

10 reasons why you should support Victorian horse racing

- 1.** You are supporting over 70,000 Victorians who are involved as an employee, volunteer or participant. From veterinarians to farriers, strappers to track riders and trainers to jockeys, these people all actively play their part in the sport.
- 2.** Racing brings more than \$1.5 billion annually to regional economies across the state, supporting local retailers, mum and dad cafes, accommodation providers and other hospitality businesses.
- 3.** More than 1,450 charitable organisations are supported by the racing industry. These charities receive millions per annum in funds, in addition to the in-kind support provided.
- 4.** Local race clubs are strongly involved in their local communities. Many country cups are the biggest event held within the town for the year.
- 5.** On average, more than 500,000 people attend country racing meetings per year. The social benefit derived from local race meetings is a vital component to the fabric of regional communities.
- 6.** Racing has World Class equine welfare standards and practices. In late 2019, Racing Victoria announced a \$25 million equine welfare plan dedicated to the welfare of Victorian thoroughbreds and post-racing wellbeing. 90% of horses exiting the racing industry are re-homed directly to the equestrian, pleasure or breeding industries to enjoy life after racing.
- 7.** Thousands of Victorians are involved as racehorse owners which allows them to be directly involved with the industry. More than \$350 million is spent annually by owners alone on the care of horses in Victoria.
- 8.** Racing provides regional Victoria with employment opportunities and improves the liveability of regional communities. Almost 63% of employees, volunteers and participants reside in regional Victoria.
- 9.** Horse racing is in the top 10 of most watched sports in the country with both national and international audiences.
- 10.** A large share of country race clubs rely on the work of volunteers and not for profit organisations. The local community comes together to run their local race days.