



Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission

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27 October 2015

Ms Vanessa Cornish
Treasurer
Northern Districts Hack and Dressage Club

By email: vanessa.cornish@hotmail.com

Dear Ms Cornish

**Notification N98410 submitted by Equestrian Australia –
decision to exclude material from the public register**

I refer to your submission of 21 October 2015 regarding the above notification lodged with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC).

As you may be aware, the ACCC is generally required under section 95 of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (the Act) to place documents provided to it in relation to a notification on the ACCC's public register. The Act provides that a person submitting a document in relation to a notification may request that the document or parts thereof be excluded from the public register by reason of the nature of certain information contained in the document. The ACCC also has discretion to exclude documents or parts of documents if it considers it desirable to do so.

As a person authorised to make a decision for and on behalf of the ACCC I advise that parts of your submission will not be placed on the public register. I have attached a copy of your submission, with the sections to be excluded marked up. You will note that they all relate to statements which identify, quote or comment on other forum attendees or statements they made at the forum.

I decided to exercise my discretion to exclude these parts of your submission from the public register to safeguard the integrity of the forum process by not discouraging frank, open and respectful discussion at future public forums.

I have endeavoured to leave sufficient information on the public register version to enable people to understand and potentially respond to your position, without specifically attributing the quote to a particular person. If you are able to demonstrate to the ACCC that you have permission from these other attendees to quote them, we can attribute the quote but the ACCC will not place on the public register your personal commentary on people participating in the forum (even if they were prepared

to consent to its inclusion), on the basis that it goes to the wider public interest in protecting the integrity of the forum and the process.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register.

Should you have any queries in relation to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact David Hatfield on (02) 6243 1266.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'R' followed by a long horizontal line.

Dr Richard Chadwick
General Manager
Adjudication Branch