

The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Bill

Submission to the Agriculture and Environment Committee

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To Whom It May Concern,

The Stamford Race Club Inc does not support The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Bill being presented or passed, as it will have a devastating effect on the Queensland Racing Industry.

The Tracking towards Sustainability Report and this Bill are the Live Export Debacle of Queensland Racing. There was a problem with the Greyhound Racing sector so instead of fixing that the whole racing industry is being crucified.

The Queensland Government cannot justify the reduction in prize money and number of race meetings being considered in this bill and report. Racing would then become an un-economical industry for trainers, jockeys, farriers and owners, and businesses associated with racing. There is a critical mass that must be maintained to allow racing to operate and remain viable. It is at that point now so any loss of racing clubs or dates will reduce the viability of the whole industry.

Country racing is an integral part of Queensland Racing. Trainers, jockeys, administrators and racing officials are mostly trained in country race clubs. Horses that are not good enough for the TAB meetings and larger metropolitan racing find their way to Non TAB meetings and country races.

Tourism Events are being built around successful country race meetings. We are a small race club which has worked hard to develop our tourist potential and have increased our patron numbers by 50% in the last 2 years. We have also met every benchmark that Queensland Racing has required.

The social and community aspect of country racing has a huge effect on the Mental Health of our communities and acts as a networking event for communities, families and friends. With the last 4 years of drought, events such as ours are valuable in assisting people to cope with the difficult situations that they are now experiencing. These events are a huge mental and emotional tool for our people and communities to cope with the death and desperation that is part of their daily lives.

Two issues that we find absolutely abhorrent in the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Bill are the following:

- Having 4 of the 7 member Racing Board members being non-racing people is detrimental as they must have racing industry knowledge. Racing must be administered by industry professionals.
- Allowing Corporations to apply to run any of the racing sectors is completely detrimental to efficient and transparent administration. Queensland Racing needs to run thoroughbreds, greyhounds and trotting, so that they are operated by professionals in their fields.

As a successful country race club we feel the proposed Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Bill would be extremely detrimental to our club, our community and region and must be defeated.

Yours Faithfully,


Hon Secretary, Stamford Race Club Inc.

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