



TASMANIAN THOROUGHBRED
RACING COUNCIL

PRESS RELEASE – Thursday 26th April 2007

The Tasmanian Thoroughbred Racing Council (TTRC) today announced that it will cease to program Jumps Racing in Tasmania effective immediately.

The TTRC has recently completed a full review of jumps racing in Tasmania and considered a report after consultation with all industry groups undertaking a detailed analysis of participant involvement and financial implications to the industry.

After thorough consideration the TTRC found that Tasmanian participation in Jumps racing has steadily declined over the years to the point where Tasmania is overwhelmingly reliant on mainland involvement to conduct jumps racing and the costs associated with Tasmanian jumps racing clearly outweighed the economic benefits to the Tasmanian participants and industry. The TTRC extends its thanks to RVL for their support and contribution to the staging of the 2006 Tasmanian Jumping Series.

TTRC Chairman Rod Thirkell-Johnston AM reported that while consideration was given to the historical and social importance of Jumps racing in Tasmania the outcome of the review confirmed that it was not viable for the industry to continue. Mr Thirkell-Johnston said “The industry will support all Tasmanian’s wishing to race in the mainland jumping events and the TTRC will continue to provide and maintain jumping training facilities.”

TTRC CEO Rohan Mitchell said “It is important that the industry must focus on the entire picture and ensure best possible outcomes for all participants and stakeholders. The costs associated with conducting jumps racing in Tasmania is significant and participation has been declining over the years to a point where we are dependant upon mainland involvement for horses, jockeys, trainers and infrastructure. The funding presently allocated for jumps racing will be re-focused to flat racing where we are experiencing flourishing growth.”

Ends.

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