

Warracknabeal's Day in Donald

Racegoers from Warracknabeal and Donald mingled on the lawns of the Donald Racing Centre in pleasant sunshine on Saturday, as the Clyne Foods Warracknabeal Cup and its attendant races were run on the Donald course.

They took full advantage of the excellent luncheon provided by the Murtoa ladies, and also of the Donald Lions' barbecue and the "hot dogs" and sweets kiosk.

Lance Huebner, Chairman of Wimmera Racing and Director of the Warracknabeal Local Area Committee, remarked that on only three times in the history of the Cup had it been run on other tracks; the other two occasions because of wet weather, and this time because the recycled water used had affected the grass on the track.

He thanked the staff of both courses, and the loyal sponsors, for a most successful meeting.

The Cup

The 2000 metres distance of the Cup proved admirably to suit the Mount Gambier trained 7-year-old gelding, Bezzar's Fiddle, as from three previous starts at that distance, it had won two and been placed in the Narracoorte Cup.

With experienced jockey Craig Robertson, Bezzar's Fiddle headed the field behind the early leaders, and emerged from a tight field at the 400 metres to come away to a good win by 1¼ lengths from Done And Dusted, with Dodgy Boy 3 lengths away third.

At the presentation ceremony, Lance Huebner congratulated the young trainer, Megan Harrison, on her preparation of the horse.

Norman Clyne, representing the sponsors, Clyne Foods, thanked Wimmera Racing and congratulated Donald on a fantastic course and amenities, saying that such a small town could be proud of this facility.

Other Racing

Throughout the afternoon the racing was excellent on the well-prepared track.

One exciting finish was in the GPS-AG Class 1 Handicap. The course commentator was unable to separate Miss Money Tree and Havanotherone, but the camera proved

that outsider Miss Money Tree, trained at Mount Gambier by Lisa Bowditch and ridden by Christine Puls, had won by a nose, with half a length to Fred's Luck, third. This mare was the longest-priced winner of the day, paying a win dividend of \$16.90.

Another close finish occurred in the Winning Edge Presentations 0-68 Handicap when favourite Whiskey Cruyff, after settling mid-field, made a sustained run from the 200m., ridden by Brady Cross, to wear down the leader Tordacity and win by a short head.

Other good dividends were those paid by the Cup winner, \$10.40, and by The Marauding Rose, winner of the second division of the Wimmeraracing.com.au Maiden Plate, \$12.90, but four favourites were successful.

One of these was the 3-year-old filly, Belleza Veloz, which won the first division of the Maiden Plate in commanding fashion. Well back



• Presentation time of the Warracknabeal Cup: Left to right, Sany Horton (C.E.O. Wimmera Racing), Lance Huebner (Chairman Wimmera Racing), Craig Robertson (jockey), Meg Harrison (part owner and trainer), Norm Clyne (Director of Cup sponsor Clyne Foods).

at the top of the straight, it overcame a check to come away for a long neck win over Kelcard and She's A Gal.

The other race to carry a trophy was the Donald Mineral Sands Handicap, won impressively by favourite Kaseh, which in the straight headed Command The Sea, trying to lead all the way, and came away to win by three-quarters of a length, with Mistanz third by a neck. Kaseh is trained at Warnambool by Bill Wilde.

There were no training doubles, although three winning trainers were based in Mount Gambier. Jockey Craig Robertson rode the winners of the two feature races, the Cup and the Donald Mineral Sands Handicap.



• Winner Bezzar's Fiddle returns to scale with successful Jockey Craig Robertson after an effortless win.



• Not another horse in sight as Bezzar's Fiddle approaches the winning post.