



***JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
THE REVIEW OF THE RACING AND
WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA
ACTS***

ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

Report No. 1

in the 38th Parliament

2010

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Joint Standing Committee on the Review of the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Acts

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Report No. 1

Presented by:

Mr J.E. McGrath, MLA and Hon M.W. Trenorden, MLC

Laid on the Table of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council
on 23 September 2010

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman	Mr J.E. McGrath, MLA Member for South Perth
Deputy Chairman	Hon M.W. Trenorden, MLC Member for Agricultural Region
Members	Hon M.F. Benson-Lidholm, MLC Member for Agricultural Region
	Mr J.J.M. Bowler, MLA Member for Kalgoorlie
	Hon A.K. Hayden, MLC Member for East Metropolitan Region
	Mr P.B. Watson, MLA Member for Albany

COMMITTEE STAFF

Principal Research Officer	Ms Dawn Dickinson, BSc (Hons) MURP
Research Officer	Ms Renée Gould, BA, GDipA

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COMMITTEE'S FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

On 24 September 2009, the Joint Standing Committee on the Review of the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Acts ('the Committee') was established pursuant to Section 122 of the *Racing and Wagering Western Australia Act 2003* and taking into consideration also the *Racing and Wagering Western Australia Tax Act 2003*. The Committee's terms of reference were agreed to between the Houses as follows:

- (1) Pursuant to section 122 of the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Act 2003, and also taking into consideration the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Tax Act 2003 ("the Acts"), a joint standing committee be appointed by the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council.
- (2) The joint standing committee will review the operation and effectiveness of the Acts and is to consider and have regard to -
 - (a) the effectiveness of the operations of Racing and Wagering Western Australia (RWWA);
 - (b) the need for the continuation of the operations of RWWA; and
 - (c) any other matters that appear to the joint standing committee to be relevant to the operation and effectiveness of these Acts.
- (3) The joint standing committee will consist of three members appointed by the Legislative Assembly and three members appointed by the Legislative Council.
- (4) The standing orders of the Legislative Assembly relating to standing and select committees will be followed as far as they can be applied.
- (5) The committee shall report by 30 June 2010.¹

¹ Although the Committee was required under its terms of reference to report to Parliament by 30 June 2010, the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council agreed to extend the reporting deadline until 15 October 2010. The extension was granted in May 2010 to allow the Committee extra time to undertake travel for the purpose of consulting with regional stakeholders.

CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the 2009-2010 Annual Report of the Joint Standing Committee on the Review of the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Acts.

The Committee was established for the purpose of reviewing the *Racing and Wagering Western Australia Act 2003* and the *Racing and Wagering Western Australia Tax Act 2003*. While the Committee has only been in operation since September 2009 and will table its final report by mid-October 2010, the Committee considered it important to document the scale of the review and in particular, the extensive consultative exercise that has been undertaken in the process of the review. This is particularly significant given the extension of the Inquiry in early 2010 to accommodate regional consultation. A record of the Committee's activities is detailed herein.

I thank the other Committee Members for their contribution thus far: the Deputy Chairman, Hon Max Trenorden, MLC (Member for Agricultural Region), Hon Matt Benson-Lidholm, MLC (Member for Agricultural Region), Mr John Bowler, MLA (Member for Kalgoorlie), Hon Alyssa Hayden, MLC (Member for East Metropolitan Region), and Mr Peter Watson (Member for Albany). I also thank the Committee staff for their assistance: Principal Research Officer, Ms Dawn Dickinson and Research Officer, Ms Renée Gould.



MR J.E. McGRATH, MLA
CHAIRMAN

CHAPTER 1 COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

1.1 Introduction

In accordance with Section 122 of the *Racing and Wagering Western Australia Act 2003* (RWWA Act) the Parliament of Western Australia established a Joint Standing Committee on 24 September 2009 for the purpose of reviewing the operation and effectiveness of the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Acts. The Acts also comprise the *Racing and Wagering Western Australia Tax Act 2003* and together the Acts establish the functions of Racing and Wagering Western Australia (RWWA).

RWWA is the responsible body for controlling thoroughbred, harness and greyhound racing in Western Australia in addition to conducting off-course wagering through the TAB retail network. The scope and functions of RWWA are both diverse and interdependent. As such, the Committee resolved to consult broadly and sought submissions from the public, particularly racing industry participants, to assist in gauging pertinent racing industry issues.

Considerable interest ensued and over 40 submissions were received. To assist with the review, the Committee held numerous hearings with wagering and racing participants and visited city, community and country clubs from the thoroughbred, harness and greyhound codes across the state. In April 2010, the Committee gathered evidence interstate via briefings with key racing and wagering industry participants. Up to 30 June 2010, the Committee also conducted two extensive public hearings with RWWA. The Committee's review is ongoing; the findings of which will be reported to both houses of Parliament by 15 October 2010.

It should be noted that since the Committee was only established in late September 2009, this Report represents an abridged reporting period. Therefore, references in this report to 'the reporting period' and 'period under review' constitute the period from the Committee's establishment on 24 September 2009 to 30 June 2010.

During the course of the reporting period (Table 1.1), the Committee:

- Held 22 deliberative meetings;
- Took evidence from/or was briefed by 59 organisations or individuals;
- Undertook investigative travel to Mount Barker, Albany, Kalgoorlie, York, Northam, Geraldton, Bunbury, Pinjarra, Narrogin, Wagin and Carnarvon. The Committee also travelled to Brisbane, Ballarat and Melbourne.

Table 1.1

Summary of activities of the Joint Standing Committee on the Review of the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Acts, 24 September 2009 - 30 June 2010

Description	Activity
Briefings	14
Deliberative meetings	22
Formal evidence hearings	45
Witnesses appearing	110

1.2 Public Hearings

Pursuant to Assembly Standing Order 264, the Committee has power to send for persons, papers and records. During the period under review, the Committee conducted 45 public hearings, taking evidence from 110 witnesses to assist with its investigations (Table 1.2).

Table 1.2

Public Hearings of the Joint Standing Committee on the Review of the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Acts, 24 September 2009 - 30 June 2010

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
19 February 2010	Hon Nick Griffiths		
19 February 2010	Mr Ray Turner AM		
19 February 2010	Mr Barry Sargeant	Director General	Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor
26 February 2010	Mr Edward Van Heemst	Chairman	Perth Racing
	Mr Lex Piper	Vice Chairman	Perth Racing
26 February 2010	Mt Tony Marwick	Chief Executive Officer	WA Provincial Thoroughbred Racing Association
	Mr David Wrensted	Vice Chairman	WA Provincial Thoroughbred Racing Association
26 February 2010	Mr Grey Williamson	President	WA Bloodhorse Breeders Association
	Mr Colin Brown	Committee Member	WA Bloodhorse Breeders Association

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
	Mr Harvey Crossman	President	WA Racehorse Owners Association
	Mr Bruce Hyde	President	WA Racing Trainers Association
	Mr Brian Paddick	Secretary	WA Racing Trainers Association
26 February 2010	Mr Mark Roberts	President	WA Country Harness Racing Association
	Mr Alfred Paganoni	Past President	WA Country Harness Racing Association
26 February 2010	Mr John Burt	President	WA Trotting Association
	Mr Robert Bovell	Chief Executive Officer	WA Trotting Association
	Ms Kerry Hanks	Assistant Chief Executive Officer	WA Trotting Association
8 March 2010	Mr Robert Morgan	President	WA TAB Agents Association Inc
	Ms Swee-Gaik Lim	Secretary	WA TAB Agents Association Inc
	Mr Kenneth Trainer	Advisor	WA TAB Agents Association Inc
8 March 2010	Mr Timothy Barnes	Director	Morley TAB Agency
	Mr Wayne Barnes	TAB Assistant	Morley TAB Agency
8 March 2010	Mr Robert Howat	President	WA Bookmakers Association Inc
	Mr Brian Brown	Association Secretary	WA Bookmakers Association Inc
8 March 2010	Mr Dino Di Cianno	Director	Best Bookies Price Pty Ltd
	Mr Fabio Di Cianno	Employee	Best Bookies Price Pty Ltd
12 March 2010	Ms Vivienne Taylor	President	Mount Barker Turf Club Inc
	Mrs Margaret Skinner	Secretary	Mount Barker Turf Club Inc
	Ms Lynn Heppell	Vice President	Mount Barker Turf Club Inc
	Mr Bill Pearce		Mount Barker Turf Club Inc

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Date	Name	Position	Organisation
	Mr Steve Caporn		Mount Barker Turf Club Inc
12 March 2010	Mrs Lesley Solly	President	Albany Racing Club Inc
	Mr Terrence Zambonetti	Vice President	Albany Racing Club Inc
	Mr Shane O'Loughlin	Committee Member	Albany Racing Club Inc
12 March 2010	Mr Colin Park	General Manager	Albany Harness Racing Club
	Mr Victor Jury	Trainer	Albany Harness Racing Club
19 March 2010	Mr Evan Spencer	President	Golden Mile Trotting Club
	Mr Phillip Virgin	Junior Vice President	Golden Mile Trotting Club
	Mr Brett Snell	Past President	Golden Mile Trotting Club
	Mr Neville Sly	Committee Member	Golden Mile Trotting Club
	Ms Julie Beccaria	Committee Member	Golden Mile Trotting Club
19 March 2010	Mr John Biggs	Representative	Laverton/Leonora/Leinster Racing Clubs
19 March 2010	Mr Murray Percasky	Chairman	Kalgoorlie Boulder Racing Club
	Mr Trevor McManus	Vice-Chairman	Kalgoorlie Boulder Racing Club
	Mr David Prance	Immediate Past Chairman	Kalgoorlie Boulder Racing Club
	Mrs Janice Glasson	Administration and Racing Manager	Kalgoorlie Boulder Racing Club
26 March 2010	Mr Barry Mahood	Chairman	York Racing Inc
	Mr Kevin O'Brien	Treasurer	York Racing Inc
	Mr Anthony Boyle	Committee Member	York Racing Inc
26 March 2010	Mr Mervyn Gray	President	York Harness Racing Club
	Mr Patrick Flynn	Vice President	York Harness Racing Club
	Mr Rob Deadman	Secretary	York Harness Racing Club
26 March 2010	Mr Tony Marwick	President	Northam Race Club Inc

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
	Mrs Nicole Bell	Manager	Northam Race Club Inc
26 March 2010	Mr Peter Dempster	President	Northam Harness Racing Club
	Mr Mark Roberts	Vice President	Northam Harness Racing Club
	Mr Brett Taylor	President	Central Wheatbelt Harness Racing Club
29 March 2010	Mr Rodney O'Bree	Chairman	Geraldton Turf Club Inc
	Mr Donald Hammarquist	Vice Chairman	Geraldton Turf Club Inc
	Mr David Wrensted	Manager	Geraldton Turf Club Inc
29 March 2010	Mr Graham Cox	President	Geraldton Harness Racing Club
	Mr John Reynolds	Vice President	Geraldton Harness Racing Club
	Mr Bruce Brown	Treasurer/Committee Member	Geraldton Harness Racing Club
29 March 2010	Mr Robert Newton	Vice President	Mingenew Turf Club
	Mr Tony Crowhurst	Chairman	Dongara Irwin Race Club
6 April 2010	Mr Kenneth Godley	President	Bunbury Trotting Club
	Ms Julie Caldwell	Manager	Bunbury Trotting Club
6 April 2010	Mr Kenneth Nottle	President	Harvey District Trotting Club
	Mr Bruce Jones	Vice President	Harvey District Trotting Club
6 April 2010	Mr Graeme Waters	Vice President	Bridgetown Harness Racing Club
	Mr Brendon Gardiner	Secretary/Treasurer	Bridgetown Harness Racing Club
	Mrs Patricia Abbott	Secretary/Treasurer	Busselton Trotting Club
	Mr David Abbott	Vice President	Busselton Trotting Club
6 April 2010	Mrs Rosanne Pimm	Treasurer	Collie Race Club
	Mr Robert Pimm	Committee Member	Collie Race Club
	Mr Peter Hemsley	Secretary	Collie Harness Racing Club

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Date	Name	Position	Organisation
6 April 2010	Mr Kimberley Tuckey	President	Pinjarra Harness Racing Club
	Mr Revell Douglas	General Manager	Pinjarra Harness Racing Club
6 April 2010	Mr Phillip Ibbotson	Acting Chairman	Pinjarra Race Club
	Mr Keith Jeffreys	Committee Member	Pinjarra Race Club
	Mr Gregory Dixon	Committee Member	Pinjarra Race Club
	Mr Colin Bellchambers	General Manager	Pinjarra Race Club
30 April 2010	Mr David Simonette	Chief Executive Officer	Western Australian Greyhound Racing Association
30 April 2010	Mr Ross Bowe	Chairman	Racing and Wagering Western Australia
	Mr James Freemantle	Deputy Chairman	Racing and Wagering Western Australia
	Mr Robert Pearson	Director	Racing and Wagering Western Australia
	Mr Richard Burt	Chief Executive Officer	Racing and Wagering Western Australia
30 April 2010	Mr Sam Celenza	President	Western Australian Greyhound Breeders, Owners and Trainers' Association
	Mr Allen Kinnish	Committee Member	Western Australian Greyhound Breeders, Owners and Trainers' Association
3 May 2010	Mr Matthew Spurr	President	Wagin Trotting Club
	Mr Kevin Spurr	Vice President	Wagin Trotting Club
	Mr Donald Davies	Vice President	Wagin Trotting Club
3 May 2010	Mr Steven McGuire	Tote Manger	Kojonup Turf Club
	Mr Timothy Borgward	President	Pingrup Turf Club
	Mr Alan Lewis	Secretary/Treasurer	Pingrup Turf Club
3 May 2010	Mr Nicholas Bosly-Pask	Acting Chair	Narrogin Racing

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
	Mr Jonathan Menzel	Manager	Narrogin Racing
3 May 2010	Mr John Cowcher	Committee Member	Williams Harness Racing Club
	Mrs Helen Bunch	Secretary/Treasurer	Williams Harness Racing Club
	Mr Stephen Hyde	Life Member	Williams Harness Racing Club
7 May 2010	Mr Kevin Jeavons	President	Harness Racing Owners Association of WA Inc
	Mr Kerry Clarke	President	Western Australian Standardbred Breeders Association Inc
	Mr Robert Tomlinson	President	Breeders Owners Trainers and Reinspersons Association of WA Inc
7 May 2010	Mr Maxwell (Dixie) Solly	President	Country Racing Association
7 May 2010	Mr Craig Chadwick	Chairman	Bunbury Turf Club
	Mr Paul Rossiter	Manager	Bunbury Turf Club
16 May 2010	Mr Geoffrey Fahl	Chairman/Treasurer	Carnarvon Race Club
	Mr Laurie Simmons	Committee Member	Carnarvon Race Club
16 May 2010	Mr Victor Barrett	President	Junction Race Club
	Mr Brett Smith	Committee Member	Junction Race Club
4 June 2010	Mr Ross Bowe	Chairman	Racing and Wagering Western Australia
	Mr James Freemantle	Deputy Chairman	Racing and Wagering Western Australia
	Mr Robert Pearson	Director	Racing and Wagering Western Australia
	Mr Richard Burt	Chief Executive Officer	Racing and Wagering Western Australia
4 June 2010	Mr Gino Monaco	President	Fremantle Harness Racing Club
	Mr Geoffrey Warwick	Vice President	Fremantle Harness Racing Club

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
	Mr Ross Pyke	Secretary/Manager	Fremantle Harness Racing Club

1.3 Briefings

In addition to gathering evidence during the formal hearings, the Committee received a number of briefings. The briefings were used to gain information in relation to the Inquiry and assist the Committee with its deliberations (Table 1.3).

Table 1.3

Briefings provided to the Joint Standing Committee on the Review of the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Acts, 24 September 2009 - 30 June 2010

Date	Name	Position	Organisation
12 April 2010	Mr Ian Fletcher	Director General	Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI)
	Mr David Ford	Deputy Director General	Liquor, Gaming, Racing and Fair Trading (DEEDI)
	Mr John Paterson		Office of Racing (DEEDI)
13 April 2010	Mr Bob Lette	Chairman	Harness Racing Queensland
	Mr Mike Godber	Chief Executive	Harness Racing Queensland
13 April 2010	Mr Darren Beavis	General Manager	Greyhounds Queensland Limited
14 April 2010	Mr Roger Joseph	Manager Racing Administration	Australian Trainers Association (Victoria)
14 April 2010	Mr John Anderson	Chief Executive Officer	Harness Racing Victoria
14 April 2010	Mr John Stephens	Chief Executive Officer	Greyhound Racing Victoria
15 April 2010	Mr Andre Agterhuis	Chairman	Ballarat Turf Club
	Mr Shane Brennan	Chief Executive	Ballarat Turf Club
	Mr Ian Ford	Treasurer	Ballarat Turf Club
15 April 2010	Mr Paul James	President	Ballarat and District Trotting Club Inc

	Mr Paul Rowse	Chief Executive	Ballarat and District Trotting Club Inc
	Ms Tamara Lane	Racing Manager	Ballarat and District Trotting Club Inc
15 April 2010	Mr Joe Ivisic	General Manager	Harness Racing Victoria Tabcorp Park
16 April 2010	Ms Kerri Hereward	Principal Policy Officer	Department of Justice Office of Gaming and Racing (Victoria)
	Mr Anthony Ilot	Policy Advisor	Department of Justice (Victoria) Gambling Licenses Review
	Mr David Ware	Director	Department of Justice (Victoria) Wagering Licence Allocation and Gambling Licences Transition and Review
16 April 2010	Mr Michael Caveny	Chairman	Country Racing Victoria Limited
	Mr Scott Whiteman	Chief Executive Officer	Country Racing Victoria Limited
	Mr Jamie McGuinness	Strategy and Business Manager	Country Racing Victoria Limited
16 April 2010	Mr Rob Hines	Chief Executive Officer	Racing Victoria Limited (RVL)
	Mr Mark Close	Government Relations Manager	Racing Victoria Limited (RVL)
16 April 2010	Mr Greg Nichols	Managing Director of Sporting Affairs	Betfair
21 June 2010	Mr Bob Bentley	Chairman	Queensland Racing Limited
	Mr Malcolm Tuttle	Chief Operations Manager	Queensland Racing Limited

1.4 Investigative Travel

During the course of its Inquiry the Committee travelled to various community, country and provincial thoroughbred, harness and greyhound race clubs across the state for a series of public hearings. Each was held at a local racing club and committee club members, local stakeholders and other interested parties from the local and surrounding regions attended. In addition, the Committee undertook extensive tours of local and surrounding racing club facilities and grounds in each region it visited. In April 2010 the Committee travelled to Queensland and Victoria to conduct a number of briefings, with a particular focus on examining recent or proposed changes to

the governance structure of the three racing codes within these states. The individuals the Committee met with are listed above in Tables 1.2 and 1.3.

1.5 Work in Progress

As at 30 June 2010, the Committee has concluded its briefings and investigative travel, however it intends to continue public hearings, notably with RWWA and the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor. The Committee is also to consider the substantial evidence it has gathered through the course of its Inquiry. The Committee is due to present its final report to both Houses by 15 October 2010.

CHAPTER 2 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Joint Standing Committee on the Review of the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Acts does not have its own formal budget and is funded out of the budget of the Legislative Assembly. Approval for major expenditures is required on a case-by-case basis and is entirely at the discretion of the Speaker.

The Committee is required in accordance with Standing Order 276 to detail expenditure. As stated in Section 1.1 the figures below relate to a partial financial year due to the establishment of the Committee in late September 2009.

Table 2.1

Expenditure Items of the Joint Standing Committee on the Review of the Racing and Wagering Western Australia Acts, 24 September 2009 - 30 June 2010

Expenditure Item	\$
Advertising	2 100
Travel	60 400
Protocol	400
Miscellaneous ²	700
TOTAL	63 600

Notes:

- Figures rounded off to nearest \$100.
- Salaries of committee staff are not included.
- Costs of shared administrative expenses, including lease costs for committee accommodation, not included.



MR J.E. McGRATH, MLA
CHAIRMAN

² Miscellaneous items comprise postage and videoconferencing fees.