

TAN – MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, 19th June 2024
The Grange, Campbell Town
Meeting commenced at 11:00am

Attendees:

Merv Hill	Chair
Andrew Jenkins	Tasracing CEO
David Manshanden	Tasracing COO
Liam Swan	Tasracing Racing Manager
Blayne Hudson	Tasracing Racing Coordinator – Thoroughbreds
Stephen Shaw	Tasmanian Trainers Association
Martin Lenz	Tasracing Chief Veterinary & Animal Welfare Officer
Alison Archer	Tasmanian Turf Club – Chairman
Andrew Scanlon	Tasmanian Racing Club – Chairman
Barry Milton	Devonport Racing Club – Chairman
Kevin Ring	Tasmanian Jockeys Association – President
Bruce Free	Chairman of Stewards – Thoroughbred
Robin Thompson	Director of Racing – ORI

Apologies:

Stewart Brown	Tasracing Racing Coordinator – Thoroughbreds
John McKenna	Racehorse Owners Association Tasmania
Bart McCulloch	Tasbreeders

1. MEETING ADMINISTRATION

1.1 Welcome

Chair opened the meeting at 11:03am.

1.2 Minutes

Chair called for any discrepancies with the minutes of the previous meeting, of which there were none.

Minutes of the previous meeting confirmed and accepted.

1.3 Matters Arising

Action Items from the March 2024 TAN Meeting were addressed.

Extreme Weather Policy – Incorporating Heat and Wind – Martin Lenz and Bruce Free informed the group that progress had been made and agreed these policies would be combined.

Compulsory Concussion Testing – Liam Swan spoke with the TJA and ORI regarding the stand down period and practices on a participant standing themselves down. Kevin Ring stated that Racing Victoria will extend the stand down period on a confirmed concussion. David Manshanden stated that other sports were looking to do the same and said Tasracing will be driven by national change.

Conditions on Visiting Trainers – Bruce Free clarified the conditions around Visiting Trainers to Tasmania.

Barrier Attendants – Horse Handling Scenario – Martin Lenz updated the group that a contractor will come over from Melbourne in August for 2 sessions at Launceston and Hobart to cover skills with starters and barrier attendants as well as emergency rescue training.

Tasracing support for the Owners Association – David Manshanden spoke to the TROA regarding the lack of committee and volunteers, and they are considering winding up the organisation.

2. ITEMS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Nil.

3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1 Northwest Track Update

Tasracing outlined the decision to not continue with the proposed plan regarding the building of the Northwest Track and the options being looked at for potential alternatives regarding these codes.

A group discussion was held regarding the alternatives.

3.2 Horses being passed fit to Race

The TJA raised that some horses are getting to the races without enough education from trials with the lack of horses trialling together.

Tasracing stated that after discussion with the TJA, this field limit threshold has been raised to 7 horses per trial to allow more horses to trial together to get further education.

This commenced at Longford Trials on Tuesday 18th June.

3.3 Apprentice Jockeys Workers Compensation Cover

The TJA raised a concern regarding trainers knowledge around cover for apprentices. Many believe the apprentice is covered fully under Tasracing workers compensation.

Tasracing mentioned they are currently working with WorkSafe on an educational piece around workers compensation and work, health and safety in the racing industry.

This piece will explain who is responsible through different scenarios regarding apprentices and other workers.

Tasracing stated that an apprentice is only covered through Tasracings insurance if they are involved in an accident whilst on a horse. All other incidents that occur to the apprentice is covered by the trainer.

The ATA will inform their members.

3.4 Feature Race and Programming

Tasracing spoke regarding the alteration to the 2YO Racing season and options for the 3YO season next year. The start of 2YO racing would be pushed back by 3 weeks, with some feature races moving to later slots to accommodate this change. The 3YO season would include a \$50k 2100m race in June to accommodate our late season 3YO stayers.

Tasracing also put forward the option to trial two Class 3 Set Weight races in August to gauge industry feedback on the concept.

All proposed alterations were accepted by the group.

A discussion was had regarding Benchmark and Class racing in the state.

4. ITEMS FOR NOTING

4.1 Integrity Bill Update

Tasracing spoke regarding the Bill and how it has been passed by the Lower House. The Bill will now go to the Upper House for discussion, which they are hopeful it progresses well. Things are progressing well behind the scenes for a transition in the future when passed.

A group discussion was had regarding the Bill.

4.2 Race Dates 2024/2025

Taken as read.

4.3 Wagering Turnover Performance

Taken as read.

Tasracing mentioned turnover is down 9% overall on Thoroughbreds, which coincides with other jurisdictions nationally. Tasracing will be keeping a close eye on turnover from 1 July 2024.

4.4 Marketing Update

Taken as read.

4.5 Projects/Assets & Track/Facilities Update

Taken as read.

Tasracing touched on the completion of the amenities building at Devonport and the discussion around the Tapeta track. Tasracing is in discussion with numerous track companies regarding the remedial work around the current surface.

Tasracing mentioned the plans around Hobart and the importance of rail shifts to racing.

A group discussion was had regarding Hobart Track with the following points raised by the TTA and the TRC:

- Can rail shifts coincide with a minimum field limit
- Could clubs and trainers have the opportunity to walk the track with the Track Managers
- TTA asked for a minimum field limit of 12 for any rail shift.
- New field limits looked at for all Hobart distances.

Tasracing mentioned they are always accommodating and try to give field sizes preference when shifting the rail. Tasracing will have discussions options with the TTA and the TJA with in the future.

4.6 Animal Welfare Update

Taken as read.

Tasracing spoke about the code of practice currently with ORI and the major works starting around the ethical rehoming framework of thoroughbreds. Mentioned a new contractor

starting with Tasracing to get the project underway as well as a new animal welfare officer, who will help with the expansion of the OTT Program.

4.5 Apprentice Program Update

Taken as read.

Tasracing discussed the apprentice program, with the following updates:

- Taylor Johnstone has joined Andrew Gluyas in South Australia for a 3 month loan agreement starting from June 1.
- Kasi Boxall has been injured and will spend a period out recovering from a broken finger.
- Jabez Johnstone has been indentured to Sarah Cotton and has commenced trial rides.

A group discussion took place regarding the following:

- Tasracing and the TJA asking for an increase to apprentices claim wins through Racing Australia nationally.
 - Discussion around apprentices outriding the claim quicker through low Benchmark races with higher rated horses.
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4.5 Racing Australia Rules of Racing – UPDATED

Taken as read.

TTA said these rules were still in discussion for industry consideration.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Horses who haven't raced in 12 Months.

ORI mentioned a "Code of Practice" implemented through Racing Australia in which if a horse hasn't raced within 12 months, a satisfactory trial and a vet certificate must be produced.

The group agreed it should be implemented into a Tasmanian local rule with an update provided at the next TAN Meeting.

Meeting closed at 12:35pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 19, 2024