# No. 87

# **RACING ACT 1983**

# No. 87 of 1983

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No. 87 607



**RACING ACT 1983** 

No. 87 of 1983

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AN ACT to provide for the control of horse racing and greyhound racing.

[Royal Assent 11 January 1984]

BE it enacted by His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, in Parliament assembled, as follows:---

# PART I

# Preliminary

1—This Act may be cited as the Racing Act 1983.

Short title.

2-This Act shall commence on 13th February 1984.

Commencement.

**3**—This Act shall be incorporated with, and read as one with, Incorporation. the Racing and Gaming Act 1952.

Interpretation.

4-In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears-

- "Director " means the Director of Racing appointed pursuant to section 11 (1);
- " functions " includes duties;
- " the Board " means-
  - (a) in Part III, the Tasmanian Principal Clubs Board constituted under section 17;
  - (b) in Part IV, the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing Board constituted under section 21; and
  - (c) in Part V, the Tasmanian Racing Appeal Board constituted under section 25;
- "the Directorate" means the Tasmanian Racing Directorate constituted under section 5.

# PART II

# THE TASMANIAN RACING DIRECTORATE

Constitution of 5—(1) There is constituted by this Act a body corporate by the corporate name of the Tasmanian Racing Directorate.

- (2) The Directorate—
  - (a) has perpetual succession;
  - (b) shall have a common seal;
  - (c) may take proceedings, and be proceeded against, in its corporate name;
  - (d) may, subject to this Act, purchase, exchange, take on lease, hold, hire, dispose of by way of lease or sale, and otherwise deal with property both real and personal;
  - (e) may do and be subject to all other things that bodies corporate may, by law, do and be subject to and that are necessary for or incidental to the purposes for which it is constituted; and
  - (f) has the functions imposed, and the powers conferred, on it by or under this or any other Act.

(3) All courts, judges, and persons acting judicially shall take judicial notice of the seal of the Directorate affixed to a document and shall presume that it was duly affixed.

6-(1) The Directorate shall consist of 6 members appointed Membership of the by the Governor, comprising-Directorate.

(a) a person who shall be appointed as chairman;

(b) a member of the Totalizator Agency Board;

- (c) the chairman of each of the following boards:----
  - (i) the Tasmanian Principal Clubs Board;
  - (ii) the Tasmanian Harness Racing Board;
  - (iii) the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing Board; and

(d) one other person.

(2) The members of the Directorate shall hold office—

- (a) in the case of the chairman, for such term not exceeding 4 years; and
- (b) in the case of any other member, for such term not exceeding 3 years,

as is specified in his instrument of appointment.

(3) Where a person who is a member of the Directorate by virtue of holding an office specified in subsection (1) (c) ceases to hold that office for any reason, a person appointed or elected by the appropriate board to succeed him in that office shall become a member of the Directorate for the balance of the term of the person who ceased to be a member.

(4) Schedule 1 has effect with respect to the membership of the Directorate.

(5) Schedule 2 has effect with respect to meetings of the Directorate.

7-(1) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), the Minister may Power of give to the Directorate any direction that he considers to be necessary or desirable with respect to the performance or exercise by the Directorate. Directorate of its functions or powers under this Act or any other Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Minister may give to the Directorate directions under that subsection with respect to matters of policy, including directions concerning the general nature and extent of the operations of the Directorate.

(3) The Directorate is not bound by a direction given under subsection (1) unless the direction is in writing and signed by the Minister.

(4) The power conferred on the Minister by subsection (1) shall not be exercised so as—

- (a) to require the Directorate to do anything that it is not empowered to do by this Act or any other Act;
- (b) to prevent the Directorate from performing any function that it is expressly required by this Act or any other Act to perform, whether conditionally or unconditionally; or
- (c) to interfere with the formation by the Directorate of any opinion or belief in relation to any matter that is to be determined as a prerequisite to the performance or exercise by the Directorate of any of its functions or powers under this Act or any other Act.

(5) The Minister may, at any time, by notice in writing given to the Directorate, revoke a direction given to it under subsection (1).

(6) The fact that the Minister has power to give a direction to the Directorate under subsection (1), or gives such a direction to the Directorate, does not have the effect of—

- (a) making the Directorate the servant or agent of the Crown for the purposes of this Act or any other Act; or
- (b) conferring on the Directorate any status, privilege, or immunity of the Crown.

General powers of Directorate.

- **8**—(1) The Directorate—
  - (a) may do all such acts and things as it may consider necessary or desirable for the development, regulation, and control of—
    - (i) horse-racing and greyhound racing (including the allocation of racing dates); and
    - (ii) betting by and with bookmakers and by means of the totalizator; and
  - (b) shall have, and may exercise, such other powers, and shall perform such other functions, as are conferred or imposed on it by or under this or any other Act.

(2) The Directorate may make such orders, give such notices and directions, and do such other acts and things, as appear to it to be necessary or desirable for giving effect to this section or for the exercise of any of the powers conferred, or the performance of any functions imposed, on the Directorate by or under this Act or any other Act.

9—(1) The Directorate—

Special powers of the Directorate

- (a) may invest in any of the investments referred to in Directorate. section 5 (1) of the *Trustee Act* 1898 and may vary any such investment;
- (b) may make grants to the fund established as provided by section 43 of the Racing and Gaming Act 1952;
- (c) with the approval of the Minister, may make grants, or loans at such interest and on such terms as it may determine, for or in relation to the administration, maintenance, or improvement of horse-racing or greyhound racing in Tasmania and may take mortgages or such other securities as it considers adequate to secure such a loan;
- (d) with the approval of the Minister, may undertake and contract for capital improvement to or maintenance of a racecourse;
- (e) may recommend to the Minister that land be acquired for the purposes of the Directorate; and
- (f) with the approval of the Minister, may establish and may maintain facilities for the training of horses for horseracing and dogs for greyhound racing and charge fees for the use of those facilities.

(2) A grant or a loan under subsection (1) (b) or (c) or an undertaking under subsection (1) (d) may be made unconditionally or subject to such conditions as the Directorate may impose and, without limiting the generality of this subsection, such conditions, in the case of a grant or a loan to a club, may relate to the administration of the club, capital improvements to and maintenance of racecourses, the payment of stake money, and the provision of facilities for the training of horses for horse-racing and dogs for greyhound racing.

(3) On a recommendation by the Directorate under subsection (1) (e) being made, the Minister may, out of money provided by the Directorate for that purpose, acquire the required land under the Lands Resumption Act 1957.

Power of Directorate to borrow. 10—(1) The Directorate may, with the approval of the Treasurer, borrow money for the purpose of making grants for capital works or loans pursuant to section 9(1).

(2) Money borrowed by the Directorate under subsection (1) shall not exceed \$3 000 000 in the aggregate at any time.

(3) The Treasurer may on behalf of the State guarantee the repayment by the Directorate of money borrowed by it under this section.

(4) The power of the Treasurer under this section to guarantee the repayment of the principal money shall be deemed to include a power to guarantee the payment of the interest and other charges payable in respect of that money.

(5) Any sums required to be paid by the Treasurer in pursuance of a guarantee given under this section shall be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund (which to the necessary extent is appropriated accordingly).

(6) Where the Treasurer in pursuance of a guarantee given under this section in respect of any money borrowed by the Directorate is required to pay any sum to the person to whom the money is repayable, the Directorate shall, on demand being made on it by the Treasurer, pay to the Treasurer a sum of an equivalent amount together with interest thereon at the same rate of interest as the rate payable by the Directorate in respect of the principal money so borrowed.

(7) All money received by the Treasurer under subsection (6) shall be paid by him into the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

(8) The Directorate shall not disburse any funds received by it under section  $57\tau$  of the *Racing and Gaming Act* 1952 in respect of any racing year unless it is satisfied that adequate provision has been, or can be, made to meet its liabilities under this section that have arisen or may arise during that racing year.

11-(1) The Governor may, in accordance with the Public State. Service Act 1973, appoint a Director of Racing, who shall be the principal executive officer of the Directorate, and such other officers as may be necessary for the proper exercise and performance of the powers and functions of-

(a) the Directorate:

(b) the Tasmanian Principal Clubs Board;

(c) the Tasmanian Harness Racing Board; and

(d) the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing Board.

(2) The Director may attend meetings of the Directorate, but is not entitled to vote at such a meeting.

12-(1) Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, Finances of the Directorate: all money received by or on behalf of the Directorate shall be paid accounts and into the Consolidated Revenue Fund and the expenses of the records. Directorate shall be paid out of money provided by Parliament for the purpose.

(2) All money required under this section to be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund shall be paid to the Treasurer.

(3) The Directorate shall cause to be kept proper accounts and records in relation to all of its operations and shall do all things necessary to ensure that all payments from its funds are correctly made and properly authorized and that adequate control is maintained over the assets of, or in the custody of, the Directorate and over the incurring of liabilities of the Directorate.

(4) As soon as practicable after 31st July in each year, the Directorate shall prepare a statement of accounts, in a form approved by the Auditor-General, exhibiting a true and correct view of the financial position of the Directorate as at that date and the transactions of the Directorate with respect to the period of 12 months ending on that date.

13-The accounts and records of the Directorate are subject to Audit. the Audit Act 1918.

14-(1) Within 3 months after the end of each financial year, Directorate to the Directorate shall submit to the Minister a report of its operations report to during that financial year.

Minister.

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(2) The Minister shall cause a copy of any report submitted to him under subsection (1) to be laid on the table of each House of Parliament within the first 14 sitting days after it is received by him.

(3) For the purpose of subsection (2), sitting days shall be counted whether or not they occur during the same session of Parliament.

Protection for members of the Directorate. **15**—(1) Where a member of the Directorate, the Director, or any officer for the time being appointed under section 11 does or purports to do, or omits or purports to omit to do, any act or thing in good faith for the purpose of administering or executing this Act, he shall not be personally subjected to any action, liability, claim, or demand in respect of that act or omission.

(2) Nothing in subsection (1) shall be construed as precluding the Directorate itself from being subject to any action, liability, claim, or demand.

16—(1) The Directorate may, by instrument in writing, delegate to a member of the Directorate or to an officer appointed under section 11, the performance or exercise of such of the Directorate's functions and powers (other than this power of delegation) as are specified in the instrument, and may, by a similar instrument, revoke wholly or in part any such delegation.

(2) A function or power, the performance or exercise of which has been delegated under this section, may, while the delegation remains unrevoked, be performed or exercised from time to time in accordance with the terms of the delegation.

(3) A delegation under this section may be made subject to such conditions or limitations as to the performance or exercise of any of the functions or powers delegated, or as to time or circumstance, as are specified in the instrument.

(4) Notwithstanding any delegation under this section, the Directorate may continue to perform or exercise all or any of the functions or powers delegated.

(5) Any act or thing done by or to a delegate while acting in the exercise of a delegation under this section shall have the same force and effect as if the act or thing had been done by or to the Directorate and shall be deemed to have been done by or to the Directorate.

(6) An instrument purporting to be signed by a delegate of the Directorate in his capacity as such a delegate shall in all courts and before all persons acting judicially be received in evidence as if it were an instrument executed by the Directorate under seal and, until the contrary is proved, shall be deemed to be an instrument signed by a delegate of the Directorate under this section.

Power of delegation of Directorate.

# PART III

# THE TASMANIAN PRINCIPAL CLUBS BOARD

**17**—(1) There is constituted by this Act a board to be known Constitution of Board. as the Tasmanian Principal Clubs Board.

(2) The Board shall consist of 7 members appointed by the Governor-

- (a) as to 3 members, from a panel of 6 persons nominated by the Tasmanian Racing Club;
- (b) as to 3 members, from a panel of 6 persons nominated by the Tasmanian Turf Club; and
- (c) as to one member from a panel of 2 persons nominated by the Devonport Racing Club.

(3) Each member shall hold office for such term, not exceeding 3 years, as the Governor shall appoint.

(4) The Governor shall appoint a chairman of the Board from the members appointed from the panel nominated by one of the clubs referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2), who shall hold office as chairman for 3 years.

(5) On the expiry of the term of office of the person appointed as chairman of the Board pursuant to subsection (4), the Governor shall appoint as chairman a member of the Board appointed from the panel nominated by the other of the clubs referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2), to the intent that the chairmanship shall alternate between representatives of the two clubs.

(6) Schedule 1 has effect with respect to the membership of the Board.

(7) Schedule 2 has effect with respect to meetings of the Board.

18—A person is not eligible to be appointed, or continue, as a Eligibility for member of the Board if—

- (a) he is the holder of a licence issued under the Rules of Racing; or
- (b) he is a paid officer of a racing club.

**19**—(1) Subject to the authority of the Directorate and to any Functions of directions given by it, the Board is responsible for the control of the Board racing in Tasmania (including control of race programming and stake allocation) and is the registering authority for horses which, and persons who, are required to be licensed pursuant to the Rules of Racing.

(2) Subject to this Act and to the Australian Rules of Racing, the Board has jurisdiction to make local rules of racing.

**20**—Not later than the end of October in each year, the Board shall submit to the Minister through the Directorate a report detailing the activities of the Board during the previous racing year ending on 31st July and shall submit with that report a copy of its annual accounts for that racing year.

# PART IV

THE TASMANIAN GREYHOUND RACING BOARD 21—(1) There is constituted by this Act a board to be known

Constitution of Board.

Board to

report to Minister

annually.

as the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing Board. (2) The Board shall consist of 4 members appointed by the

- Governor, comprising-
  - (a) a person who shall be appointed as chairman of the Board; and
  - (b) a member of the committee of—
    - (i) the Hobart Greyhound Racing Club;
    - (ii) the Launceston Greyhound Racing Club; and
    - (iii) the Devonport Greyhound Racing Club.
  - (3) The members of the Board shall hold office----
    - (a) in the case of the chairman of the Board, for such term not exceeding 4 years; and
    - (b) in the case of any other member, for such term not exceeding 3 years,

as the Governor may appoint.

(4) Schedule 1 has effect with respect to the membership of the Board.

(5) Schedule 2 has effect with respect to meetings of the Board.

Eligibility for membership.

22—A person is not eligible to be appointed, or continue, as a member of the Board if—

- (a) he is the holder of a licence, other than a licence as an owner, issued under the Rules of the Board; or
- (b) he is a paid officer of a greyhound racing club.

23-(1) Subject to the authority of the Directorate and to any Functions of directions given by it, the Board is responsible for the control of greyhound racing in Tasmania (including control of race programming and stake allocation) and is the registering authority for dogs which, and persons who, are required to be licensed pursuant to the rules of the National Coursing Club of Tasmania.

(2) Subject to this Act, the Board shall take over the rule-making function of the National Coursing Club of Tasmania, and may-

- (a) adopt those rules as the Greyhound Racing Rules of the National Coursing Club (Tasmania) as revised 1st December 1982; and
- (b) amend, rescind, and replace those rules from time to time as it thinks fit, for the purpose of giving effect to its powers under subsection (1).

24-Not later than the end of October in each year, the Board Board to shall submit to the Minister through the Directorate a report detailing the activities of the Board during the previous greyhound racing annually. year ending on 31st July and shall submit with that report a copy of its annual accounts for that greyhound racing year.

# PART V

# THE TASMANIAN RACING APPEAL BOARD

25-(1) There is constituted by this Act a board to be known The Tasmanian Racing Appeal as the Tasmanian Racing Appeal Board. Board.

(2) The Board shall consist of 6 members appointed by the Governor, of whom one, who shall be chairman, shall be a legal practitioner and one, who shall be deputy chairman, shall also be a legal practitioner.

**26**—(1) The Board shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine Jurisdiction of the Board. an appeal from any penalty imposed by a horse-racing club, a harness racing club, or a greyhound racing club, or by the stewards of such a club.

- (2) Where an appeal is from a decision imposing a penalty-
  - (a) of suspension or disqualification not exceeding 1 month or of a fine not exceeding \$500; or
  - (b) which is certified in writing by the chairman to be a minor penalty,

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the appeal shall be heard and determined by the appropriate controlling body in accordance with its own rules.

(3) A decision of the Board under subsection (1), or of a controlling body under subsection (2), is final.

Procedure.

**27**—(1) On the hearing of an appeal, the Board—

- (a) shall make a full and thorough investigation without regard to legal forms and solemnities;
- (b) may admit any evidence considered relevant notwithstanding that that evidence would not be admissible in a court of law; and
- (c) shall observe the principles of natural justice.

(2) Division 2 of Part II of the Evidence Act 1910 applies to the proceedings in an appeal as if—

- (a) the Board were such a body of inquiry as is referred to in section 14 (1) (b) of that Act; and
- (b) the matter the subject of the appeal were the matter into which it was appointed to inquire by its instrument of appointment.

(3) Notwithstanding anything in section 19 (1) of the *Evidence* Act 1910, a person who is present at the hearing of an appeal for the purpose of giving evidence when summoned so to do is entitled to be paid such fees, allowances, and sums by way of reimbursement of expenses as are prescribed in the regulations.

(4) Subject to this section and to any regulations made pursuant to section 30, the Board may regulate its own procedure.

Quorum.

**28**—(1) For the hearing of an appeal, the Board is properly constituted by at least 3 members.

(2) The chairman—

- (a) has the responsibility of nominating the members who shall constitute the Board for each appeal; and
- (b) shall, as often as practicable, nominate himself or the deputy chairman as such a member.

(3) In the absence of the chairman from a hearing, the members present shall elect one of their number to be chairman for the purposes of that hearing.

**29**—(1) The Governor may, in accordance with the Public Secretary. Service Act 1973, appoint a secretary to the Board.

(2) A person appointed as secretary pursuant to subsection (1) may hold that office in conjunction with any other office in the Public Service.

**30**—(1) The Governor may make regulations for the purposes Regulations. of this Part.

(2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), regulations made under that subsection may make provision for-

(a) the time and manner for lodging appeals;

(b) forms to be used and fees to be paid; and

(c) remuneration and allowances for members of the Board.

(3) A regulation under this section may authorize any matter or thing to be from time to time determined, applied, or regulated by any person specified in the regulation.

**31**—(1) The chairman may, in his absolute discretion, suspend Suspension of the operation of a penalty pending the hearing and determination of  $\frac{1}{\log appeal}$  an appeal.

(2) Subsection (1) has effect regardless of whether the appeal will lie to the Board or to the appropriate controlling body.

# SCHEDULE 1 Sections 6 (4), 17 (6), 21 (4)

Further Provisions with Respect to the Constitution and Membership of the Directorate, the Tasmanian Principal Clubs Board, the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing Board, and the Racing Appeal Board

Interpretation. 1—In this Schedule, "Board" means the Directorate, the Tasmanian Principal Clubs Board, the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing Board, or the Racing Appeal Board.

Ineligibility of 2---A person is not eligible to be appointed, or to continue, as a member of a Board if he has attained 65 years of age.

Public servant may be member of a Board.

a Board.

3-(1) An officer of the Public Service may hold office as a member of a Board in conjunction with his office in the Public Service.

(2) The provisions of the *Public Service Act* 1973 do not apply to or in respect of the appointment of a member of a Board, or to or in respect of a member of a Board in his capacity as such during his term of office.

Remuneration of members.

4-(1) A member of a Board (other than a person who is an officer of the Public Service) is entitled to be paid from the funds of the Board such remuneration (if any) and allowances as the Governor may from time to time determine in respect of him.

(2) A member of a Board who is an officer of the Public Service is entitled to be paid from the funds of the Board such travelling and subsistence allowances as the Governor may from time to time determine in respect of him.

Vacation of office.

- 5-(1) The office of a member of a Board becomes vacant-
  - (a) when the term for which he was appointed to hold office expires;
  - (b) when he dies;
  - (c) if he becomes bankrupt, applies to take the benefits of any law for the relief of bankrupt or insolvent debtors, compounds with his creditors, or makes an assignment of his remuneration or estate for their benefit;
  - (d) if he is absent from 3 consecutive ordinary meetings of the Board of which reasonable notice has been given to him, either personally or in the ordinary course of post, unless on leave granted by the Board or, unless, before the expiration of 3 weeks after the last of those meetings, he is excused by the Board for his absence from those meetings;
  - (e) if he becomes liable to be detained under the Mental Health Act 1963 in a hospital, being a hospital within the meaning of section 3 (1) of that Act;

- (f) if he is convicted in this State of a crime or an offence which is punishable by imprisonment for 12 months or upwards, or if he is convicted elsewhere than in this State of an offence which, if committed in this State, would be a crime or an offence so punishable;
- (g) if he is convicted of an offence against this Act;
- (b) if he resigns his office by writing under his hand addressed to the Governor and the Governor accepts the resignation; or
- (i) if he is removed from office by the Governor under subclause (2).

(2) The Governor may remove a member of a Board from office for misbehaviour or incompetence.

(3) The Governor may remove a member of a Board from office if he is satisfied, having regard to the information supplied by the organization that nominated the member, that the member is no longer qualified to be appointed to the Board.

6—On the occurrence of a vacancy in the office of a member of a Board Filling of otherwise than by the expiration of the term for which he was appointed, the vacancies. Governor may appoint a person to the vacant office for the residue of his predecessor's term of office.

7—A member of a Board is, if he remains qualified for membership of the Re-appointment Board, eligible to be re-appointed at the conclusion of his term of office.

8-(1) No act or proceeding of a Board or of any person acting pursuant validity of proto any direction of a Board is invalidated or prejudiced by reason only of the ceedings, &c. fact that, at the time when the act or proceeding was done, taken, or commenced, there was a vacancy in the membership of the Board.

(2) All acts and proceedings of a Board or of any person acting pursuant to any direction of a Board are, notwithstanding the subsequent discovery of any defect in the appointment of any member of the Board or that any person was disqualified from acting as, or incapable of being, a member of the Board, as valid as if the member had been duly appointed and was qualified to act as, or capable of being, a member, and as if the Board had been fully constituted.

9—In any proceedings by or against a Board, unless evidence is given to the Presumptions. contrary, no proof shall be required of—

- (a) the constitution of the Board;
- (b) any resolution of the Board;
- (c) the appointment of any member of the Board; or
- (d) the presence of a quorum at any meeting of the Board.

## SCHEDULE 2 Sections 6 (5), 17 (7), 21 (5)

PROVISIONS WITH RESPECT TO MEETINGS OF THE DIRECTORATE. THE TAS-MANIAN PRINCIPAL CLUBS BOARD, AND THE TASMANIAN GREYHOUND RACING BOARD

Interpretation. 1—In this Schedule, "Board" means the Directorate, the Tasmanian Principal Clubs Board, or the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing Board.

Convening of meetings of the Board. 2—Meetings of a Board may be convened by the chairman or by any 2 members of the Board.

Procedure at meetings. 3-(1) At a meeting of the Directorate or the Tasmanian Principal Clubs Board, 4 members shall form a quorum, and at a meeting of the Tasmanian Greyhound Racing Board, 3 members shall form a quorum.

(2) Any duly convened meeting of a Board at which a quorum is present shall be competent to transact any business of the Board.

(3) Questions arising at a meeting of a Board shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting.

Chairman,

4-(1) The chairman of a Board shall preside at all meetings of the Board at which he is present.

(2) If the chairman of a Board is not present at a meeting of the Board, a member elected by the members present shall preside at that meeting.

(3) The member presiding at a meeting of a Board has a deliberative vote.

Minutes.

5—A Board shall cause full and accurate minutes to be kept of its proceedings at meetings, and shall submit to the Minister a copy of the minutes of each meeting within 14 days after the date on which the meeting is held.

General 6—The procedure for the calling of, and for the conduct of business at, meetings of a Board shall, subject to this Schedule, be as determined by the Board.