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Our Ref: 50069
Contact Officer: Luke Griffin
Contact Phone: (02) 6243 1114

8 November 2012

#### Sent via email

Dear Sir / Madam

## Tabcorp Wagering Manager (Vic) Pty Ltd applications for authorisation (A91344-6) – interested party consultation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has received applications for authorisation from Tabcorp Wagering Manager (Vic) Pty Ltd (Tabcorp).

Tabcorp is seeking authorisation to give effect to an agreement with ACTTAB Limited (ACTTAB) dated 2 November 2012 (Book Management Agreement). The Book Management Agreement governs the provision of fixed odds wagering and risk management services by Tabcorp to ACTTAB.

The ACCC invites you to comment on the applications. For further information about the authorisation process, including how to lodge a submission to the ACCC, please refer to the attached summary.

A copy of Tabcorp's authorisation applications and supporting submissions are available on the ACCC's website <<u>www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister</u>>.

### Interim authorisation

Tabcorp has requested interim authorisation to give effect to the Book Management Agreement.

The ACCC endeavours to deal with requests for interim authorisation quickly. In making an assessment as to whether it is appropriate to grant interim authorisation, the ACCC is not required to undertake a full assessment of the benefit and detriment likely to arise as a result of the proposed conduct.

The ACCC decides whether to grant interim authorisation on a case by case basis. Should an applicant request interim authorisation, the ACCC will usually consider a range of factors, including harm to the applicant and other parties if interim is or is not granted, possible benefit and detriment to the public, the urgency of the matter and whether the market would be able to return to substantially its pre-interim state if the ACCC should later deny authorisation.

The ACCC requests your comments regarding the request for interim authorisation by **15 November 2012**.

## **Request for submissions**

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the likely public benefits and effect on competition, or any other public detriment, from the proposed arrangements.

If you intend to provide a submission in relation to Tabcorp's applications for authorisation, please do so by **30 November 2012**. As noted above, submissions in relation to interim authorisation are requested by **15 November 2012**.

Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Luke Griffin on (02) 6243 1114 to organise a suitable time.

Submissions, including oral submissions, will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion (guidelines are attached).

## **Timetable**

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

5 November 2012	Lodgement of applications and supporting submission.
8 November 2012	Public consultation process begins.
15 November 2012	Closing date for submissions on interim authorisation
30 November 2012	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
November 2012	ACCC decision regarding interim authorisation
December 2012	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
February 2013	Draft determination.
February/March 2013	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
April 2013	Final determination.

Please advise if you do not wish to make a submission at this time, but would like to be informed of the progress of Tabcorp's application at the draft and final determination stages. If you are able, please provide a nominated contact email address for future correspondence.

You can also forward this letter to any other party who may wish to make a submission to the ACCC regarding the proposed arrangements.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please contact Luke Griffin on (02) 6243 1114 (or at <a href="mailto:luke.griffin@accc.gov.au">luke.griffin@accc.gov.au</a>).

Yours sincerely

Dr Richard Chadwick General Manager Adjudication Branch

# Tabcorp Wagering Manager (Vic) Pty Ltd – Interested Party List – 8.11.2012

ACT Bookmakers' Association

**ACT Gambling and Racing Commission** 

**ACTTAB Limited** 

Australian Associated Press Racing

Australian Bookmakers' Association/NSW Bookmakers' Cooperative Ltd

Australian Greyhound Racing Association

Australian Harness Racing Council

Australian Internet Bookmakers' Association

Australian Racing Board

Australian Punters Association

AustralianBookmakers.com

Bet365

Betfair Australia Pty Ltd

Canberra Greyhound Racing Inc

Canberra Harness Club

Canberra Racing

Centrebet Racing Pty Ltd

Clubs Victoria

Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor

Director of Licensing, Regulation & Alcohol Strategy Racing, Gaming and Licensing Department of Justice

Gaming and Wagering Commission of WA

Greyhound Racing Victoria

Greyhounds Australasia

Harness Racing Victoria

International All Sports Limited

Liquor and Gambling Commissioner
Office of the Liquor and Gambling Commissioner

Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing NSW

Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing QLD

Office of Gaming and Racing Victoria

Perth Racing

Queensland Bookmakers' Association

Queensland Racing Limited Racing Information Services Australia

Racing NSW

Racing Services Tasmania

Department of Infrastructure, Energy & Resources

Racing Victoria Ltd

South Australian Bookmakers' League Inc.

Sportingbet Australia Pty Ltd

Sportsbet Pty Ltd

Tasmanian Bookmakers' Association

**Tasmanian Gaming Commission** 

Tasmanian Thoroughbred Racing Council

Tattersall's Limited

Thoroughbred Breeders Association Victorian Inc

Thoroughbred Racing SA

Tom Waterhouse

Turf Accounts Australia

Unibet / Betchoice

Victorian Bookmakers' Association

Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation

Victorian Racing Club

WA Bookmakers' Association (Inc)