

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Industry Advisory Committee

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 @ 7:00pm

Location: Bistro SAHRC

### Attendees:

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Scott Barclay (Chair) Darren Billinger (DB); Richard Miller (RM) [SAHRC], Mario Borg (MB); Toby Ryan (TR); Tyson Linke (TL) [SACHRCA], Aaron Bain (AB) [SA BOTRA], Emma Grigson (EG); Dean Elliott (DE); David Thuen (DT) [HRSA].

Meeting opened at 7:00pm

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### 1 Welcome

Chair welcomed all to the committee meeting and thanked all for attending. Chair outlined the structure of the meeting to follow.

1.1 **Apologies** – Anne Mowday (AM) [SAHRC]

1.2 **Conflicts** – None

1.3 **Confirmation Of Minutes** – Confirmed by MB, seconded by TR.

### 2. New Business

#### 2.1 – Update From the Chair of HRSA

The Chair of HRSA (EG) updated the committee on the recent HRSA Board announcement with regards to the stake money reduction. It was noted that the eventual percentage in stake reduction has been determined to be around 7%, which is considerably less than the original proposed reduction of 20%. The recent agreement for increased percentage returns to HRSA from the Corporates negotiated by the previous CEO, along with feedback from this committee and other stakeholder meetings were pivotal in the Board's decision. In particular the decision to leave the prize money levels of the midweek meetings unchanged and focus on limiting the reduction of prize money levels of Feature races and some Saturday races was a direct result of feedback from this committee. Furthermore, it is hoped that these stake reductions will allow HRSA to in future re-invest in the industry in areas such as racing, infrastructure, welfare etc.

The Committee applauded this decision, however felt that the communication to the industry did not explain the above in a manner that most participants could understand fully.

AB suggested that HRSA hold conferences rather than issue press releases to better communicate.

#### ACTIONS:

1. IAC members to present feedback/alternative options for HRSA to best communicate to the industry at the next IAC meeting

## 2.2 – Introduction of the new CEO HRSA

Newly appointed Acting CEO of HRSA Dean Elliott was introduced to the committee.

## 2.3 – Race Series workshop

A number of possible ideas for concepts of race series were tabled for discussion. These included:

- A Whip Free Race Series
- North v South Series
- Country Graduation Series
- Country Cups Series
- 3YO Feature Series
- 4yo Series

### ACTIONS:

1. DT/DE/AB to develop conditions for a Country Pacing, Trotters and 3yo Derby Series for 2022.

## 2.4 – General Business

### I. Marketing/Sponsorship

The Committee questioned if HRSA had progressed with recent discussions on improving the marketing of our product.

EG advised that the HRSA Board had been strengthened in this department by recent Board appointments.

DE announced that HRSA will be conducting a live stream on course at the upcoming Southern Cross Series, including pre/post race interviews with participants, live market updates etc.

### II. Altrenogest

EG advised that HRSA is currently not in a position to permit an increase to the threshold of Altrenogest. HRSA will continue to discuss the possibility of increasing the threshold in the future.

### ACTIONS:

1. EG to provide a written update to more comprehensively update the committee on this matter.

### III. Government Assistance

TR questioned the current relationship between HRSA and the State Government. In particular, the recent announcements that TRSA & GRSA were working with the State Government towards additional funding. He was concerned that HRSA were omitted from this announcement.

EG advised that the current relationship between HRSA and the State Government is healthy. In relation to the recent announcement, the submissions from HRSA Clubs were all rejected, hence the omission of HRSA from the announcement. She further advised that the Clubs will be resubmitting further grant applications for consideration, however we need to show the Government that we are united as an industry.

TR questioned if HRSA could make submissions on behalf of the Clubs, would this strengthen our position.

EG advised that the applications must come from the Clubs themselves, however HRSA can support and assist the Clubs.

### 3. **Other Items For Discussion**

#### 3.1 – Set date for next meeting

The Chair advised that the date for the next meeting was still to be determined.

### 4. **Meeting Close – 9:00pm**