
From:
Sent: Saturday, 21 September 2024 9:54 AM
To: Rosehill Racecourse
Cc:
Subject: CM: RE: Inquiry into the proposal to develop Rosehill Racecourse - Post-hearing responses - 12 September 2024
Attachments: FW: Public Inquest into the death of Marina Morel, apprentice jockey, at Gulgong Racecourse on 8th February 2022; FW: Fwd: Public Inquest into the death of Marina Morel, Gulgong Racecourse on 8 February 2022

Dear Emily,
Thank you for your email requesting information on notice. I understand the information required by the select committee are emails relating to the coroner's court, addressed to Mr Joseph Semrany. Please see two emails provided as attachments here. Further explanation can be provided if needed.
Regards,
Peter
Dr Peter Kerkenezov BM

From: equivet
Date: 29 August 2023 at 10:39:03 AM AEST
To:
Cc:
Subject: FW: Public Inquest into the death of Marina Morel, apprentice jockey, at Gulgong Racecourse on 8th February 2022

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

From:
Date: 20/8/23 8:23 pm (GMT+10:00)
To:

Subject: FW: Public Inquest into the death of Marina Morel, apprentice jockey, at Gulgong Racecourse on 8th February 2022

Hi Joseph,

The earlier email (please ignore) was sent accidentally before completion as you will see below.

Cheers,

Peter

Joseph Semrany

Senior Case Coordinator for DSC Lee (Assistant Coroner)

Coroners Court of NSW

Department of Communities and Justice

1A Main Ave, Lidcombe NSW 2141

Dear Joseph,

I write in regard the public inquest into the death of jockey, Ms. Marina Morel, at Gulgong Racecourse on 8th February 2022. I believe I have some worthy contributory comments that may explain the reason why so many horses are failing on the racetrack.

I have been an equine veterinary surgeon for 53 years and have been sounding the alarm on training and racing 'unfit' horses on many occasions for a very long time, particularly galloping horses with obvious defective/imbalanced hoof capsules due to poor farriery, inherent conformation and otherwise.

Please see attached letter ('High Risk Horse Racing_3.pdf') sent to the then NSW Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing dated 8th December 2014. It was not until further prompting that I received a reply dated 14th February 2017 (see attached, 'Reply From Racing NSW.jpeg'), three years later that indicates the degree of importance attached to my concerns was of little regard. In reality, my observations since receipt of the attached letter indicate nothing positive seems to have transpired despite assurances from the writer, PN V'Landys AM, Chief Executive of Racing NSW that the matter was in hand.

To validate my concerns, I have attached a couple of essays written for the Australian Light Horse Association 'Spur' journal, 'Spur_1(VS).pdf' and 'Introduction to Equine Biomechanics & Anatomy Ver.3.pdf'. I have also attached three more articles that may be of interest to the coroner.

When a horse's foot lands on the grass/turf during a gallop, the foot naturally slides somewhat, say 2.5 inches, and if one side is taking most of the load then deceleration occurs on that side. $F = ma$. Horses with uneven loading on their forefeet become candidates for excessive rotational forces about an axis (torque). As a consequence, cumulative microscopic injuries due to torque inter alia occur during thousands of steps during training and racing with frequent, subsequent, terminal musculoskeletal failure that can be catastrophic. Example: A photo (attached) was sent to me and clearly shows a horse with turned in fore feet (angular deformity/conformational defect) that should, in my opinion, not be on the race track for this very reason.

The centre of gravity of a horse (G) is approximately level with, and immediately behind, the point of the elbow. Once a jockey is mounted then the centre of gravity moves in the direction of the centre of gravity of the jockey of weight w. That is, the final centre of gravity (G1) of the composite unit will change somewhat as the jockey stands in the irons or sits on the pad. $GG1 = w \times d / W$. The point to made here is that the jockeys today ride very short and hence the centre of gravity (G1) is significantly elevated and a horse needs to 'struggle' to remain upright, thus placing additional forces upon the limbs. Horses' carry most of their weight on the fore limbs so hence a rider's weight and position are also major factors that contributes to musculoskeletal failure.

My final comment; the fore limbs, particularly the feet, of the horse that fell with Ms. Marina Morel need close scrutiny by an experienced veterinarian who is thoroughly conversant with all the aforementioned.

Yours faithfully,

Peter

Dr Peter Kerkenezov BM

BVSc, DipAppSc, Cert Equine Surgery

Equine Veterinary Surgeon

Honorary Veterinary Surgeon

Australian Light Horse Association

Honorary Veterinary Surgeon

Australian Bravery Association

Racing NSW Veterinarian 2023 – 2024

NSW Registered Veterinary Practitioner 3060