



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**17 December 2025**

# **Statement on the ARF Announcement on Australian Black Type**

I refer to the statement made today by the Asian Racing Federation (**ARF**) that due to “exceptional circumstances” responsibility for decision-making in relation to the status of Australian Black Type races will fall to the Asian Pattern Committee (**APC**). As such, for an undetermined period of time, the Asian Pattern Committee will determine the status of all (Black Type) Australian races including upgrades and downgrades against the Asian Pattern Committee Ground Rules (**APCGR**).

Racing Australia fully understands the position taken by the Asian Racing Federation, a position that was fully supported by the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (**IFHA**), regarding the lack of Australian Black Type quality control which has arisen through there being no approved Australian Black Type Guidelines which comply with the APCGR nor functioning management protocols.

Racing Australia views this significant decision by the ARF very seriously and commits to collaborate with the APC during this time. It acknowledges that while decisions in relation to the status of its Black Type races by the APC under the APCGR is not for any fixed period, it is the ARF position that the adoption of APCGR compliant Australian Black Type Guidelines by Racing Australia must be progressed as a matter of priority and failure to do so could lead to other actions being taken.

Racing Australia retains the desire to appoint an Australian Black Type Advisory Group, whose members will be drawn from appropriate stakeholder groups, to work with Racing Australia as it continues to progress this matter.

Rob Rorrison

**Chairman  
Racing Australia**