



REPORT to members and board 2018



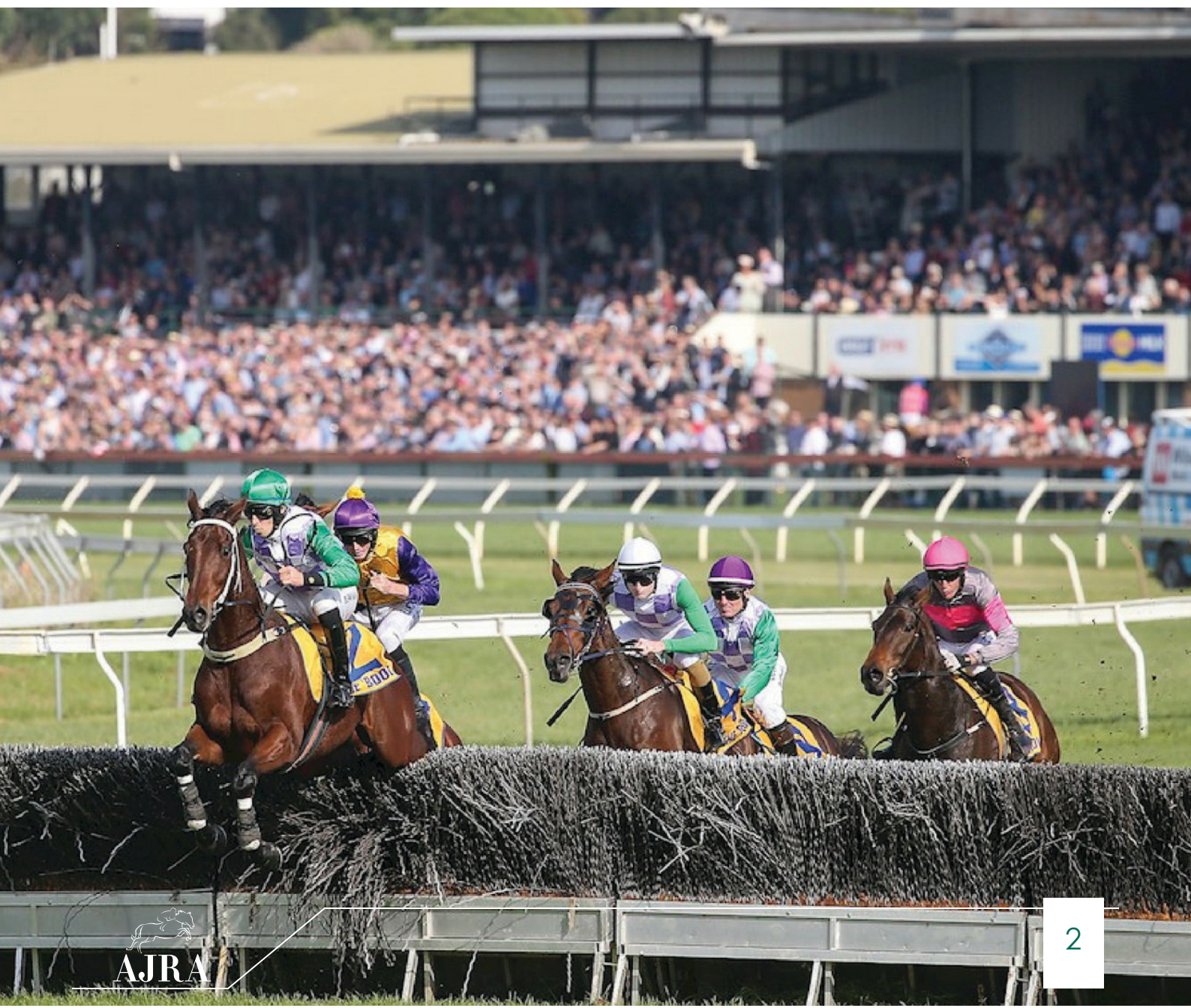
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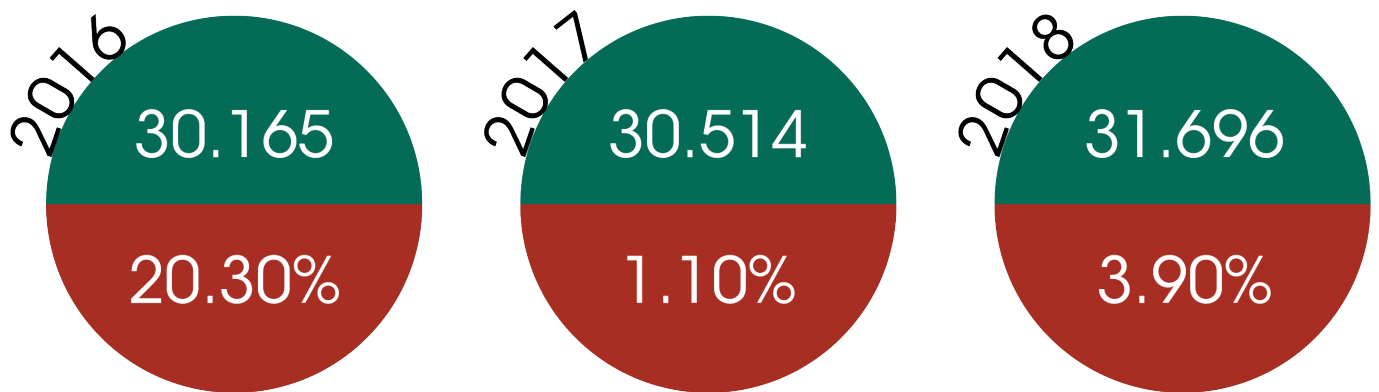
INTRODUCTION

AJRA now presents its report for Jumps racing for 2018 season. It has been compiled to give the Board, AJRA members, trainers, owners and jockeys an overview of 2018 season and visibility of what will improve the sport in 2019. Jumps racing is an integral component of Victorian country racing and Victorian Staying racing. Jumping horses provide fields for many staying races and staying fields provide many horses for jumps racing. If one is weakened the other will invariably be also weakened. The report seeks to make appropriate points regarding continuous improvement of both areas of racing in the state.



CROWDS

Warrnambool continued to drive record crowds to its 3 day carnival which is the benchmark and best attended Country Carnival in Australia.



● Carnival ● % Increase (Carnival)

A rare 1.25m Federal government grant was received to build a new state of the art dining precinct at the course for use by the entire community. Yield per patron will increase from this project cementing long term profitability for the club.

Ballarat Grand National Day was a sellout and crowd is now restricted by the size and age of its facilities.

Casterton crowds were excellent again.

Sandown crowd was better in 2018 and the AJRA has pencilled in a Jockey reunion for 2019 at the club.

Pakenham has agreed to run the Mosstrooper from 2019 with a view to improving this meeting.

All other participating clubs including Coleraine, Sale, Hamilton and Terang are thanked for their support.

TURNOVER AND FIELD STATISTICS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Warrnambool continued to drive record crowds to its 3 day carnival which is the benchmark and best attended Country Carnival in Australia.



For the first time in recent memory both the Grand Annual and Grand National steeplechase attracted full fields.



Steeplechase racing improved significantly and the AJRA is looking to run more steeples now logistics for these events has been significantly improved.



Jumps Racing needs a Gambling partner to grow substantially in betting turnover. AJRA as a voluntary committee is not in a position to drive this improvement.



Overall betting for the year up 13.3% on steeples and 5.3% on Hurdles. Hurdles held back by small 0-120 fields several of which are deleted in 2019 program



Betting on Warrnambool 3 day carnival a record with growth of 17.8% to over \$50 million for the three days.



Betting on Grand National Steeple Day up 21.3% but still needs to be better.



Many jumpers warming up for major races add depth and turnover to winter staying races.



In England and Ireland 8 of the 10 biggest betting races in the calender year are jumps races.

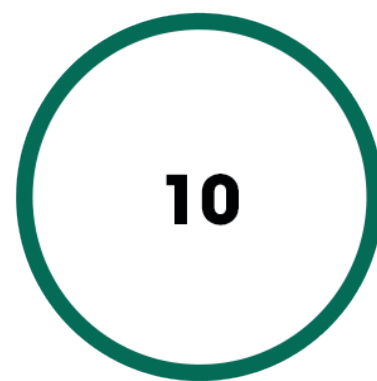
SPREAD OF WINNING CONNECTIONS



14 of 15 JJ
Houlahan
Championship
Series races were
won by trainers
outside the top 15
trainers by most
number of wins in
the season



100% of trainers
winning JJ
Houlahan
Championship
Series races do
not train in the
metropolitan area



10 different jockeys
were successful at
the top level 2018

This spread of winners is a good news story for Victorian Racing.
See addendum 1.

LOGISTICS

Logistics has been improved by:

- Support vehicles and equipment has been donated or sourced to do the job. Over \$100,000 of equipment was donated by QLS Group for this task to improve convenience.
- Using Easyfix steeple for Steeples races.
- Easyfix steeple are OHS compliant and significantly easier to assemble (70% easier).
- Easyfix are a global product used in France, America, Denmark, Ireland, Scandinavia, England and many other jumping jurisdictions.

Due to late arrival of Easyfix jumps a proper assessment of these jumps can only be made after 2019.



Costs for setting up logistics were recorded and analysed in 2018. The results are:

TOTAL LOGISTICS COSTS	LOAD (CRANBOURNE)	DELIVER/SETUP	RACEDAY	PACK AND UNLOAD	TOTAL
	19%	32%	27%	21%	100%

- If Cranbourne were made self sufficient for jumps, cost would reduce by between 25% and 35%. Damage would also reduce though less handling.
- If jumps already loaded in dedicated vehicles were relocated to the second biggest club a further 10-15% could be saved.
- A team who knows how to set up the jumps properly and safely will always be needed while we retain the existing hurdles. Raceday costs will remain stable at 27%.
- The AJRA is seeking a small capital grant of \$120,000 each year to work toward the goal of maintaining quality of obstacles and halving costs for jumping over 4 years.

Years 1/2	MAKE CRANBOURNE SELF SUFFICIENT. COST OF \$150-\$200,000.	Years 2/3	MOVE TO SECOND BIGGEST CLUB. STRATEGIC PURCHASES TO LOWER COSTS.	Year 4	STRATEGIC PURCHASES TO REDUCE OVERALL MOVEMENT OF JUMPS.
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A background image of a horse race, showing several horses and jockeys in motion. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter.

2019

A prize money increase for jumps of 5.2% \$200,000 per annum increase.

A fair share of any increase in prize money which is achieved from extra funding by either the liberal or labor government.

A capital fund of \$120,000 per annum to reduce overall logistics costs over the next 4 years.

Conclusion

The AJRA would like to thank all contributors and participants in 2018.

The sport has faced and does face many challenges not least the need to increase the supply of owners and dual purpose horses back into the sport. Horses create fields and fields create entertainment and wagering; this is the basis for improvement for the sport.

In 2019 and beyond the focus for the AJRA is increased participation of owners, more exciting racing and a significant improvement in the convenience and attractiveness of conducting jumps racing for clubs.

The focus for the AJRA is on horses and competitive racing. It is for dedicated racing purists and needs to provide the entertainment and interest this type of participant expects and which, we believe, has been lost in many other areas of racing.

www.australianjumpsracing.com