



GOLD COAST TURF CLUB

"Racing every Saturday in Paradise"

29 March 2010

Hon. Peter Lawlor MP
Minister for Tourism & Fair Trading
PO Box 340
CHIRN PARK QLD 4215

Dear Peter,

At the meeting of the Gold Coast Turf Club (GCTC) Board on 26 March 2010 the possible redevelopment of the Bundall site was discussed.

There has been correspondence between the GCTC and Queensland Racing (QR) in relation to the basic fundamental principles of the possible development including funding and equity arrangements.

After numerous requests, QR has failed to divulge pertinent information to the Club in writing regarding this important upgrade.

The Board of the GCTC has now written to the Chairman of QR, Mr. Bob Bentley proposing an alternative model to the equity arrangements that have been central to discussions so far. A copy of this letter is attached with details concerning the proposal. I have also requested a meeting with Mr Bentley upon his return from the Dubai World Cup Raceday.

The Club's proposal would see QR leasing the racing and training areas of the racecourse from the Club on a long term basis for a nominal amount, with QR taking control of those functions of the racecourse during the lease period.

The Club would retain control of member and patron facilities, associated infrastructure and ownership of Club Land.

The GCTC understands that your government has committed \$80 million to a new entity of the three racing codes. It is our understanding from discussion with yourself and QR that \$40 million of this funding has been earmarked for the GCTC upgrade.

With the Club divested from the burden and expense of training and racing functions, there would be additional Club funds available to improve the entertainment and corporate facilities of the Club. With improved facilities on offer, Magic Millions Sales Pty Ltd would be encouraged to extend their contractual arrangements with the Gold Coast Turf Club and Queensland Events, thus securing the Sales, Raceday and Carnival for Queensland and the future.

The Club suggests that this offer would represent a saving to the Queensland Racing industry of \$32 million compared to the current proposal. The additional funding earmarked for the GCTC facility, that was to be sourced by QR from cash reserves and borrowing should be injected into prizemoney across the whole state for the benefit of all industry stakeholders. For the record there has been no increase in prizemoney to our bread and butter Saturday meetings since 2007 which is a concern to us.

The GCTC will be seeking support from other Race Clubs and key stakeholders including owners and trainers to ensure that this proposal succeeds for the betterment of racing not only on the Gold Coast but in Queensland as a whole.

As this proposal will be fully funded by the Queensland State Government and the GCTC it is a necessity that the government take an active role in the project. The Club asks for your full support of this proposal and we request that you become involved in the project with a hands-on approach to ensure it is given every opportunity to move racing on the Gold Coast forward.

Alternatively the government could seek an independent consultant experienced in the coordination of a project of this magnitude and significance.

I request an urgent meeting with you for discussions.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Eggleston
CHAIRMAN

cc: Gold Coast Turf Club Members
Hon Anna Bligh, MP Premier of Queensland
Hon Andrew Fraser MP, Treasurer of Queensland and Minister for Employment and Economic Development
Hon Peter Lawlor MP, Member for Southport and Minister for Tourism and Fair Trading
Mr Mike Kelly, Executive Director, Office of Racing Regulation
Mr John-Paul Langbroek MP, Leader of the Opposition
Mr Ray Stevens MP, Shadow Minister for Tourism and Fair Trading