

RACING INTEGRITY ESTABLISHMENT BOARD

DECEMBER 2020

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Over the last month our Chair spent time with the RIU team and the Racing Laboratory in Auckland, and the Stipendiary Stewards and JCA panel at a thoroughbred race meeting at Trentham on 5 December. This was a really helpful opportunity for Bruce to get further context on the work of each, and to understand more about the intricacies of the integrity business. A meeting was also arranged with the code Chief Executives, with one outcome being an agreement that the project team will brief senior code representatives on the progress of RIB transition planning once a fortnight next year. The project team held a half-day workshop with RIU and JCA management mid-month to discuss and plan for transition tasks and deliverables.

RULES WORKING GROUP

The process to review and align procedural rules for the integrity function continued this month. We are working with Greyhound Racing to understand how its proposed rules updates to align with Australia will impact this sub-project and rules finalisation ahead of a 1 May RIB start. We are also discussing ways the rules can be modernised and any proposals will be marked-up for the purpose of wider consultation with affected stakeholders early in the new year.

RACING INDUSTRY ACT 2019 REGULATIONS

In the last month, we prepared recommendations for the RIB Regulations which need to be passed to support the effective administration of the RIB as an organisation. Officials at the Department of Internal Affairs are considering those recommendations and will manage the Regulation-making process through Parliament.

RIB BUDGET

In line with statutory requirements, a draft budget and business plan is being prepared for the RIB, for consultation with TAB NZ and the racing codes. This has required a financial due diligence exercise in respect of the current RIU and JCA operations. A draft budget is expected for review by the Establishment Board in late January.

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR



Progress towards the transition is steady and we value the cooperation of so many people in our work. Our task under the legislation is limited, but the important preparatory work is being achieved

Very best wishes to all for the festive season and a better and brighter 2021 for everybody..

BUSINESS MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION

SEPARATION OF COMPLIANCE AND ADJUDICATION WITHIN THE RIB

This month the Board was briefed on the terms of appointment and regions serviced by the current Judicial Committee and Appeals Tribunal panelists. Appointments have been made by the JCA for the 20-21 racing season and, working with the JCA, the Establishment Board will be turning its mind to resourcing requirements for the 21-22 racing season.

Work has also begun on a draft framework and principles to underpin the separation of compliance and adjudication activities in the RIB's organisation design and operating model. It is a requirement of section 44 of the Racing Industry Act 2019 that the RIB ensures, as appropriate, that its compliance and adjudication functions are performed independently of each other.

The fact that this statutory requirement was inserted following strong code representations means the RIB will need to develop policies and protocols to demonstrate it is observing and operating a very clear functional separation. Safeguards can be put in place to operate to prevent the independence of the racing integrity functions being compromised when housed under a single oversight and governance body, and this has been done successfully by other New Zealand statutory offices.

In our initial view, the matters the RIB will need to address include:

- organisational design, structure and accountability;
- operational policies, systems and procedures;
- the practice of adjudication; and
- capability and training.

BUSINESS SYSTEMS

The RIU office systems are integrated into the TAB NZ architecture and migration to a new RIB system will be a significant exercise. The project team is communicating with RIU and JCA management and staff to obtain their user requirements for business and office systems, technology and hardware in advance of providing recommendations for migration to the RIB.

RIU staff payroll is scheduled to transition out of TAB NZ by the end of February 2021.

