

STATEMENT TO THE QUEENSLAND RACING COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

Written Statement by: **Jeremy Paul Turner**

Of: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Management Consultant, Momentum Consultancy Group Pty Ltd

Contact Details: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Below is a written statement provided in response to your *Requirement to Give Information in a Written Statement* dated 5 July 2013 to the Queensland Racing Commission of Inquiry. This written statement addresses each of the matters detailed in the Schedule that was annexed to your information request.

By way of introduction, my involvement in the Queensland Racing Industry during the *Relevant Period* (1 January 2007 to 30 April 2012) was solely in my capacity as a Director of Greyhounds Queensland Limited (GQL) during the seven month period from November 2009 to June 2010. During that time I had no direct contact with the organisation then known as Queensland Racing or its office holders and staff.

For that reason my responses to the matters raised in your request of 5 July 2013 are minimal.

For your information I held the position of Chief Executive Officer of Queensland Racing from April 2002 to May 2004, prior to the *Relevant Period*. Since May 2004 I have had no contact whatsoever with that organisation, or any of its office holders and staff.

Responses to Matters raised in the Schedule

1. Contract Management and Financial Accountability

- 1.1 During my brief time on the Board of GQL I was not required as a Director to consider any matter of procurement, contract management or financial accountability that required me to inquire into or access the policies, procedures, guidelines and contract performance measures of the organisation. I am not therefore able to respond to this matter.
- 1.2 I am unable to confirm whether these policies, if they existed, were adhered to during my brief period on the GQL Board.
- 1.3 I have no knowledge of any contractual arrangements between the *Relevant Entities* and Contour Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd.

1.4 I have no knowledge of any contractual arrangements between the *Relevant Entities* and Contour Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd, or the performance measures and processes that underpinned these contracts.

2. Management

2.1 During my time on the Board of GQL, I did not see or have need to ask to see any management policies, documented management processes or guidelines, or workplace culture and practices. In relation to integrity, the Chief Steward attended each Board meeting and presented a written and verbal report on integrity matters relating to greyhound racing as a standing agenda item. These reports from the Chief Steward enabled the Directors to satisfy themselves that appropriate standards of integrity were in place, and indeed the Board had a high level of confidence in the Chief Steward at that time.

2.2 During my time on the Board the Directors of GQL displayed an appropriate understanding of good governance practice in relation to the separation of Board and Executive responsibilities, and did not exercise the functions of the executive management team or other key management personnel in any way. I cannot comment on the practices of other *Relevant Entities*.

3. Corporate Governance

3.1 I am unable to comment on the corporate governance arrangements of Racing Queensland Limited during the *Relevant Period*.

3.2 I am unable to comment on whether Racing Queensland Limited and Officers operated with integrity, in the best interests of the organisation and racing industry, or in accordance with relevant policies and legislation.

3.3 I am unable to comment on whether Racing Queensland Limited, during the *Relevant Period*, had policies and procedures in place to deal with conflicts of interest or to minimise the risk to Directors and Officers of improperly using their position for financial gain.

3.4 I am unable to comment on the terms and conditions of employment of Racing Queensland Limited Directors and executives.

4. Oversight by the Minister, the Executive Government, the Chief Executive

4.1 I gained little insight into oversight of GQL by the responsible Minister, the Executive Government, or the Chief Executive during my seven months on the GQL Board. The only contact that I witnessed the GQL Board having with the Government during that time was one face to face briefing by the Executive Director of the Office of Racing on the status of implementation of legislation to replace the three control bodies with a new overarching Board and the formation of Racing Queensland Limited. I have no knowledge of oversight issues in relation to the other *Relevant Entities*.

5. Employment Contracts : Tuttle, Orchard, Brennan, Reid

5.1 I have no knowledge of the events surrounding the renegotiation of employment contracts in 2011 for the four senior executives of Racing Queensland Limited.

5.2 I have no knowledge of the events surrounding the payouts made in March 2012 to the four senior executives of Racing Queensland Limited.

5.3 I am unable to comment on the actions of the Directors and executives of Racing Queensland in relation to these employment contracts and payouts.

6. Queensland Race Product Co Limited and Tatts Group

6.1 During my time on the GQL Board (Nov 2009 to Jun 2010) I gained an awareness of the Race Fields legislation and the associated Race Fields Information fee revenue and expenditure associated with wagering on Queensland and interstate racing product. The arrangements established through Queensland Race Product Co and the Tatts Group involved an offsetting of fee revenue generated from interstate TABs from wagering on Queensland racing product against payments to interstate TABs for wagering on the Queensland TAB on interstate product. My understanding at the time was that the Queensland Racing Industry, through Queensland Race Product Co, was in a net positive financial position due to the Queensland industry's position as a net exporter of racing product. I recall that during my period on the Board however some revenues and expenditures associated with race fields information arrangements and the operations of corporate bookmakers were being accrued and not settled due to outstanding litigation taking place in NSW.

6.2 I have no awareness of the response of Queensland Racing Product Co Limited to the introduction of racing information fees and make no comment.

6.3 I am not aware of any legal or other expert advice obtained by any of the *Relevant Entities* in relation to the introduction of racing information fees during my time on the GQL Board. I am not aware of any such action being taken.

6.4 I have no information that would suggest that any Director or senior executive of a *Relevant Entity* in relation to race information fees did not act in good faith, consistently with their responsibilities or legal obligations, in the interests of their company or companies, or were influenced by conflicts of interest.

6.5 I have no awareness as to whether a Director or senior executive of a *Relevant Entity* used their information in relation to gain a personal advances associated with race information fees.

7. Funds Transfer in February 2012 : Queensland Government to Racing Queensland Limited Infrastructure Trust Account

7.1 I am unable to comment on and have no information of any events surrounding the transfer of funds by the Queensland Government to the Racing Queensland Limited Infrastructure Account in February 2012.

7.2 As above.

7.3 As above.

8. Any Other Relevant Matters

8.1 I have no comments to make on any other matter relevant to the Terms of Reference.

STATUTORY DECLARATION

The above statement is verified as a statutory declaration under the *Oaths Act 1867*.

I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the *Oaths Act*.

JPT Taken and declared before me at BRISBANE
Signature of Declarant Location

In the state of QLD This 9 day of July 2013

B. Hely JP (Quay) BARBARA OLGA HELY
Signature of Justice of the Peace Printed name, title and qualification of witness

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