

From: [Paul Nolan](#)
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Submission Regarding the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission Bill
Date: Wednesday, 3 February 2016 10:27:13 AM

My name is Paul Nolan (Jnr). I have been an accountant for 19 years & involved in racing through my family & father Paul (Snr) since 1985. I wish to clear up one massive misconception that seems to plague the racing industry- we are not a bunch of rich wine sipping hobnobs that have nothing better to do with our money. Instead, the majority are battlers that struggle to earn a decent living from it & are only in it because we love the noble animal that is a thoroughbred born to run. I can honestly say that I have been owning racehorses since 2001, training since 2006 & have NEVER made a profit. I am just one of the lucky few in that I have my accounting business in order to keep the operation going. What I have done is provide jobs for 2 staff every year since 2006 along with 2 trackriders & that is only from having 8 horses in work. Also the flow on to vets, farriers, feed merchants, horse breakers, transport companies, etc is immeasurable.


The racing industry is also a very labour intensive industry due to the simple fact that someone has to pick up the manure & urine along with making sure it is adequately fed & watered twice a day. Consequently, the racing industry often employs the unemployable with no qualifications & often not even a Year 12 certificate. I am lucky in the employee I have is one of the smarter ones. Obviously I cannot disclose her name for privacy reasons but she turns 21 in March. Currently she is living with her parents but saving for a house & is on a fulltime 38 hour wage with me. One consequence of having inexperienced people on the Racing Board making decisions like reducing prizemoney, etc means I lose confidence in who is running the industry & I won't be buying any more yearlings each year. This then flows on that I have less horses in work, say 5 instead of 8 with the ultimate consequence being my employees hours drop from a fulltime 38hrs to a casual 30hrs. Also my trackriders are obviously paid less also. These are the real life consequences of not having people with both business & racing experience on the board running racing i.e. LOSS OF JOBS!

I fully support the TBQA submission & I do not support the implementation of the Queensland Racing Integrity Bill. I strongly believe that the Government reacted recklessly to the greyhound live-baiting scandal & I do not believe we need a separate integrity commission. The system has worked well for many years & we should be trying to be like the very successful jurisdictions in NSW & Victoria. They do not have a separate commission & the recent Cobalt inquiries shows that the system works perfectly well, with stewards doing their job without fear or favour. I also believe the government sacked some very competent board members like Kevin Dixon, Peter Boyce, Mike Kelly, etc. These were not only good business people but had horses in work themselves so knew the industry very well including costs to owners & with no owners, THERE IS NO RACING.

I respectfully ask that my submission to be read out at the Public Hearing on February 17th.

Regards

Paul Nolan (B. Bus, CPA)


Toowoomba Village Fair Qld 4350

