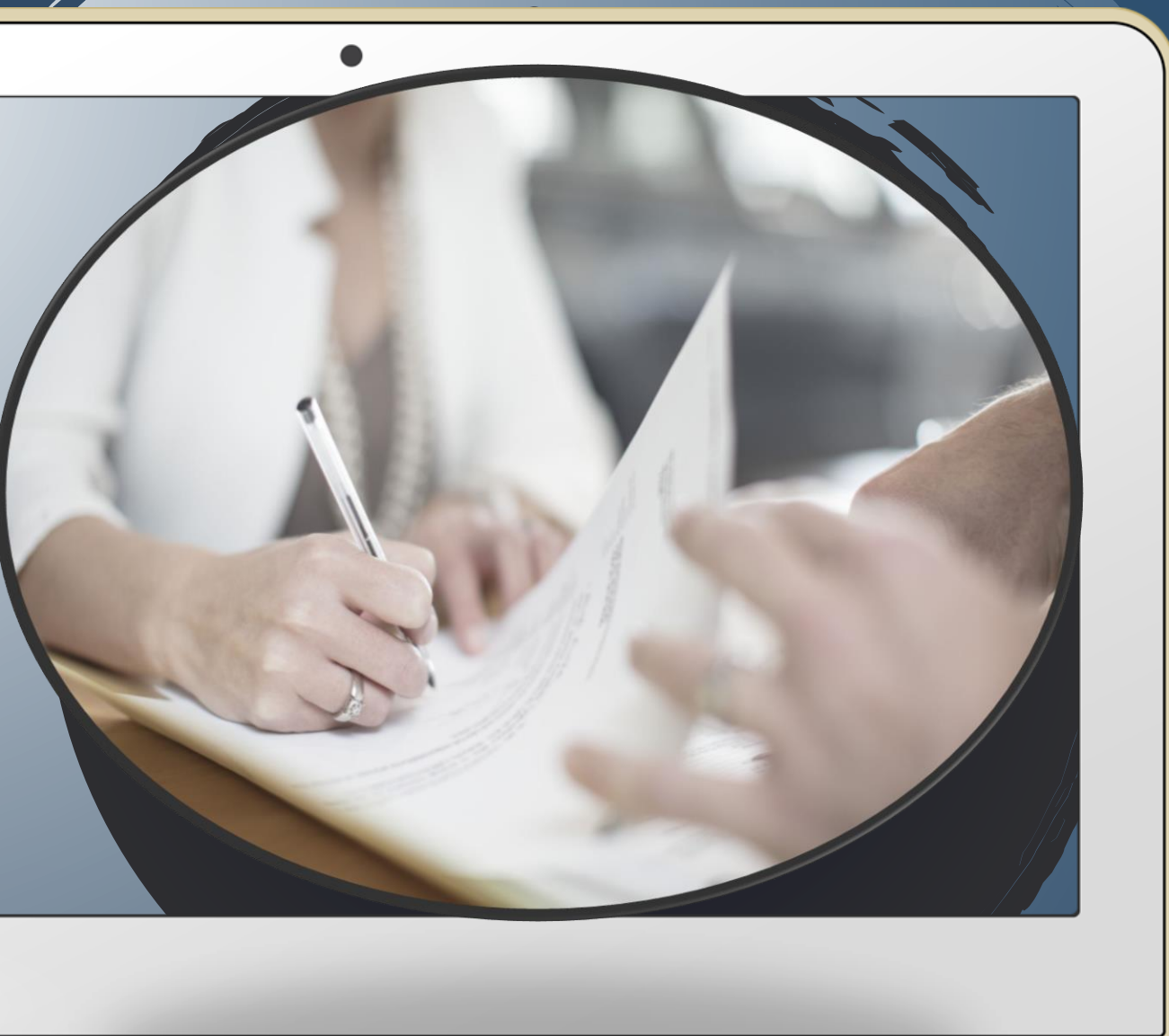
Another great way to get involved is through partnership with an experienced owner. This way, you can get your feet wet by sharing expenses and earnings, learn about the business, and still have the thrill of victory. Your involvement can be minimal or quite active.

Become a member of a Racing Club:

Join up to 20 members in a racing club. You share the expenses and of course the prize money. This is a great way to become involved with minimum outlay and lots of fun.



The Paperwork



OK, now you have your eye on a horse but what next? The most important thing is **DO NOT BUY** a horse until you have contacted the Arabian Horse Society of Australia (AHSA) Registry to make sure that it is a registered purebred and that it is microchipped, bloodtyped, DNA tested etc. You also need to ensure that the horse can, and will be transferred into your name. Remember, Arabians are not permitted to race until the January of their 3yr old year.

If all this checks out ok then your next job is to obtain racehorse identification from NARA. Remember, before the horse can be issued with a Racehorse Document of Identification you must be able to produce the AHSA certificate of registration showing you as the official owner or a lease agreement from the AHSA or NARA.

Ticked all these boxes, now for the creative aspect of ownership. It is time to design and register your racing colours. Check with NARA for any requirements prior to purchasing them.

You can of course train your own horse (an Owner Trainer) or you may prefer to send your horse to a trainer. A racehorse trainer is the person who will care for your horse while he/she prepares it for racing. A trainer will also design your horse's training program and its career game plan . As with many professions, all trainers must pass an exam to earn their licence which is renewed annually.

The relationship between an owner and a trainer is one of the most important in racing and can be the most difficult as well. Club Memberships are usually run by trainers who will provide members with a selection of two or three horses to be involved with so, in this case, you do not need to worry about finding a trainer.

Before making your final selection of a trainer, find out:

- How close are your racing philosophies?
- Does this person have a background that you want to run your racing business?
- Have you discussed a contract?
- Have you checked their references?
- Does this person communicate satisfactorily with other owners?

The Trainer



What Next?

You have a horse, a trainer and all your paperwork is done – fantastic.... What comes next?

The process of turning a horse into a racehorse is an investment of time and a trial of patience. If your horse is not yet educated to saddle then adequate time must be allowed for this schooling.

Once it is able to be ridden, it will begin walking, trotting and working up to a slow gallop. This 30 to 60-day process builds its physical condition and lays a solid foundation for a healthy happy horse. If your horse is already working under saddle, for example doing endurance, etc, before going to the trainer, then this time will be less.

After many more weeks of conditioning, gradually increasing its speed and distance, becoming familiar with the starting gates, obtaining a barrier clearance etc, your horse will be ready to be put to the test. It's time for its first race!

The training process outlined here and the length of time that it takes will vary from trainer – to – trainer and from horse – to – horse. As mentioned earlier, turning a horse into a racehorse takes time and patience. Be prepared, financially as well as emotionally, to invest about six months in your horse before you know if it can make the grade as a racehorse. Even so, your trainer should have an idea of your horse's ability within about 90 days.

A racehorse needs to be not only fit but mentality happy and alert. Make sure your horse gets plenty of time in a paddock or a yard where it has contact with other horses.

Why Choose Racing as a Discipline for your Purebred Arabian?

Quite simply, horses love to run. It's in their DNA. Racing provides a way to harness their innate desire for speed. There is a real thrill when you see your horse doing what they love best and there is good money to be won. Racing is the ideal sport for breeders and owners who no longer ride but wish to see their horses succeed in an athletic endeavor. There is also the added bonus of spending time with like minded people who love to meet up at the racetrack and have a great day out with family and friends.

It is a fact that not all horses bred for the show ring will make the grade in terms of appearance. Rather than 'waste' these horses, why not put them into race training? Presumably these horses will have been bred to have correct conformation but may not have the exotic type that wins in today's show ring. This is not to say that Arabian racehorses can't cut it in the show ring as there are a number of successful show horses who have done well on the racetrack.

Another advantage is that the exposure a horse experiences makes it a very saleable proposition when its racing career comes to an end. Ex racehorses are in demand because they have been exposed to many different environments such as noisy crowds, the confines and sounds of the starting gates and horse floats, being crowded by other horses, regular shoeing etc. These horses have the potential to go on to a second career in endurance, jumping, dressage and sport horse events.



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How does Arabian Racing compare with other disciplines?

Take for instance Endurance and Showing. Below are some figures taken from a 2017 cost comparison table.

SHOWING

- Entries range from \$200 + to \$118 and include:
- Stabling, camping, catalogue entries etc for bigger shows, less for small shows..
- Additional cost if horse is professionally trained.
- Additional cost if the horse is professionally handled at a show.
- **Prize is: Ribbon/sash and sometimes a trophy.**



ENDURANCE

- Entries range from \$90 to \$120 for an 80km ride and considerably more for 160km rides. E.g. \$400 for the Quilty or marathon rides.
- Camping
- Vet Fees
- Horse yard fees.
- **Prize is: A completion award, usually a buckle, trophies and sometimes rugs for place-getters.**



RACING

- Nominations range from \$20 to \$140 for the big races.
- Acceptances range from \$30 to \$250 for the big races.
- Jockeys riding fees approximately \$130 per ride depending on which State the race is run in.
- Training fees.
- **Prize Money: Between 2014 and 2018 NARA paid out \$549,436 in prize money which is usually paid down to the fifth placed runner.**

The NARA Team



**Maureen
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Chairperson



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Board Member



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Business Manager
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**Virginia
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Board Member



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Racing Manager
Board Member



**Victoria
Shaw**

Media Consultant



Sharon Myers

NARA Photographer

- The NARA Team sincerely thank you for taking the time to read this presentation and look forward to meeting you somewhere in the world on the racetrack.
- Arabian Racing is not just an industry, it is a family, a family that now extends to approximately 80 countries throughout the world.



Summary

The most important part of
Arabian Racing is

TO HAVE FUN



THANK YOU

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