

WorkSafe Tasmania

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Michael Barnier
Committee Secretary
House of Assembly
Email: michael.barnier@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Michael,

In response to your email dated 24 March 2025, for further information resulting from the short inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's response to serious allegations within harness racing relating to WorkSafe Tasmania held on 17 February 2025, I provide the following responses for the Committee as requested.

1. Does Wayne Yole currently hold a workers compensation policy?

There is no record in our data of Wayne Yole holding a workers compensation policy.

2. In the part of the initial stages, can you tell us how many, if any, organisations within the racing industry had to take on a policy as part of it, or didn't hold a policy and did because of the approach you took through the education component?

Noting that the compliance program began in May 2024, workers compensation data shows that in July - December 2024, 9 businesses in the racing industry that were not previously in our data commenced a policy of workers compensation insurance.

3. In the data there you talked about 35 employers held a workers compensation policy in 2023 covering 116 workers. Do you have information about how that split across the three racing codes in terms of how many harness race employers, how many greyhound and – not particularly into those, but harness racing in particular?

Policies are classified at the lowest level of granularity under the ANZSIC (Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification) system, which is 4 digit class level. At this level there are 2 codes under which these 35 policies are classified:

- 1) Horse and Dog Racing Administration and Track Operations which covers the primary activities:
 - Dog race course or track operation
 - Horse race course or track operation
 - Racing authority or board

2) Other Horse and Dog Racing Activities, which covers the primary activities:

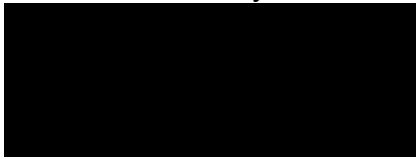
- Race dog training operation
- Racehorse training operation
- Racing kennels operation
- Racing stables operation

Both of these classifications include horse and dog racing with no separation between specific racing codes possible.

4. Do you have data in relation to the types of injuries and the frequency of reporting of injuries or incidents by code? I think you have the aggregate data here in terms of the racing industry as a total, but do you have that in terms of the code? Do you get a sense that there are far more incidents occurring in the harness racing industry as opposed to thoroughbred or greyhound? Do you have that information?

As per policy data, the industry classification does not reach the level of granularity to separate racing codes. However, further examination of claim data suggests that the vast majority of injuries are horse racing related rather than dog racing related (dog racing estimated at less than 5%).

Yours sincerely



Brad Parker
Executive Director
WorkSafe Tasmania

3 April 2025