

GUIDE TO NZB WEBSITE SUBMISSIONS FOR SALE PHOTOS, VIDEOS & REPORTS

With COVID-19 and travel restrictions preventing the majority of international travellers physically attending the sales, it is going to be more important than ever to be as transparent as possible by providing photos, videos and information on each horse to give offshore buyers as much confidence as possible.

Outside of the sale dates, the most talked about subject during our buyer research this year was the importance of high quality, professional and real-time videos. This media will be crucial to the success of the sale and getting results for owners and vendors.

We have collated our buyer requests and comments from the recent surveys conducted by NZB inside this pack, along with the complete guide to photos and videos, a list of recommended professionals for you to utilise and how to supply this media to us for an upcoming sale. Together, we can get the best exposure and increase the views on your horses to our international and domestic buyers on a strong digital platform.

Unless you have the relevant skills and experience, we strongly recommend using professional photographers and videographers. A list of potential companies and individuals can be found in this pack.

Contents

Buyer Insights	2
Guide to Photos	
Supporting Lot Photos	
Guide to Videos	5
Recommended Professionals	6
Supplying Media to NZB	7
PDF Reports	



BUYER INSIGHTS

Outside of the sale dates, the most talked about subject during our buyer research this year was the importance of high quality, professional and real-time videos with supporting lot photos. This media will be crucial to the success of the sale and getting results for owners and vendors.

Here are some comments and requests from leading Australian and Hong Kong buyers:

"Consistency in the footage of each video is key. Like at the NZB Breeze Ups, we know they all run up on the same track, so the more the videos are shot in the same place on the same surface the better. Same with the leaders, it is no use putting small leaders with smaller horses as we will see through it"

"Perhaps with less spend on hospitality for vendors now, extra can be used to get the best possible videos and people"

"I don't want to see shots of the farm entrances and dramatic music, I only want to see the horse"

"We go through every horse in the catalogue and look at photos and videos. If the videos are not up to scratch, we can't make a reasonable assessment. That is something the studs are going to have to be very aware of and present conformation videos. A lot of them in the past have been more marketing orientated, but now it is very, very important that they are conformation-assessment videos. They will have to create the image of what one would expect to see when one goes and physically assesses a horse. They must be good side-on, front and rear view and of high quality - the whole works"

"Concentration should be on the horse's walking towards the camera and away from the camera"

"Slow motion footage doesn't give us a good handle on the horse's walk. I'd prefer real-time footage of the walk, and a good length of it"

"I'd like to see some close up photos or videos of the horse's feet and legs"

"Transparency is very important. We need to see everything even if there are a few faults because we have to sell the horse afterwards using the same videos"

"It would be ideal to get the heights and weights of the horses at the time of the video"

"A study of photos showing the side of the horse, and head on to see conformation"

"Think of a dream list a buyer could tick off when watching a video... this is what we want"

"Photos are great, but videos will be key this year given we can't inspect them ourselves"



Left and below: Examples of good conformation photos

GETTING THE PERFECT CONFORMATION PHOTOS

We all know too well the struggle of getting the perfect photo of our horses. But how important is it? A decent photo (alongside quality video) could be the difference between money in the bank and a horse still sitting in the paddock. It attracts attention and draws in buyers giving them a creditable indication of conformation and type.

If you cannot access professional photographers, then these six tips and tricks could help you improve your photography skills to get the best photo for your Lot.

1. PREPARATION

Grooming prior is essential. Brush out manes and tails, and brush off any mud or sweat marks. Consider using a polished leather halter or bridle and using a clear hoof oil or gloss.

2. CONSIDER YOUR BACKGROUND

Highlight the horse, and only the horse. Other elements in your background tend to become a distraction and draw away from the subject so it's best to find a space with a plain backdrop and not too much happening in it. Keep in mind that level ground is also ideal. A hard surface is also preferable to show the feet.

3. STANDING THE HORSE

Most buyers are looking for conformation photos to help them evaluate the horse. You want to give them a view of all four legs (que the patience and a second or even third helper). The legs nearest the camera should be slightly spaced out and the legs furthest from the camera slightly spaced in. Try and avoid the "three-legged" look. Stand level to the horse and in the middle of the horse to create a well-balanced photo. The horse should take up at least 50% of the shot.

4. NATURAL LIGHTING

Keep the sun at your back. You want the lighting to fall on the side of the horse to avoid any shadows that could distort it. Avoid using the flash setting.

5. AVOID USING THE ZOOM

As tempting as it is to zoom in when taking a photo from a distance it is better to try and get closer to your subject or crop it later on. Zooming in can make the photo appear pixelated or blurry.

6. ABUNDANCE IS KEY

Take as many photos as you can so you have plenty to choose from to get the best one.







Left and below: Examples of good supporting photos

SUPPORTING LOT PHOTOS

Aside from the all important conformation shot, here are some examples of supporting photos to supply to give buyers a complete view of the horse.



FRONT LEGS

A key view for buyers is the ability to see a clean side on and front-on shot of the front legs, shoulders and chest. Make sure the legs are slightly spaced to avoid the three-legged look and if possible use a hard surface to accurately show the front feet..

FROM BEHIND

Another key aspect that buyers would normally inspect in-person is the hind view of a horse to check the conformation of the back legs and shape of the horse's hind.

HEAD SHOT

This highlights key features on a horse's head such as the nostrils, ears and eyes.

HIND LEGS

Again, legs are on of the most important aspects of photos and videos so it is important to showcase these in the best way possible.

PLUS AN OFF-SIDE CONFORMATION SHOT

These photos (and videos) not only attract attention and draw in buyers, but it gives them a creditable indication of conformation and type. They may even use this media to on-sell the horse should they purchase it at the sale.







GETTING THE PERFECT PARADE VIDEO

As above, photos and videos are incredibly important in today's climate for buyers. A parade video is one of the most important aspects of a buyer's decision, it gives them the confidence to invest even if they cannot physically inspect them.

It is important to use one of our recommended professional videographers, or a handy cameraman/woman friend to produce such an important asset. If that isn't possible, here are some important pointers whilst filming.

1. FAMILIARISE

Before filming, take the horse for a walk around the stables and inspection areas so they can familiarise themselves with their surroundings. They are more likely to be relaxed during filming this way.

2. PLACEMENT

Highlight the horse, and only the horse. Other elements in your background tend to become a distraction and draw away from the subject so it's best to find a space with a plain backdrop and not too much happening in it. Keep in mind that level ground is also ideal. A hard surface is also preferable to show the feet.

3. ANGLES

It is important to capture a decent length of the horse walking in real-time from both sides, front-on with the horse walking towards the camera and from behind with the horse walking away from the camera. Make sure the horse takes up 50% of the shot.

4. USEFUL TECHNOLOGY

High quality video cameras are preferable, with gimbals also being a great asset to any videographer to achieve a more professional look.

5. EDITING

Once you have captured all the required footage, basic editing is required to put together a 60 second (max) parade video. Avoid long introductions, excessive graphics or distracting music. Refer to the specifications sheet in this pack for guidance.

Below: Check out a great example of a parade video, including footage of the horse walking towards and away from the camera on a hard surface.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDCU7bNg7bo





RECOMMENDED PROFESSIONALS

With the importance of high quality professional photos and videos for the best chance of selling, we recommend utilising professionals (some listed below) to capture the footage for you. Get in touch with them via the contact details below...

North Island Videographers

Eclare Productions

Clare Ward | Ph: 021 152 6966 Email: eclare@kiaorabro.co.nz Covers Auckland & Waikato

Searcy Media

Caroline Searcy | Ph: +61 (0) 418 270 523 Email: searcc@gmail.com Cameramen throughout NZ

Ziba Creative

Jasmine Robertson | Ph: 021 710 933 Email: jasmine@zibacreative.co.nz Covers Auckland & Waikato

TDN NZ

Melissa Gillis | Ph: +61 428 821 891 Email: melissa@tdnausnz.com.au Cameramen throughout NZ

Avocado Media

Daniel Greenwood | Ph: 021 354 145 Email: daniel@avocadomedia.co.nz Covers Waikato & South Auckland

North Island Photographers

Melissa Marriner

Ph: 027 230 7946 Email: melissa_263@hotmail.com Covers Auckland & Waikato

Race Images

Ph: 06 323 5604 Email: office@raceimages.co.nz Covers entire North Island

Trish Dunell

Ph: 0274 733386 Email: trishdunell@xtra.co.nz Covers Auckland & Waikato

Lesley Warwick

Ph: 021 555 644

Email: lesleywarwick@xtra.co.nz Covers Auckland & Waikato

Angelique Bridson

Ph: 021 321 272

Email: angiebridson@hotmail.com Covers Auckland & Waikato

Nicole Troost

Nicole Troost Photography

Ph: 027 381 4350

Email: info@nicoletroost.com

South Island Videographers

The Digital Birdcage

Emily Morgan | Ph: 027 262 6244 Email: emily@thedigitalbirdcage.co.nz Covers wider Canterbury region

South Island Photographers

Wild Range Photography

Wayne Huddleston | Ph: 022 092 9114 Email: wildrangephotography@xtra.co.nz Covers Otago & Southland

Race Images South

Ajay Berry | Ph: O21 819 923 Email: raceimages@xtra.co.nz Covers Christchurch area

Samatha Gordon

Ph: 027 878 7027

Email: samantha.gordon2001@hotmail.co.nz Covers mid-Canterbury area

Annie Studholme Equine Photography

Annie Studholme | Ph: 03 303 7379 Email: anniestudholme@xtra.co.nz



SUPPLYING MEDIA TO NZB

The following is a useful guide to assist vendors, photographers and videographers who are including Lot Photos and Parade Videos as links to the Lot info on NZB's website. The information below outlines the specifications, naming convention and process in order to get your photos and videos online.

LOT PHOTOS

File Formats Accepted	JPG, JPEG
Specifications	1080 pixels wide (max), 3MB in size (max) Maximum of 10 photos per lot
Naming Convention (Labelling)	[Lot].format (e.g. 275.jpg) For multiple images per lot, use [Lot]_[sort].format (e.g. 304_1.jpg, 304_2.jpg, 304_3.jpg and so on in the order you wish them to display)
Process	Send to marketing@nzb.co.nz

PARADE VIDEO

File Formats Accepted	MOV, MPG4, AVI
High Definition	720p 16:9 aspect ratio 1280x720, 5-10 bit rate
Resolution	1080p 16:9 aspect ratio, 1920 x 1080, 10-20 bit rate
Audio	2-channel Stereo audio
Naming Convention for Ready to Run Sale	20RTR, Lot XXX e.g. 20RTR, Lot 275
Naming Convention for National Yearling Sale	21NYSS, Lot XXX e.g. 21NYSS, Lot 854
Length of Clip	30 - 90 seconds (max)

Step 1	Film, edit, finalise and correctly label your video.
Step 2	Upload your videos to Dropbox, OneDrive or Google Drive and share a link/send a notification to marketing@nzb. co.nz. Alternatively, you can courier a USB drive to NZB at Karaka, attention Natalie Jamieson.
Step 3	Once we've received notification, we'll download your videos, check the file is correct and matches the Lot number.
Step 4	We will upload the files to our Vimeo channel and link the Lots on www.nzb.co.nz for buyers to view.

Naming convention is critical to allow the correct processing of photos and videos as well as linking to the correct lots on the website. Please ensure your files are named accordingly.



PDF REPORTS

Should you wish to supply informative reports such as Stage 1 & 2 Vet Reports, Weight & Height Information, Health Declarations, Vet Certificates, Vet or Horse History, we have the ability to upload these PDF documents as links against a lot on NZB's website.

While all factual and vet endorsed/certified reports will be submitted, any vendor submitted or non-certified reports will have an NZB disclaimer attached to them to give buyers utmost transparency.

All reports must be submitted as PDF's and labelled with the Lot number and decription of the report.

Example:

251_Stage1VetReport.pdf 57_HeightWeight.pdf 104_VetCertificate.pdf

Email your PDF documents to marketing@nzb.co.nz for upload to the website.

Limit: 3 PDF documents per Lot.

*Should you need to provide heights and weights of each Lot, we have a template form available for your use. Email marketing@nzb.co.nz to request a copy.



For more information or advice on PDF reports to submit, feel free to contact a member of the bloodstock team for any support or to assist in any way.

