

## RACEDAY LIVE GOES LIVE *By Jamie Orchard – Director of Integrity Operations*

Queensland Racing Limited has introduced a new initiative aimed at ensuring the timely release of race meeting information.

Raceday Live is a service available to the public through the Queensland Racing website ([www.queenslandracing.com.au](http://www.queenslandracing.com.au)) on which stewards post TAB race meeting information as it happens, directly from the stewards room.

Content includes late rider changes, gear changes, changes in riding tactics, and, for most TAB meetings, the content of the stewards report as it is developed.

This new service ensures that the public gets up-to-date information about the race meeting at the same time as it is being announced on-course and hopefully punters will therefore feel more confident that they have current

information on which to base their decisions.

The service is available for all Queensland TAB race meetings.

While all pre-race announcements will be posted, the content of the stewards report after each race will not be available for every meeting. The stewards report will continue to be published in full on the website after the meeting. «

## BIOSECURITY POLICY

After consultation with relevant industry bodies, Queensland Racing has published its new biosecurity policy.

The policy not only sets out Queensland Racing's general approach to biosecurity, but it also provides detailed standard operating procedures for industry participants, from trainers to horse transport operators.

All industry participants are encouraged to consider the policy and to comply with the procedures laid out in it.

The policy is one more step by Queensland Racing in managing the risks posed by biosecurity issues such as Hendra virus.

Queensland Racing has been active in addressing the issue by distributing

information to stakeholders, sponsoring seminars, providing specific veterinary advice to trainers and supplying biosecurity kits to clubs and regions throughout Queensland.

Importantly, Queensland Racing continues to be available to provide advice on specific issues and encourages those with any concerns to bring them to the attention of the integrity department whenever necessary. «

## USE OF MOBILE TELEPHONES AND INTERNET BY BOOKMAKERS

Local Rule of Racing 118A provides, in effect, that a bookmaker or bookmaker's clerk working at a racing venue shall not have in their possession or use a mobile phone or any device capable of receiving or transmitting information other than phones or devices approved by Queensland Racing.

Queensland Racing has recently reviewed its approach to granting permission under this rule in two important respects.

Firstly, bookmakers are now able to seek the permission of Queensland Racing to have and use a personal mobile telephone at a race meeting. Such permission would allow bookmakers to handle family or other business emergencies.

Permission, if granted, will be subject to certain standard conditions including that bets may not be taken over the personal mobile, the phone must not be used excessively or unreasonably and that the internet or emails must not be accessed through the phone.

Importantly, Local Rule 122A has been introduced to the effect that a bet claimed by a bookmaker to have been made but which is denied by the bettor and which is not recorded as required by the local rules is void. This rule serves as a significant disincentive to bookmakers taking bets over a personal phone as such bets may be declared void.

The second major change in policy is that permission may now be granted to bookmakers to access the internet at race meetings.

Such permission will allow bookmakers to access the internet to obtain information but not to transmit information. Accordingly, conditions will be imposed on any permission to the effect that the internet may not be used to bet, to access emails or to transmit information, that any computer is available for inspection by stewards and that monitoring software be installed allowing Queensland Racing to inspect all activity on that computer.

These changes reflect the current position in respect of the use of modern technology while the safeguards put in place address the risks.

The use of personal telephones and the internet by bookmakers will be reviewed by Queensland Racing after an initial period of three months. «

## AMBULANCE/TRACKWORK SUPERVISION

New standards have recently been introduced by Queensland Racing primarily in the interests of safety of riders.

An ambulance, with two paramedics, is now required to be present at all jumpouts involving eight or more horses and at all

official trials. The ambulance must be one capable of immediately transporting a patient off course if necessary.

Further, trackwork supervisors are required to be present at all trackwork sessions, jumpouts and trials held at TAB and strategic

non-TAB clubs.

An exception exists for strategic non-TAB clubs in circumstances in which a risk assessment exercise has been conducted and the club has developed appropriate strategies to address any identified risks. «