



BRISBANE
RACING CLUB

30 May 2009

Gary Banks AO
Chairman
Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428
Canberra City ACT 2601

Dear Mr. Banks,

Inquiry into gambling

Brisbane Racing Club (BRC) understands that you have received a submission from the Australian Racing Board (ARB). BRC supports completely the ARB submission.

The ARB submission points out that:

- Licensed totalisators contribute more than 75% of industry revenues
- The racing industry contributes \$4.93 Billion to the national economy
- Creates 47,000 full time jobs
- 1% of the Australian population are involved in the Australian racing industry as a participant, employee or supplier
- \$1.2Billion is generated annually for Federal and State Governments

At Brisbane Racing Club there is:

- 100 full time staff
- 600 casual staff
- 80 racehorse trainers
- 150 stable hands and track riders

All the above is at risk if the pirate wagering operators are allowed to free ride on the back of the industry. The ARB estimates that a 30% reduction in totalisator revenues is expected over the longer term as money shifts to operators not licensed by the state they are wagering upon. A 30% reduction in totalisator revenues would be unsustainable. The central plank of the ARB submission is

for the Federal Government to mandate that all wagering operators offering wagering on Australian racing pay a product fee to the state jurisdiction on

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which wagering is being conducted on their races. Crucially, the federally endorsed mandate must enable the racing to set the fees payable having regard to objective criteria. "Pay what we like" arrangements are not an option.

The BRC supports the ARB submission and requests that it be adopted by the Federal government. Thank you for considering this submission.

STEPHEN FERGUSON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen Ferguson".

STEPHEN FERGUSON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE