MEDIA RELEASE

RACING QUEENSLAND

March 18, 2020

Memo to non-Tab thoroughbred clubs

Dear non-TAB thoroughbred clubs,

Following Racing Queensland's direction on Monday that all race meetings across the state will be conducted without patrons until further notice - click here to see the announcement – RQ is providing further advice in relation to non-TAB programming.

As you know, non-TAB racing plays an important industry role in Queensland and it is RQ's current intention for the majority of scheduled race meetings to proceed.

This has been primarily determined to ensure:

- Animal welfare is prioritised by providing racing opportunities for Queensland thoroughbreds across the state; and
- Ensuring returns to participants can be realised through the distribution of prize money (wages), with our clubs serving as the primary 'vehicle' to enable this activity.

As a result, RQ is aware that a number of race clubs have 'value-added' their own funding to increase prize money and this funding is contingent on the commercial success of their respective race days.

To alleviate this pressure, RQ is prepared for all non-Tab race meetings to be conducted at standard RQ allocation prize money (ie $7,450 per race), along with the applicable RQ allocated feature race monies (including race series additional funding).

At the same time, clubs will continue to receive funding in accordance with Club Operational Funding Agreements for the conduct of their allocated race meetings.

Accordingly, RQ will only consider postponing or re-scheduling race meetings to a later date as a last resort, as it is important to ensure prize money is made available to industry participants during these unprecedented times.

Should a club not wish to conduct their scheduled race meeting as requested (and RQ recognises this may be the case for some race clubs), the race meeting (including prize money allocation) will be offered to another club within that region, to best ensure continuity of opportunities in all regions.

To discuss this further, please contact Col Truscott - Non TAB Racing Manager – Thoroughbred via 0410 633 217 or ctruscott@racingqueensland.com.au.

In the meantime, RQ has also enclosed a COVID-19 checklist to assist you with preparations for your meetings including increased vigilance about health and hygiene.

Click here to see the latest information published from RQ in relation to COVID-19.

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