

## **GUIDE TO LOT MEDIA**

The nature of how our buyers evaluate and purchase horses has changed momentously over the last few years. There is significant importance placed on digital media now more so than ever before. This media is used universally by many buyers in all corners of the globe and has become an integral part of their assessment and purchasing process in the lead up to a sale event.

We have collated a number of key statistics from the 2022 National Standardbred Yearling Sale, relating to the NZB Standardbred website, as well as Vimeo (our vendor video hosting platform), in order to demonstrate the substantial emphasis buyers place on digital media.

#### Website | Hits and page views

Period: Tuesday 23 November (2022 National Yearling Sale catalogue online) through until Thursday 17 February (end of selling)

- 422,831 page views on nzbstandardbred.co.nz
- There were approx. 23,063 unique users on nzbstandardbred.co.nz during this time period
- The yearling with the highest amount of page views at the 2022 National Yearling Sale was Lot 267 (American Ideal x Classical), who had over **1,215** views and **1,043** unique views.

#### **Consignor Media | Vimeo views**

Period: Tuesday 23 November (2022 National Yearling Sale catalogue online) through until Thursday 17 February (end of selling)

- **58,248** total views on vendor parade videos
- 136,857 video impressions (the number of times a video player is loaded)
- 18,857 parade videos were watched in full
- The yearling with the highest amount of video views at the 2022 National Yearling Sale was Lot 2 (Lazarus x Taylor Bromac), whose parade video was watched **576** times on the NZB Standardbred website.

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## **BUYER INSIGHTS**

Some comments and requests from leading buyers and agents:

"I don't want to see shots of the farm entrances and listen to dramatic music that I have to encounter over and over again for each yearling video, I only want to see the horse and real time parade footage like you would see it in person."

"All lots should have a parade video. As I couldn't be there in person, it would have been good to see more photos and better quality media too."

"Many photos and parade videos were online too late. Vendors need to film and submit these much earlier than two weeks out from the Sale."

"Consistency in the footage of each video is key. 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."

"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."

"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 photos and 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."

## **GETTING THE PERFECT PHOTOS**

We strongly suggest utilising professional photographers, however if you cannot access them, 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. Also important that the handler is well-dressed should they end up in the shot.

#### 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 (cue 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.









eft and below: Examples of good conformation photos

# **COMPLETE PHOTO PORTFOLIO**

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. There is a limit of 10 photos per lot. Size and labelling requirements apply to all media submitted (see page 7 for details).

PROPOSED ORDER & SHOTS: 1. CONFORMATION (NEAR SIDE) | 2. OFF SIDE CONFORMATION | 3. HEAD SHOT | 4. CLOSE UP LEGS NEAR SIDE | 5. CLOSE UP LEGS OFF SIDE | 6. FRONT VIEW LEG & CONFORMATION | 7. REAR VIEW BACK LEG & CONFORMATION



Photo 1 (e.g. 171\_1 - see labelling guide)



Photo 2 (e.g. 171\_2 - off side conformation)



Photo 3 (e.g. **171\_3** - head shot)





Photo 5 (e.g. 171\_5 - close up legs offside)





Photo 6 & 7 (e.g. 171\_6 171\_7 - front on legs)



Photo 8 & 9 (e.g. **171\_8 171\_9** - back legs)



Photo 4 (e.g. **171\_4** - close up legs)

# **GETTING THE PERFECT PARADE VIDEO**

A parade video is one of the most important tools a buyer refers to when making an informed purchasing 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. There is a limit of one video per lot, with a maximum length of 120 seconds. Labelling requirements also apply to all media submitted (see page 7 for details).

#### 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 one 60 - 120 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.



vimeo.com/478666325



#### **IMPORTANT**

Please note that NZB Standardbred will not upload any footage of yearlings jogging 'in work' behind carts or trucks. Our buyers have indicated to us that this is not important when it comes to the buying or evaluation process, nor does it look professional.



# **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: +61 418 270 523 Email: searcc@gmail.com Cameramen throughout NZ

#### Ziba Creative

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

#### Avocado Media

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

### **North Island Photographers**

#### **Charlotte Mooney**

Ph: 027 510 5818

Email: mooneycm@hotmail.com Covers Auckland and Waikato

#### 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

#### **Greg O'Connor**

Ph: 021 960 962

Email: gregoracing1@gmail.com

### **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: 021 819 923 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

#### Fiona Montgomery

Email: feemontyphotography@gmail.com

Covers Southland area

#### **Charlotte Mooney**

Ph: 027 510 5818

Email: mooneycm@hotmail.com

**Covers Canterbury** 



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

## LOT PHOTOS (max. of 10 photos per lot)

File Formats Accepted	JPG, JPEG
Specifications	1080 pixels wide (max), 3MB in size (max)  Maximum of 10 photos per lot
Naming Convention (Labelling)	[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) Do not include the word 'Lot' in the label, just the number and sorting order
Process	Upload your photos to the NZB Standardbred Portal (standardbred.portal.nzb.co.nz)

### **PARADE VIDEO**

File Formats Accepted	MOV, MP4, 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 National Yearling Sale	23NSYS, Lot XXX e.g. <b>23NSYS, Lot 354</b>
Length of Clip	120 seconds (max). Videos must be under 2GB in file size
Process	Upload your videos to the NZB Standardbred Portal (standardbred.portal.nzb.co.nz)

Step 1	Film, edit, finalise and <b>correctly label</b> your video.
Step 2	Upload your video(s) against the Lot entry in the NZB Standardbred Portal
Step 3	Once we've received notification, we'll check the file is correct and matches the Lot number then approve your media
Step 4	The files will be linked to our Vimeo channel and on www.nzbstandardbred.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.



It is now the responsibility of the vendor and/or vendor's photographer to upload vendor media, with each vendor and/or photographer now given the ability to upload sale media via the NZB Standardbred portal: standardbred.portal.nzb.co.nz

Please note: If you would like to delegate the responsibility of uploading vendor media to a photographer, you have two options.

- a) Your photographer will be able to create their own NZB Standardbred portal account to upload your media on your behalf.
- b) Provide your photographer with your own NZB Standardbred Portal login credentials and they upload on your behalf.

The following is a useful guide to assist vendors, photographers and videographers who are adding Lot Photos and Parade Videos to the Lot information on NZB Standardbred's website. The information below outlines a step-by-step guide which can be followed in order to get your photos and videos online. Please note, now vendors are able to 'bulk' upload media supplying multiple images at a time.

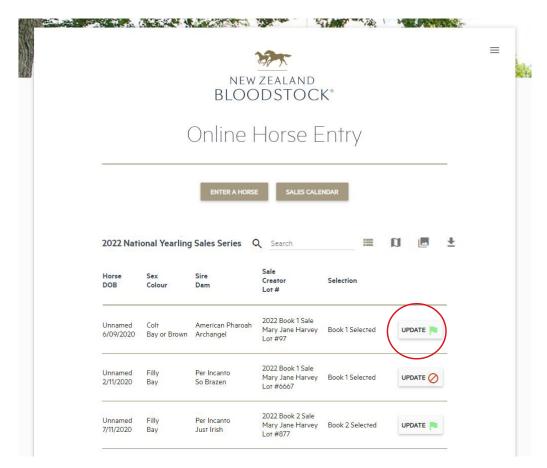
#### STEP 1.

Log into the NZB Standardbred portal by searching **standardbred.portal.nzb.co.nz**, or access via the keyhole at bottom of the nzbstandardbred.co.nz website homepage.



### **STEP 2. (Individual Lot Upload)**

Once logged in, click on the horse entry you would like to upload media against by selecting the 'UPDATE' icon on the right hand side of the entry.





## **STEP 3. (Individual Lot Upload)**

To upload your media against your Lot, click on the 'MEDIA' tab at the top of the entry.

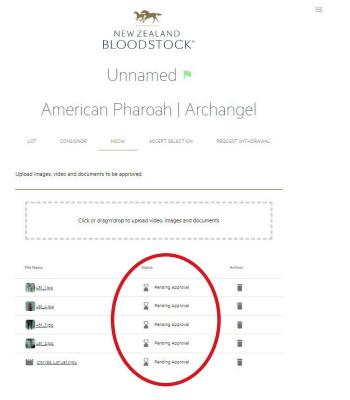


## **STEP 4. (Individual Lot Upload)**

Once you have selected the 'MEDIA' tab, click on the grey box to upload the media directly from your computer. It is important to ensure you have labelled all of your imagery correctly in the chronological order you would like the images to appear in. e.g., 111\_1, 111\_2, 111\_3 and so on.

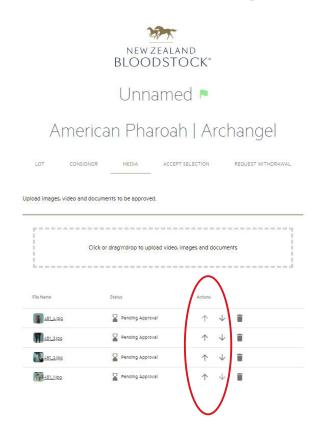
### **STEP 5. (Individual Lot Upload)**

Once you have uploaded your media, you will see each photo and/or video loaded into the NZB Standardbred Portal. As soon as you upload your media, it will be given a 'Pending Approval' status, as it is required to be approved by a member of the NZB Marketing Team in order to feature on the website. Please note that this approval process may take up to 24 hours after the initial upload.





## **STEP 6. (Individual Lot Upload)**



To change the order in which you would like your lot's photos to appear, simply select the image you would like to move and click the grey arrow located to the left of the trash can symbol. The direction of the arrow indicates the order in which you can sort your images, (upwards arrow or downwards arrow). The image located in the first row located closest to the grey media box is the photo that will appear first on the website. The image located in the second row is the image that will appear second on the website and so on.

## STEP 6. (Individual Lot Upload)

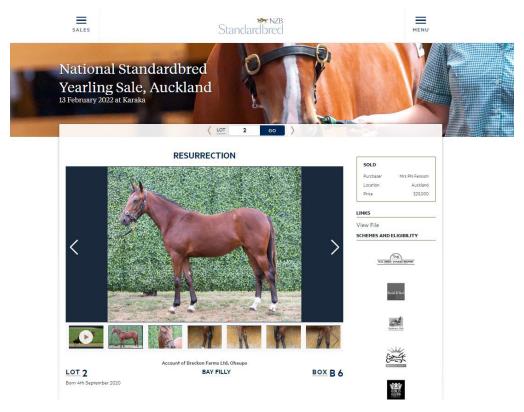
Once your media has been approved, you will see a green 'Approved' status against each image and/or video. If you would like to delete any of the media you have uploaded, simply click on the grey trash can next to the image and/or video.





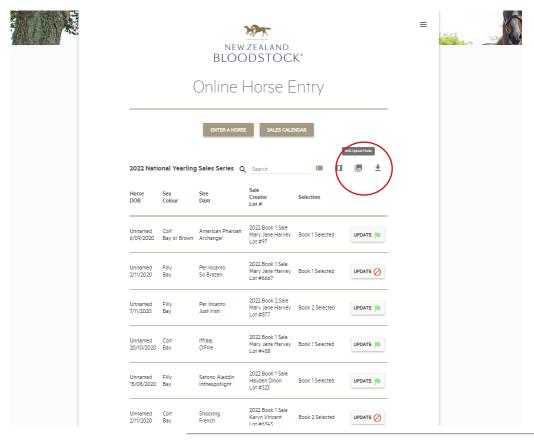
## **STEP 7. (Individual Lot Upload)**

Once your media has been uploaded, you can view it on the lot's website page as per usual.



## STEP 1. (Bulk Media Upload)

Vendors now have the option to 'bulk' upload their media, as opposed to uploading to individual lots. To upload multiple images for multiple lots at a time, select the 'bulk upload media' option in the homepage of your entry portal. Please note it is important to select the correct sale that you would like to upload media for and all media **MUST BE LABELED CORRECTLY.** 





## STEP 2. (Bulk Media Upload)

Select the images from your computer files to upload. Please note that it is **imperative** your files are labeled correctly in order for the bulk media upload function to link your photos to the NZB Standardbred website. **If you do not label your photos correctly, your media will not appear on the website.** The correct naming conventions are noted in the 'Bulk Media Upload' box which appears when you want to upload multiple media files at a time.



# STEP 3. (Bulk Media Upload)

Once you have uploaded your media in bulk, you will be able to see the file name as well as the lot number the images and/or videos correlate with. The status symbol will appear orange, indicating that your media has been sent to the NZB team for approval. Once your media has been approved, you will see it appear on the NZB Standardbred website against each lot.



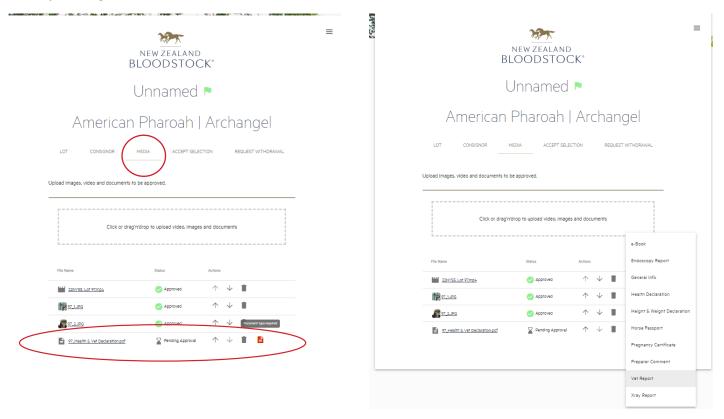
## SUBMITTING PDF REPORTS

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

You can do this by uploading the PDF document via the 'Media' tab against an individual Lot (using the same process as uploading a photo or video).

In order for PDF reports to be submitted, you must select a 'document type' for the PDF you are attempting to upload. The document type you select is the name of the PDF file which will appear against each lot.

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.



Note: Upload your PDF documents to the NZB Standardbred Portal using the exact same process as uploading a photo or video. There recommended limit of three PDF documents per Lot.

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.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

Should you have any trouble uploading your media via the NZB Standardbred portal, please contact a member of the NZB Marketing team who will endeavour to assist you. Please note that the Marketing team **will not** upload media on your behalf.

Media Enquiries (standardbred@nzb.co.nz)
Grant Inglis - Portal enquiries (grant.inglis@nzb.co.nz)

