

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Thursday, 16 May 2024

Independent stewards interim report

The independent stewards panel responsible for investigating and determining if charges should be laid in relation to racing and animal welfare issues identified in the Murrphy Report has provided an interim report to the Director of Racing.

The interim report focuses on the 15 races identified by independent investigator Ray Murrphy for further scrutiny under the Australian Harness Racing Rules.

The report concludes that there is insufficient evidence to take any further action on 14 of the 15 races under the Rules of Racing.

Further inquiries are being conducted in regard to one race and the other matters identified by Mr Murrphy.

The panel has not discovered any evidence that warrants suspending any licenced racing industry participant or evidence of corruption or inappropriate actions of stewards associated with the races scrutinised to date.

The panel has however made recommendations on the processes and procedures undertaken by Tasmanian stewards. These highlight the benefits of ongoing professional development and mentoring.

Last week, highly experienced national and international harness racing steward, Zane Turner started a short-term appointment with the Office of Racing integrity to work with Tasmanian stewards.

Over the coming months Tasmanian stewards will have an opportunity to work with interstate racing regulators to share skills and experiences.

The final report of the independent stewards panel is expected by the end of June 2024.

The interim report is available on the NRE Tas website: nre.tas.gov.au/racing-investigation

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For further information
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