

1. Background

This policy is made under s.102(1)(a) of the [Racing Act 2002](#) (Qld) (“**the Act**”) and s.6(c) of the [Racing Regulation 2023](#) (Qld). Those provisions require Racing Queensland (“**RQ**”), as the control body for the thoroughbred, harness and greyhound codes of racing in Queensland, to make a policy for the provision of funding for licensed Clubs.

2. Policy Name

This policy is named the *Club Operational Funding Policy* (“**Policy**”).

3. Date Made & Date Of Effect

This Policy is made on **1 April 2024** and takes effect on the same day.

4. Purpose

In accordance with section 82(2)(g)(ii) of the Act, RQ may distribute an amount to a licensed Club, on conditions the control body considers appropriate, for a purpose relating to the operations of the licensed Club.

The purpose of this Policy is to provide guidance in relation to:

- (a) the Club Operational Funding (“**Funding**”) received by Clubs under the Club Funding Agreement (“**Agreement**”); and
- (b) RQ’s approach for facilitating payments to Eligible Clubs in respect of abandoned and/or transferred race meetings.

5. Who Is Affected By The Policy?

This Policy is a policy for the thoroughbred, harness and greyhound codes of racing.

This Policy applies to RQ, its employees and processes, in administering Funding to licensed Clubs. This Policy affects all Clubs licensed by RQ which have entered into an Agreement.

6. Policy Application

6.1. How Decisions Are to be Made

The distribution of Funding aims to recognise and support expenses related to the Club’s core business of conducting race meetings and other racing activities (including training, if applicable). To ensure a consistent application and methodology, Funding must be allocated in accordance with the terms set out in the Agreement, and consistently with this Policy.

6.2. Roles and Responsibilities

RQ will administer Funding in accordance with the Agreement and this Policy. RQ may impose conditions and make variations to the Agreement in accordance with the terms of the Agreement and this Policy.

Funding set out in the Agreement is subject to the Club at all times complying with its obligations under the Agreement. Clubs must ensure expenditure of Funding is in accordance with the terms of the Agreement.

7. Abandonment Of Race Meetings

7.1. General

RQ may, in accordance with its powers under the Act, RQ Policies or the Rules of Racing (as applicable), abandon any race meeting for which it intended to provide Funding under a relevant Agreement.

While this Policy aims to provide a structured approach for facilitating payments to an Eligible Club in such instances, there may be circumstances which require additional consideration of which RQ may undertake at its discretion.

7.2. Payment of Variable Funding

The table below sets out the Variable Funding that will be payable to an Eligible Club if a race meeting allocated to it in the racing calendar is abandoned.

Any such payment will be subject to the following:

- (a) the relevant Funding component/s must have been payable under the Club's Agreement, but for the race meeting's abandonment; and
- (b) the abandonment must not have been caused or contributed to by any failure of the Club to comply with the Act, RQ's Policies or the Rules of Racing, nor from any negligence on the part of the Club (as determined by RQ, acting reasonably).

| Meeting Abandonment | Funding Component | Applicable Proportion |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| After acceptances/box draw and before final scratching time | Racing Expense | <i>Thoroughbred</i> 75% |
| | | <i>Harness</i> 75% |
| | | <i>Greyhound</i> 50% |
| After final scratching time but before the time scheduled for the first race of the meeting | Racing Expense | 100% |
| | Race Day Employment Expense | 100% |
| After the time scheduled for the first race of the meeting | All Variable Funding Components (subject to the below*) | 100% |

*Any Twilight Allowance will only be payable if a race is conducted under lights; and any 9+ Race Subsidy will only be payable if the race meeting is abandoned after 9 or more races.

7.3. Conducting a Race Meeting at Short Notice

This section applies where a race meeting is allocated to an Eligible Club at short notice. However, this section does not apply if the Club was previously scheduled to conduct a race meeting on the same day.

Where:

- (a) for the thoroughbred or harness codes, a race meeting is allocated to a Club less than 72 hours before the time scheduled for the first race of the meeting; or
- (b) for the greyhound code, a race meeting is allocated to a Club less than 48 hours before the time scheduled for the first race of the meeting,

RQ will apply a 50% uplift to the Racing Expense and Race Day Employment Expense payable to the Club under the Agreement (including section 7.2 of this Policy).

8. Rules Of Racing

Rules of Racing will not be made for this Policy.

9. Related Documents

[All Racing Queensland Policies](#)

[General Conditions](#)

[Racing Act 2002](#)

[Racing Integrity Act 2016](#)

[Racing Regulation 2023](#)

[Rules of Racing](#)

10. References

In this Policy:

- (a) **abandon**, in relation to a race meeting allocated to a Club in the racing calendar, means to reschedule, cancel, postpone or otherwise not proceed with the meeting on the scheduled day;
- (b) the **Act** means the [Racing Act 2002](#) (Qld);
- (c) **Agreement** means a Club Funding Agreement between RQ and a licensed Club;
- (d) **Club** means a Club licensed by RQ under the Licensing Scheme Policy;
- (e) **Eligible Club** means a Club that is entitled to receive Club Operational Funding under an Agreement;
- (f) **Variable Funding** has the meaning given in a relevant Agreement and is payable in accordance with the terms of that Agreement; and
- (g) any terms defined in the Act have the same meaning as set out therein, except as otherwise stated in this Policy.

11. Version History

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|-------------------------|--|------------------------|--------------|
| Current Version: | 2024.04 | Effective Date: | 1 April 2024 |
| Document Owner: | Executive General Manager Club Partnerships & Assets | Due for Review: | 1 April 2027 |
| Enquiries to: | clublicensing@racingqueensland.com.au | | |

| VERSION | EFFECTIVE | DOCUMENT OWNER | CHANGES MADE |
|---------|-----------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 1.4 | 16 October 2017 | Corporate & Club Services | Policy created. |
| 1.5 | 1 August 2018 | Corporate Affairs & Policy | Review and update to Policy |
| 2021.11 | 3 November 2021 | Executive General Manager Club Partnerships & Assets | Review and update to Policy |
| 2024.04 | 1 April 2024 | Executive General Manager Club Partnerships & Assets | Review and update to Policy |