

From: Jeffrey Wilkinson
Sent: Thursday, 23 March 2017 6:01 PM
Subject: Racing IRC submission

Dear AISC Secretariat,

Re: Comment on draft structure for Racing IRC

The Australian Veterinary Association (AVA), has over 9,000 members Australia wide and is the peak professional body representing Australia's veterinarians.

My role is as an Executive Officer for AVA's Equine Special Interest Group (EVA) and AVA's Greyhound Special Interest Group (AGV).

With regard to the proposed structure of the Racing IRC, we submit the following please:

1. That two places be reserved for veterinarians, who are specifically members of the Australian Veterinary Association.
2. One vet should have expertise in equine health and welfare.
3. One vet should have expertise in greyhound health and welfare

When we examine the units of competency for the Racing Training Package – greyhound/equine first aid, nutrition, anatomy and physiology, emergency care, sampling and all matters regarding animal health and welfare, we can see that these subjects would benefit from veterinary input. This is because veterinarians are the best qualified professionals to advise and assess on these subject areas. Your draft structure calls for "experts" at this level and veterinarians are the best qualified people to fulfil this "expert" role.

If the IRC requires an expert with welfare credentials, more so than clinical knowledge, you could call for a preference in these veterinarian appointments to have a Membership in Animal Welfare from the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (ANZCVS).

By choosing this approach, the IRC will get the benefit of the veterinary knowledge in animal welfare science in addition to expertise in health, nutrition, anatomy and physiology. This would offer a far superior input to someone who is only an animal welfare advocate or non-veterinarian animal scientist.

Veterinarians have the depth and breadth of education and training in all the subject areas that you require; including anatomy, physiology, nutrition, emergency care in addition to welfare.

I am available at the email provided for further information, or on phone 0418 638 231 if you wish to speak with me.

Yours sincerely,

Jeffrey Wilkinson
Australian Veterinary Association

Kind regards,

Jeffrey Wilkinson | Executive Officer

Equine Veterinarians Australia

A Special Interest Group of the Australian Veterinary Association

Unit 40, 6 Herbert Street, St Leonards NSW 2065

T. 02 9431 5080 | F. 02 9437 9068 | E. eo@eva.org.au | W. www.eva.org.au

