

**OFFICE OF RACING**  
**INFORMATION GUIDELINES**  
**MIXED SPORTS GATHERING CONSENTS**

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**1. Purpose of Consents**

The purpose of mixed sports gathering consents is to either -

- (i) authorise horse, harness or pony races at athletics carnivals, gymkhanas and other sporting or novelty festivals regardless of whether bookmakers operate or **not**; or
- (ii) authorise bookmakers to operate at athletics carnivals, gymkhanas and other sporting or novelty festivals at which **no** horse, harness or pony races are contested.

**2. Scope of Betting**

Consents authorise bookmakers to conduct betting on -

- (i) concurrent metropolitan and country race meetings;
- (ii) horse, harness or greyhound races being conducted at the mixed sports gathering;
- (iii) athletics races being conducted at the mixed sports gathering in conjunction with the Victorian Athletic League;
- (iv) bicycle races being conducted at the mixed sports gathering in conjunction with CycleSport Victoria Incorporated; and
- (v) bookmakers may **not** bet on other events being conducted at the mixed sports gatherings unless specifically approved by the Minister.

**3. Issue of Consents**

Consents are issued by the Minister for Racing under the Racing Act 1958.

The consent system is administered by the Office of Racing which is an agency of the Department of Justice.

Contact Officer: Bob Niblett  
Permit Officer  
Office of Racing  
PO Box 18055  
COLLINS STREET EAST  
MELBOURNE VIC 8003  
Telephone 8684 1906  
Fax 8684 1900

#### **4. Eligible Organisations**

Permits are issued to non-proprietary sporting or community organisations which are raising funds for either charitable purposes or for the purposes of the organisation.

#### **5. Applications for Consents by Organisations proposing to conduct a Mixed Sports Gathering for the *first time***

Applications being made by an organisation seeking a consent for the first time must include-

- (i) a completed application form (a form is attached to this sheet);
- (ii) a copy of the proposed program of events;
- (iii) a copy of the organisation's constitution; and
- (iv) a copy of the organisation's Certificate of Incorporation (if applicable).

#### **6. Applications for Permits by Organisations which have *previously conducted* a Mixed Sports Gathering**

Applications being made by an organisation which has previously conducted a mixed sports gathering must include -

- (i) a completed application form; and
- (ii) a copy of the proposed program of events.

#### **7. Documents to be submitted after the holding of a Mixed Sports Gathering**

- Within 14 days of the holding of a mixed sports gathering, the holder of a consent is required to submit the following financial records to the Office of Racing -
  - (i) A bookmaking return detailing the bookmaker(s) and bookmaker's key employee(s) attending the mixed sports gathering; betting turnover; and levy payments made;
  - (ii) all original betting sheets and print outs submitted by the bookmaker(s) as required under rule 8.2 of the model rules; and
  - (iii) all bookmaker's statements submitted by the bookmaker(s) as required under rule 8.3 of the model rules.
- Within 30 days, the holder of a permit is required to submit to the Office of Racing-
  - (i) an itemised statement of receipts and expenditure for the mixed sports gathering signed by an authorised officer of the holder of the consent; and
  - (ii) a copy of the receipt(s) for the payment of the net proceeds of the mixed sports gathering (except where the holder of this consent was the sole recipient of the net proceeds).

#### **8. Supervision of Bookmakers**

The holder of a mixed sports gathering consent must enforce and comply with the “Model Bookmaking Rules for Clubs and Other Bodies holding Mixed Sports Gatherings, Athletic/Cycle Races and Club Betting Functions”. A copy of these Rules is available from the Office of Racing.

These Rules provide for the charging of a turnover levy on bookmakers by the holder of the mixed sports gathering consent.

Bookmakers and Bookmakers’ key employees fielding at mixed sports gatherings must hold current Certificates of Registration issued by the Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation.

Organisations conducting mixed sports gatherings must appoint a person to act as a Bookmakers’ Supervisor. This individual is responsible for ensuring all bookmakers and bookmakers’ key employees hold current Certificates of Registration. It is a requirement that these people carry their registration certificates with them.

The Bookmakers’ Supervisor must ensure that no unregistered bookmakers or bookmaker’s key employees field at the mixed sports gathering.

The Supervisor must also ensure that bookmakers only bet on authorised events. (See Section 2).

Information or queries regarding the registration of bookmakers and bookmakers’ key employees should be directed to the Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation on 9651 3175.

## **9. Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses Competing at Bush Races**

This Code has been made under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 for the purpose of establishing minimum welfare standards to assist organisers of mixed sports gatherings involving horse racing meet the requirements of the Act.

A copy of the Code is available from the Office of Racing. Technical queries about the operation of the Code and the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 can be directed to the Bureau of Animal Welfare on 9217 4228.

*Information sheet updated: October 2009*