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####  **February 26, 2015**

**Plastic running rails installed at Oakbank**

Plastic running rails have been installed at the iconic Oakbank Racecourse as part of Thoroughbred Racing SA’s upgrade program rolled-out across the state to enhance safety standards.

The $157,000 plastic running rail - spanning approximately 3050 metres - features a kick-out upright release system which will increase safety for jockeys and horses. The kick-out system allows the plastic uprights to break free from the underground anchor mechanism on impact. The new railing will also make it easier for track staff to manage than the aluminium railing previously used at Oakbank.

In 2013, Thoroughbred Racing SA embarked on a three year staged introduction of plastic running rails across the state’s main racecourses. Tracks at Morphettville, Gawler and Murray Bridge were among the first to have the rail installed.

TRSA undertook extensive research ahead of the roll-out of plastic running rails and the move has proved successful, with positive feedback from industry participants.

Chairman of Stewards Johan Petzer said the new rails are a significant improvement to the Oakbank course.

“The new Oakbank running rail will ensure the highest safety measures for racing participants,” Mr Petzer said.

“The rail has been fitted ahead of this year’s Oakbank Easter Racing Carnival on Saturday, April 4 and Monday, April 6 and will be unveiled at the Hills Gourmet Gallop race meet on Sunday, March 16.”

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