

## Inquiry into the Racing Integrity Amendment Bill 2022

Submission No: 1

Submitted by: Daniel Bowden

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Attachments:

Submitter Comments:

Submitter Recommendations:

No Recommendations

## INQUIRY INTO THE RACING INTEGRITY AMMENDMENT BILL

This submission is presented as an individual, as a supplementary. Having read the explanatory notes and observed public briefing, I am of the view that the proposed amendments are welcomed to further boost confidence in Queensland racing product. The production of a model using parcels of Legalisation from other states is fraught with danger, as even as we speak, a Bernbough type scenario is developing in RacingNSW territory. The presentation by the Deputy Director and the Director was first class, however, some of the questions asked showed the lack of “Racing Knowledge” displayed by some Members. As you are aware, the racing industry has its own language and even with access to an Urban Dictionary, one could be at sea. The forming of the Review panel amendment seems a little clunky with too much emphasis on addressing result terms, ie 200 day average, and frivolous application for a stay in proceedings. In the case of appeals being strategically withdrawn, I submit that the withdrawal is not a given, leave must be sought. Powers of the Appeal Panel should be extended to also extend penalty, if required. History has shown that Act amendments are not handled in a timely manner, hence the use of the Regulations and the Governor in Council, could be a very effective tool to address serious welfare issues as the industry progresses through items like use of the whip, spurs, tongue ties and general horse handling skills that have always been an acceptable practice. With respect to eligibility of the appeal panel, I am of the view that horse ownership should be not allowed for the sake of public confidence in our product. Conversely, I am of the view that current race club committee members should be allowed. A Lawyer as Chairman is a must, a Doctor is a great advantage, however there is a need for succession planning as one can not buy the knowledge and experience. The issues of conflict of interest can be addressed by the Appeal Secretary making selections of Panel members taking into consideration of conflicts and maintaining public confidence. Excluding race club committee will inevitably reduce the pool of eligible panel members and in turn could potentially result in an erosion of public confidence.