

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL RACING PARTICIPANTS

SOCIAL MEDIA

Participants are reminded that they are bound by the relevant Rules of Racing in relation to Posts or Comments made on Social Media in relation to the racing industry.

As a Participant, when engaging in Social Media, especially about the Industry and other Participants, you must remember you are bound by the Rules and:

- be clear about who you are representing whether you are engaging in social media on behalf of your employer or expressing your opinion in your personal capacity;
- that even where you are offering your personal perspective on an Industry related matter (including about Tasracing, the Office of Racing Integrity and/or other Participants), be mindful about your commentary and opinion, in that it does not breach privacy, confidentiality or integrity requirements;
- ensure that you do not knowingly use the identity of another person (including anonymous, “burner” and/or fake accounts);
- show respect for the individuals and communities with whom you interact; and
- to take into consideration that your comments or content may have the potential to cause harm to the emotional, mental wellbeing and/or physical health of another Participant.

ORI has a responsibility to protect the safety and wellbeing of the Industry and its Participants, as do you.

Tasmanian ORI Stewards further provide notice that any person who breaches these Rules may be subject to a significant penalty.

Non-compliance may be considered an offence under the provisions of:

Thoroughbred

AR 232 (b) states: *AR 228 Conduct detrimental to the interests of racing*

A person must not engage in:

(a) conduct prejudicial to the image, interests, integrity, or welfare of racing, whether or not that conduct takes place within a racecourse or elsewhere;

(b) misconduct, improper conduct or unseemly behaviour;

(c) improper or insulting behaviour at any time towards a PRA, the Stewards, a Club, or any official, employee, contractor or agent of any of them in relation to the relevant person’s functions, powers or duties;

(d) publishing or posting on any social media platform or channel any material, content or comment that is obscene, offensive, defamatory, racist, threatening, harassing, discriminatory or abusive to or about any other person involved in the racing industry;

(e) conduct which threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person (“other person”) on any basis, including but not limited to, a person’s race, religion, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin, special ability/disability, or sexual orientation, preference or identity, while the other person is acting in the course of his or her duties in the racing industry.

Harness

AHRR 248 & 249 state: *Publications and related matters*

248. *A person shall not say, publish or write or cause to be said, published or written anything malicious, intimidating, obscene, offensive, defamatory, racist, threatening, harassing, discriminatory, abusive or otherwise improper about the Controlling Body, its members and employees or the Stewards or anyone else associated with the Harness Racing Industry.*

249. *A person whether alone or in association with others shall not say, publish or write or cause to be said, published or written anything intended improperly to influence a decision of the Controlling Body, its members or employees, or the Stewards, on any matter.*

Greyhound

GAR 86 (f) & (q) state: *A person (including an official) shall be guilty of an offence if the person-*

(f) engages in, publishes or causes to be published, broadcasts or causes to be broadcast, the use of any contemptuous, unseemly, improper, insulting, or offensive language, conduct or behaviour in any manner or form towards, or in relation to-

(i) a Steward;

(ii) the committee, or a member of the committee, of a club;

(iii) the Controlling Body, or a member of the Controlling Body; or

(iv) any other person having official duties in relation to greyhound racing;

(q) commits or omits to do any act or engages in conduct which is in any way detrimental or prejudicial to the interest, welfare, image, control or promotion of greyhound racing

Tony Latham
Acting Director of Racing

11TH August 2021