



Victorian Commission
for Gambling Regulation

28 FEB 2011

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The Hon James Wood AO QC
Chairperson
NSW Law Reform Commission
GPO Box 5199
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Dear Sir

Thank you for your letter received 17 January 2011 informing me of the review being conducted by the NSW Law Reform Commission of the coverage of criminal law in relation to cheating at gambling in NSW and inviting the Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation ("VCGR") to make a submission in relation to laws in Victoria.

Section 4.5.29 of the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* ("the Act") limits the VCGR's power to prohibit betting on a sporting event approved by the VCGR for betting purposes, either on its own or as part of a class of events, to events held either wholly or partly in Victoria.

In addition to the VCGR's legislative power to prohibit betting on approved sporting events, it is likely that the contractual agreement between the Sports Controlling Body ("SCB") for a sport and the wagering operator authorised by the agreement to offer betting in respect of those events may also contain measures to suspend or otherwise disallow betting in respect of events for which integrity concerns are identified.

Organisations approved by the VCGR as the SCB for a particular sport have primary responsibility to ensure appropriate procedures exist and are adhered to in order to safeguard and ensure the ongoing integrity of sporting events on which betting is authorised. When considering an organisation for approval as a SCB, the VCGR examines its integrity policies and procedures to ensure it has the appropriate safeguards in place.

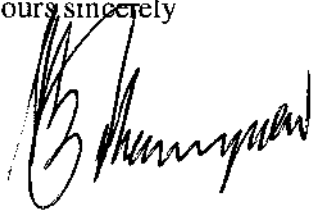
The VCGR actively monitors SCBs to ensure these safeguards are enforced. Where concern or doubt about the integrity of a sporting event approved for betting is identified the VCGR seeks assurance from the relevant SCB that the allegations have been investigated and that sufficient measures exist to give confidence in the integrity of those events.

Section 2.3.5 of the Act provides that a person who is caught cheating in relation to gaming in Victoria is guilty of obtaining the prize by way of false pretences with intent to cheat or defraud. This provision remains untested in Victoria.

I understand that Mr Des Gleeson, former Chairman of Stewards for Racing Victoria Limited, is currently undertaking a review of sports betting regulation in Victoria. Mr Gleeson's report and recommendations are due to be presented to the Minister for Gaming by 31 March 2011. The appropriate contact for further information on the review is Ms Kerri Hereward, Principal Policy Officer, Office of Gaming and Racing on [REDACTED]

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Thompson', written in a cursive style.

BRUCE THOMPSON
Chairman