



**Government
of South Australia**

11MRSR/300

Mr Graeme McEwen
Chair
Barristers Animal Welfare Panel
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MELBOURNE VICTORIA 3000

Minister for Recreation,
Sport and Racing
Minister for Road Safety
Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Minister Assisting the
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Minister Assisting the
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Dear Mr McEwen

I refer to your letters of 17 July 2011, addressed to the Hon the Premier, the Hon Michael O'Brien MP, myself other Members of Parliament regarding jumps racing events in South Australia.

The Premier has asked me to respond to your letter on his behalf, as has the Hon Michael O'Brien MP and other Members.

It is important to note that under the former Government the three racing codes became corporate entities in 2000, resulting in the State Government no longer having control over the management of those three codes of racing. Thoroughbred Racing SA (TRSA) is the controlling authority for the management of thoroughbred horse racing in this State.

TRSA has advised me that it continues to do everything possible to ensure safety in the sport for riders and horses in jumps racing across the State.

Two years ago, TRSA appointed a Jumps Review Panel comprising Stewards, ex jumping riders/trainers and a veterinary surgeon. This panel continually reviews all jumps events as part of TRSA's ongoing commitment to safety in the sport.

Every jumping race or trial at a South Australian racetrack, whether or not there is an incident, is reviewed by this panel, including the performance of horses, riders and the fences themselves.

Jumps racing is an integral part of the racing industry in this State and a significant contributor in terms of employment and economic benefits.

The decision to continue with jumps racing events in South Australia rests with TRSA, the racing controlling authority for thoroughbred racing in this State.

My views are that the safety of riders and horses are obviously important, however I do not believe that jumps racing is cruel and I will not be banning the sport. In addition, this Government will not be supporting the Bill introduced in the Legislative Council by the Hon Tammy Franks to prohibit jumps racing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Kenyon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Hon Tom Kenyon MP

Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing

Minister for Road Safety

Minister for Veterans Affairs

Minister Assisting the Premier with South Australia's Strategic Plan

Minister Assisting the Minister for Employment, Training and Further Education

3 / 9 / 2011