



30 January 2009

Queensland Racing Limited
ABN 93 116 735 374
Racecourse Rd Deagon QLD 4017
PO Box 63 Sandgate QLD 4017
T 07 3869 9777
F 07 3269 6404
E info@queenslandracing.com.au
W www.queenslandracing.com.au

Dear Member

Queensland Racing Limited (QRL) has taken the unprecedented action to write to all Members of the Toowoomba Turf Club (TTC) to outline the situation from the Board of QRL's perspective, in relation to the installation of the synthetic track at Clifford Park and the future direction that the resultant vote of Members will dictate for Toowoomba.

The issue of the installation of the cushion track has been bitterly debated in the media and has been the subject of unwarranted division in the Toowoomba racing fraternity. You, as a Member of the TTC, need to be fully appraised of the facts and consequences for your Club, prior to casting your vote.

The decision was made by the Board of QRL to make an offer to your Committee, to install a synthetic track on the course proper after full investigation and due diligence was conducted. QRL understands that your Committee also carried out a full investigation of all possible options to ensure Toowoomba maintains its position as a major participant and contributor within the Queensland racing programme.

The decision, after much debate, was predicated on the following principal issues:

- No sustainable water supply in the city of Toowoomba
- No bankable reliable source of suitable water at a reasonable cost
- The restrictions in the area of Clifford Park will not allow the TTC to increase the size of the course proper so as to accommodate a synthetic track of sufficient size and safety to allow for the conduct of race meetings on the inside of the course proper
- The inability of the current course proper to satisfactorily facilitate 57 TAB race meetings
- The TTC to be part of the synthetic twilight racing programme, and
- The need to present a quality racing surface to national and international markets.

From the above considerations it can be seen quite clearly that the TTC and QRL have acted in a responsible manner in committing \$10 million to secure the future of the TTC in the longer term.

It is incumbent on the Board of QRL to place before you, the Members, the responsibility that the Toowoomba Trainers Association, Mr Dann, Mr Wagner and Mr Wells, has through their actions placed upon you. In any normal rational situation, these decisions are the responsibility of your duly elected Committee.

The position of a positive vote will see QRL allocate \$10 million to undertake the following capital works:

- Conversion of the course proper to a all weather synthetic surface, and associated cambering and realignment
- Regenerating both dams and lining with the latest dam liner
- Sealed service ambulance road
- Sealed horse walkways
- Upgrade of existing lights to international standards
- Retention of the Saturday night racing programme
- Allocation of a metropolitan status meeting for Weetwood, and

Racing will be suspended from 11 February 2009 – 11 July 2009, however, this closure is likely to be longer, due to the delays caused by the Toowoomba Trainers' Association action. No decision can be made, until the outcomes of the various meetings are finalised.

CONVERSELY, SHOULD A NEGATIVE VOTE BE CAST THE FOLLOWING WILL APPLY:

Race date schedule will not be altered and Toowoomba will be closed from 11 February 2009 – 11 July 2009

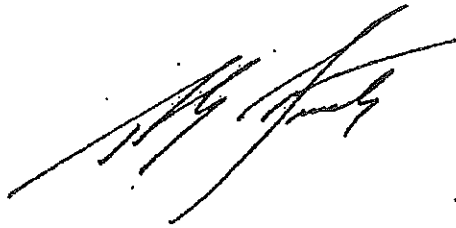
- All 57 TAB race meetings will not be returned to Toowoomba
- QRL will proceed to recoup the costs already expended on the project, including the removal of the cushion track stockpile
- QRL will require the TTC to upgrade the course proper to a suitable standard, at the Clubs expense
- QRL will not allow racing at Toowoomba on a sub-standard track, including feature races
- QRL will require TTC to upgrade the lights to an acceptable standard, estimated at \$1 million at the Club's expense
- The funding for the lighting and cushion track will be offered to another club, and
- The ongoing allocation of future race dates will be considered, depending on the condition of the track.

The decision to offer the TTC the opportunity to upgrade and be realistic with its expectations in light of the physical constraints of water and land space were made in good faith and after long and comprehensive consideration, including extensive consultation.

The contents of this letter are not new; they have been in the public domain for a considerable period of time and were expressed at the information meetings that were conducted at the TTC.

I trust that the forgoing information will assist you in being fully informed on this vital decision for your Club. As I have outlined above, you need to be fully aware of the ramifications of a negative vote.

Yours faithfully



RG Bentley
Chairman

