

Tasracing infrastructure update

Last year's funding reset decision has allowed Tasracing, for the first time since it was established, to consider investment in appropriate infrastructure for racing and training.

One of our short to medium-term priorities will therefore be addressing a number of infrastructure issues that have emerged in recent years.

While the ability to invest in infrastructure following the reset decision is an important outcome, communicating with you and other industry stakeholders about our progress on these various projects is also important.

I would encourage you to please take the time to read these updates (including this one) as they will contain relevant information about our various infrastructure investments.

Dr Eliot Forbes
CEO
Tasracing

Harness lights replacement

After completing a trial changing the luminaires (lights) on four poles on the harness track at (xx), Tasracing will fast track the replacement works.

While it was originally intended to undertake the replacement program over a five-year period, the works will instead be completed by July or August this year.

Once all luminaires have been replaced, a full lighting audit will be completed to ensure lighting levels of the track meet the design criteria.

For reference, Tasracing has selected an Italian brand of luminaires for the replacement program.

Brooker Highway

The Brooker Highway road works near the Elwick racecourse have obviously commenced.

The plans for the \$32 million highway upgrade include works at the junctions at Elwick, Goodwood and Howard Roads to improve traffic flow and minimise peak-hour bottlenecks.

A parcel of land on the western edge of Elwick has been acquired by the Tasmanian Government as part of the project.

As a result, traffic conditions on site have changed and temporary car parking arrangements have been introduced.

The project is expected to be finished by the middle of 2017.

Further updates about the progress of the works will be provided in future bulletins.

It is worth noting in this space that, as part of this project, Tasracing worked with the Department of State Growth and engineers GHD to implement a stormwater harvesting system to help reduce reliance on town water.

Loop arm lure

The development of a loop arm lure for greyhounds is in the final stages of implementation.

An engineering assessment of the design and construction of the lure has now been completed and Tasracing is trialing lure shapes and styles.

While this portion of the work is being done in Hobart, once a final lure design is agreed upon, lures will be rolled out at the tracks at Launceston and Devonport.

Air conditioning in kennels

A consultant engineer employed by Tasracing has redesigned the air conditioning system for the greyhound kennel buildings at Elwick and Mowbray.

The redesign was required as the previous system failed to cope with peak loads (highest and lowest temperatures).

With the design work now signed off, the contract to install the systems has been advertised.

It is proposed that the new system will be installed in Hobart during April and in Launceston during May.

Ulverstone track

Tracks update

The thoroughbred tracks at Elwick and Mowbray have “come through” the Tasmanian Summer Racing Carnival very well.

Feedback received from trainers and jockeys regarding the presentation of the tracks immediately after the carnival was excellent.

At all times we are focused on providing a safe and consistent surface for all industry participants regardless of the code of racing. Pleasingly, revised management systems have been introduced across the board that are delivering positive outcomes.

We have specifically reduced “kickback” at Spreyton thanks to a regime of mist spraying in between races during race meetings.

Tasracing also also completed profile renovations to the greyhound tracks at Devonport and Hobart.

As a result of this work the surfaces have more cushion and moisture levels are easier to maintain.