



Kirsten Rausing
ITBF Chairman
Owner Manager, Lanwades
Industrialist, Philanthropist and Thoroughbred Breeder

Kirsten Rausing has been an active TB breeder for well over 50 years in Scandinavia, Ireland, France, the USA, South Africa and the United Kingdom, where she is based in Newmarket. Owner of Lanwades and St Simon Studs in Newmarket (started 1980 and 1982) and Staffordstown Stud in Ireland.

Breeding Industry Appointments:

- Chairman, British Thoroughbred Breeders' Association, 2006 – 2012
- Chairman, European Federation of Thoroughbred Breeders' Associations (Paris), 2002 – 2005
- Chairman, International Thoroughbred Breeders' Federation (ITBF) since 2017.
- Member, The Jockey Club 1992 – present

Other TB Industry Appointments:

- British Bloodstock Agency plc, Board Member 1990 – 2000
- The National Stud, Newmarket, Board Member 1998 – 2004
- Jockey Club Estates, Board Member 1994 – 2009
- Animal Health Trust, Newmarket, Trustee 1995 – 2012
- Honorary Associate, Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, 2013

Kirsten Rausing has as a breeder and consignor – of exclusively homebred breeding and racing stock – topped ALL of Tattersalls Sales (December, February, July, Highflyer/October) over the years; she has also sold the highest-priced yearling at Goffs Orby Sales in Ireland on four separate occasions.

In the period from 1984 – 20th April 2024, Kirsten Rausing has bred the winners of 2,255 races worldwide; this includes 16 individual Gr 1 winners of 34 Gr 1 races; including World Champions ALPINISTA and ALBORADA, Horse-of-the-Year ALBANOVA, Australian Champion ZAAKI and numerous Classic winners. *(Statistics prior to 1984 are not included, as incomplete)*



Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges GBS JP
IFHA Chairman
ARF Chairman
Chief Executive Officer, Hong Kong Jockey Club

Mr Engelbrecht-Bresges joined The Hong Kong Jockey Club in 1998 and has been its Chief Executive Officer since February 2007. Under his leadership the Club has undergone significant transformation, becoming one of the world's leading racing organisations, while its Charities Trust is now one of the world's top ten charity donors. Internationally, Mr Engelbrecht-Bresges is Chair of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA), the world's highest thoroughbred racing authority, and Chairman of the Asian Racing Federation (ARF), which comprises 28 national racing authorities and racing-related organisations from across Asia, Oceania, Africa and the Middle East. Mr Engelbrecht-Bresges is also President of the International Horse Sports Confederation (IHSC) founded by the IFHA and the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI).

In Hong Kong, Mr Engelbrecht-Bresges was a member of the Board of the Equestrian Events (Hong Kong) of the Games of the XXIX Olympiad Co Ltd, the company charged with managing the operations of the 2008 Olympic equestrian events in Hong Kong. He is a Vice Patron of the Community Chest and a Deputy Chairman of the Hong Kong Management Association, where he is Professor of Practice at its Institute of Advanced Management Development. He holds an honorary doctorate in humanities from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Mr Engelbrecht-Bresges was appointed a Justice of the Peace in 2009 and was awarded the Gold Bauhinia Star in 2016.

Prior to joining the Club, Mr Engelbrecht-Bresges spent six years as Executive Vice President and ten years as a Board Member of the German Racing and Breeding Authority (Direktorium für Vollblutzucht und Rennen), the governing body of German horse racing and breeding, whose members include the representatives of racecourses, the Trainers and Jockeys Association and the German Breeders and Owners Association.

A graduate from the University of Cologne, Mr Engelbrecht-Bresges has had a lifelong passion for horseracing and breeding thoroughbreds. He is also an avid football fan and played football professionally in Germany before graduation.



Sarah Carmichael
ITBF Chief Executive Officer,

Sarah Carmichael joined ITBF in 2019 as Secretariat. Working alongside the Executive Committee, her focus has been in expanding the membership and developing ITBF's role and remit to best serve international breeders. The introduction of the ITBF annual global webinar in 2021, featuring world-leading breeding organisations, and veterinary experts, has become an established industry calendar event.

In a significant move forward in 2023, ITBF and IFHA formalised a collaborative agreement creating the foundation stone for breeding and racing to work together into the future. In early 2024, Sarah was appointed as Chief Executive Officer of ITBF.

Sarah has a 30-year background in the Thoroughbred industry. She held the position of Marketing Manager at the National Stud in Newmarket, responsible for the promotion of the six-strong Group 1 stallion roster, boarding mares and foaling services, yearling preparation, quarantine services, the stud farming education courses, corporate hospitality and the Stud's public tours. She was also involved in the organisation and running of an annual Thoroughbred breeding and racing trade fair. An Industrial Design graduate, she originally worked for a design consultancy on the Cambridge Science Park, before deciding to set up her own design and advertising business. Her broad client base included agricultural companies, equestrian and livestock feed & equipment companies, and the commercial vehicle sector, amongst others. She then went on to specialise in the Thoroughbred industry, providing design, marketing and advertising services to stallion studs and bloodstock agencies, producing their annual stud brochures.

Sarah has held a lifelong passion for horses, and continues to be hands-on in looking after, training, and competing her own horses, including her homebreds.



Dr Des Leadon MA, MVB, MSc, FRCVS, DipECEIM
ITBF Vice Chairman
ITBF Veterinary Advisory Committee Chairman
EFTBA Veterinary Advisory Committee Chairman

Dr Des Leadon is a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons with more than 40 years of clinical veterinary experience, and Diplomate of the European College of Equine Internal Medicine. He is a Registered Consultant in Equine Medicine from both the RCVS and the European College of Equine Internal

Medicine. Des has been Head of Equine Clinical Pathology at the Irish Equine Centre for 30 years, and currently holds the position of Clinical Consultant.

A former President of British Equine Veterinary Association, former President of the World Equine Veterinary Association, Founding Diplomat and former Vice-President of the European College of Equine Internal Medicine, International Director of the American Association of Equine Practitioners, Past Presidents Advisory Committee of the World Equine Veterinary Association (on which he still sits).

An expert advisor, on the following committees:

- Member of the IFHA's International Movement of Horses Committee (IMHC)
- Pre-movement inspector for the International Racing Bureau, Hong Kong Jockey Club and the Saudi Cup.
- Commissioned to travel with horses to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.
- Expert Advisor to the FVO of the EU on the transport of Horses.
- Member of the EFTBA delegation at the EU Commission on the movement of horses
- Pre-Auditor for South Africa's bid for the resumption of direct horse exports to the EU (2019).
- Expert Veterinary Advisor to the Lloyds Livestock Committee.
- Member of International Horse Sport Council (IHSC) Task Force on the Transport of Horses post Brexit and on the 2021 EU Animal Health Laws (2020 to present).

Des and his wife Dr Mariann Klay own and breed Thoroughbred racehorses on their stud farm "Swordlestown Little" near Naas in Co Kildare in Ireland. They have bred Black Type and other winners in Ireland, England, France, Switzerland, the USA, Canada, Hong Kong and Australia.



James Crowhurst MA, Vet MB, MRCVS
Veterinary Advisor to the British TBA
Consultant at Newmarket Equine Hospital

James Crowhurst graduated from Cambridge University in 1978, having accompanied a boat load of 170 horses from England to New Zealand in his gap year, and went straight into general practice in Queensland with Reg Pascoe. Next a spell in Kentucky with Hagyards, returning to Scone, NSW for another TB breeding season with Bill Howie and Partners.

Following this, he joined Twink Allen at the Animal Research Unit in Cambridge before joining Greenwood Ellis and Partners in Newmarket in 1981. He became Partner in 1984, doing both horses in training and stud medicine initially, gradually concentrating on the latter. He joined the board of BEVA (British Equine Veterinary Association), and was Chairman of the Newmarket Stud Farmers Association. He also became a Trustee of the Animal Health Trust and a member of the British Thoroughbred Breeders' Association's Veterinary Committee. Currently he is a Chairman of the latter, and a Trustee of the TBA, together with being elected to the Newmarket Charitable Trust. Other duties include membership of the International Code of Practice and EIDS (Equine Infectious Disease Surveillance) Committees.

He and his wife Tessa manage a small stud in Newmarket and enjoy horse riding for pleasure.



Joe Heron
EFTBA Chairman
Manager Coolmore Castlehyde
Owner Manager Castletown Stud

Joe Heron for many years has been leading figure in the European Bloodstock Industry. Originally from County Wicklow, with a family steeped in Irish thoroughbred breeding, Joe has spent much of his working life in County Cork.

In addition to managing one of Coolmore Ireland's principal flat stallion farms - Castlyhyde Stud in Fermoy Co. Cork, Joe Hernon owns and manages the successful Castletown Stud. Castletown Stud has a rich history of producing and consigning top class racehorses, from a former Nunthorpe Stakes heroine, Lyric Fantasy, to a more recent Irish Derby winner, Latrobe, and currently Lumiere Rock.

At Castletown Stud Joe Hernon offers advice on broodmare matings, investments, boarding of mares, racehorse management, sales consignment and preparation, as well as sourcing bloodstock.

Joe Hernon has served on the Council of the ITBA (Irish Thoroughbred Breeders Association) since the late 1990's, taking on the role as Chairman from 2006 - 2008. During his chairmanship, Ireland experienced an outbreak of Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA), a highly infectious and potentially fatal viral disease of horses. Joe played a pivotal role in minimizing the potential threat to Ireland's thoroughbred herd, its breeders, and the industry's ability to trade.

In 2008 and representing Ireland, Joe Hernon was successfully elected as chairman of EFTBA (European Federation of Thoroughbred Breeders Association) for a three- year term. During this period he worked closely with the EFTBA Executive and its Honorary President, her Highness Princess Zahra Aga Khan, for the betterment of Europe's 23,000 thoroughbred breeders. Much of the work concentrated on EU Commission lobbying activity in Brussels.

A second term as chairman was presented to Joe Hernon in 2017 during a very turbulent time for European breeders, due to the UK preparing to exit the EU. Yet again he proved his committed resolve to the bloodstock industry by working to reduce the impact caused by BREXIT across many fronts, including the ability to trade with the UK, transportation and taxation. When his three-year tenure ended in 2020, he was asked to remain on as chairman to offer further guidance and support for the European thoroughbred industry on critical challenges facing breeders such as VAT, vaccine availability, transportation, and welfare matters. Through his extended chairmanship of the EFTBA, Guardians of the Thoroughbred, he has shown himself to be steadfast defender of the European thoroughbred industry with a determination to promote and protect European breeders and their livelihoods.



Yoshiharu Ueno, DVM
Doctor of Veterinary Science from Hokkaido University
Executive Vice President, Japan Bloodhorse Breeders'
Association (JBBA)

Yoshiharu Ueno majored in pathology at Hokkaido University's Graduate School of Veterinary Science. After joining the Japan Racing Association (JRA), he spent time as a clinical veterinarian at the JRA Racehorse Clinic, specializing in surgery and lameness diagnosis. He also served as a veterinary official during JRA racemeets for many years.

In addition, as a Division Head in the JRA's veterinary department, he was actively involved with globalising the standard of doping control measures in Japanese racing. Internationally, he has also served on the IFHA's Technical Advisory Committee and Horse Welfare Committee in the past.

Within the JRA, he has held various directorial positions including Director in charge of Breeding Affairs, Veterinary Affairs, Betting and Customer Services. He is currently the Executive Vice President of the JBBA and is also an Executive Council member of the Japan Association for International Racing and Stud Book (JAIRS), member of the Japanese Consultative Committee on Aftercare of Racehorses, Chairman of the National Association for Racing's Executive Council and Director of the Bloodhorse Training Center.



Kaoru Matsuda
Head of International Division, Japan Bloodhorse Breeders' Association (JBBA)
Stallions and International Department, JBBA

Kaoru Matsuda grew up living in both the U.S.A. and Japan and has worked with the JBBA (Japan Bloodhorse Breeders' Association) for over 25 years after completing university in Japan.

Within the JBBA, she has been involved with the purchasing and importing of stallions from abroad and also promoting Japanese-bred horses to overseas buyers and owners. In particular, she has experience translating documents and communications on topics such as stallion transactions, bloodstock management, horse transport and quarantine and promotion of Japanese sales. She has also interpreted for speakers from overseas invited to give presentations to Japanese breeders and veterinarians on subjects such as equine neo-natal care, equine ophthalmology, equine dentistry and equine nutrition.



Dan Metzger
President TOBA (Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association) USA

Dan Metzger was appointed TOBA President in July 1999. Dan represents TOBA on a number of committees, including the International Grading and Race Planning Advisory Committee (IRPAC), International Cataloguing Standards Committee (ICSC), International Thoroughbred Breeders Federation, American Horse Council Racing Committee and the

Racing Medication & Testing Consortium (RMTC). He is also a board member of Blood Horse LLC and president of TOBA Media Properties. Dan also serves on the board of directors for the Bluegrass Sports Commission.

Prior to joining TOBA, Dan directed communications, simulcasting, marketing services and licensing for Breeders' Cup Limited and was general manager of Cawood Ledford Productions, a sports broadcasting and publishing company in Lexington. Dan is a 1984 graduate of the University of Kentucky.



Ignacio Hurtado
Vice President of the Circulo de Dueños de Caballos FS de Carrera A.G. (Circle of Thoroughbred Owners)

Ignacio Hurtado Burr is a 32-year-old trained lawyer. Along with the development of his profession, Ignacio has been a contributor for eight years to the Criadores de Chile magazine, a publication of the Chilean Thoroughbred Breeders Association, where he publishes the monthly column "Desde el Pedigree" ("From the Pedigree") that was inspired by

Andrew Caulfield's "Pedigree Insight" column.

Ignacio is also Vice President of the Círculo de Dueños de Caballos FS de Carrera A.G., one of the two associations representing racehorse owners in Chile.

In parallel to his contribution to horse racing, he worked in Santiago de Chile at the law offices of Larraín & Asociados and CW&C Abogados, specializing in corporate law, taxes, and real estate law. Additionally, for three years, he was part of the legal team of the Fundación TECHO, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing permanent housing, education, and other services to families in precarious settlements, with a presence in 17 Latin American countries.



Ezequiel Valle **General Manager, Haras Firmamento**

Ezequiel Valle was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 44 years ago. Since he was a child, he has always been related to horseracing and Haras Firmamento, given that his father, a renowned veterinarian, had been working for this prestigious breeding farm long before he was born.

Ezequiel majored in Journalism, a career he pursued for a few years after he finished his studies, until in 2005 he began working in La

Mission breeding farm in the area of sales and management. This is where he developed a closer relationship with the Thoroughbred breeding industry, as he came in to contact with prestigious stallions such as Giant's Causeway, Hennessy and Harlan's Holiday. Since 2011, he holds the position of General Manager at Haras Firmamento, one of the major breeding establishments in South America. Ezequiel Valle is also Chief Executive Officer of JCB Stables, a subsidiary of Haras Firmamento based in the USA.



Justine Sclater **Head of Thoroughbred Welfare and Sustainability** **for New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing.**

A passionate New Zealand thoroughbred breeder and racehorse owner with a lifetime industry involvement. Justine together with husband David owns and operates a successful boutique thoroughbred agistment farm alongside their 120 HA grass based dairy farm located in the central Waikato, a highly productive farming region that is also known as the

heart of New Zealand thoroughbred breeding and racing.

With a lifetime of knowledge and experience within both the thoroughbred breeding and racing industry Justine has developed a skill set that combines a hands-on grass roots farming perspective with having held positions in several key roles within the NZ Thoroughbred Industry.

Justine's background in farming has given her a practical insight and a grounded understanding of compliance issues and the challenges that thoroughbred breeders face. She is an owner and breeder that understands the commercial reality of running a profitable bloodstock business.

In her current role as Head of Thoroughbred Welfare and Sustainability for New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing, it has given her a wider view, different perspective and greater understanding of wider issues industry participants face.

Previously Justine held a 6-year tenure as CEO of the NZ Thoroughbred Breeders' Association. It was the drive to help thoroughbred breeders face new challenges around Social License, legislation requirements and ever-increasing welfare public scrutiny being the catalyst to accepting a new challenge as Head of Thoroughbred Welfare and Sustainability in July 2023.

Justine has successfully represented the New Zealand equine industry at legislative hearings at both a regional and national level as a primary industry, advocating and championing the thoroughbred industry on many different levels such as welfare, education, traceability, animal health, thoroughbred second careers, social license to operate and establishing positive working relationships with government and other rural entities.

Justine believes it is imperative that the thoroughbred industry is on the front foot, telling our story to ensure that we are regarded as an important and essential primary agricultural industry by government and regulatory bodies. They must understand how we operate at a farming level when making legislative changes as to the potential economic impacts on our industry.



Claire Sheppard
Chief Executive of The British TBA (Thoroughbred Breeders Association)

Claire joined the British Thoroughbred Breeders' Association as Chief Executive in 2017 following an extensive career in the racing industry, including senior positions with the Racecourse Association, Plumpton Racecourse, Musselburgh Racecourse and Tote Direct.

Her role as Chief Executive of the TBA involves developing strategy and policy to deliver the TBA's charitable objectives and leading in the management of the team and associated strategic initiatives.

She also represents the TBA in building constructive working relationships across the sport, the wider equine sector and with UK Governments, domestically and internationally, to further the promotion and championing of the British Thoroughbred.

Claire is the TBA representative on the BHA Commercial Committee and Industry Programme Group, and a Director of the British Horse Council and the British EBF.



James Given BVetMed MRCVS
Director of Equine Regulation, Safety and Welfare
British Horseracing Authority

James spent a year working at the Royal Veterinary College in London after graduation, followed by three and a half years in practice, before joining a trainer as his resident vet and assistant trainer for a further three years. After a month on a travel scholarship working in Dubai, he started training in his own right and continued for the next 22 years.

He joined the British Horseracing Authority in January 2021, in his current role as Director of Equine Regulation, Safety and Welfare. James has previously been a director of a racecourse for nine years, a trustee of the British Racing School for 15 years and is a founder member of both the BHA's Ethics Committee and British racing's Horse Welfare Board. He sits on the IMHC (International Movement of Horses Committee) and the IFHA's HWC (Horse Welfare Committee) and Advisory Council.

Having had no hobbies as a trainer, he is slowly adjusting to civilian life and hopes to become normalised in society before too long!



Ameeta Mehra
Owner and Manager of Usha Stud Farms

Ameeta is the leading breeder of Thoroughbreds in India and owner of Usha Stud Farms.

Her family first became involved in breeding and racing in the early 70's, when her late father (the leading polo player of his day) purchased agricultural land near Delhi and set up the Usha Stud.

Ameeta was brought up on the studs and around the horses, and she has dedicated her life to the thoroughbred. After attending the Irish National stud course in 1991, Ameeta returned home to take over the day to day running of the stud farm and has done so ever since.

Under her care, the stud has developed and gone from strength to strength. With a focus on a programme of ever improving pedigrees, stallions, and standards, they have been Champion Indian Stud Farm 9 times. They have bred winners of the National Derby, Oaks and Guineas, with the highest

number in the country: 15 Indian Derby winners, 18 Oaks & 16 1000 guineas winners. Breeders of 388 classics, and 103 individual classic winners, an all-time record.

Ameeta is one of the driving forces behind the Indian thoroughbred industry. She is currently working on creating the first ever International Carnival of Racing in India, inviting foreign horses to compete in India.



Pierric Rouxel

President of ASSELCO (Breeder's Association for Western France)

Vice-President of The French TBA (Thoroughbred Breeders' Association)

Pierric is currently a serving Committee Member of France-Galop, is the President of ASSELCO (Breeder's association for Western France), Vice-President of French TBA, and is also the representative for France within EFTBA.

For 35 years he was the former Manager of Haras de Maulepaire in France (owned by Count and Countess de Tarragon). With 70 owned and boarding mares combined, they bred for both flat and jumps racing. Haras de Maulepaire was also a regular consigner at the Deauville sales. Pierric has also been a private advisor and thoroughbred consultant for racehorse owners in France, as well as for a prominent stud farm and racing stable in Morocco.

Prior to this, Pierric was Assistant Manager at Haras du Mezeray (Paul de Moussac) for 8 years. This was followed by a period of 5 years in Paris as Chief Editor of monthly magazines, such as Galop Information, Trot Information, Amateurs au Galop and Etalons de Galop. A graduate in journalism in 1976, he then joined the Irish National Stud Management Course in 1977, under the patronage of Dr Michael Osborne, and was awarded the silver medal at the course completion.