



# Media release

20 November 2017

## Race fixing arrest

The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) has announced the arrest of a 35-year-old Harness driver.

“This industry participant has been charged with one count of match (race) fixing,” Commissioner Ross Barnett said.

“He’s the fifth person to be charged as a result of an investigation of match fixing and money laundering allegations in the Harness code.”

The offence of match (race) fixing carries a maximum penalty of ten years’ imprisonment.

The 35-year-old driver has been a prominent participant in Harness racing and finished in the top three in last year’s Queensland Drivers Premierships.

“Today’s arrest is the result of the good work of the Racing Crime Squad (RCS),” Commissioner Barnett said.

“The QRIC, through the RCS and the Commission’s own regulatory unit, is committed to weeding out racing industry participants who want to undermine the integrity of racing in Queensland.”

Detective Inspector Michael Dowie, from the Major and Organised Crime Squad, says the investigation is ongoing.

“The RCS will pursue all information received regarding match fixing and criminal conduct across all codes of racing,” Detective Inspector Dowie said.

“I would urge anyone with information about match-fixing to come forward and contact police or Crime Stoppers.”

The accused man has been released on watch house bail and is due to appear in the Cleveland Magistrates Court on the 12th of December 2017.

Today’s arrest comes after another prominent driver, Barton Cockburn, was warned off all race tracks for life following his conviction in the Brisbane Magistrates Court last month of three counts of match (race) fixing.

**ENDS**

**If you have any information about serious misconduct in racing, contact Crime Stoppers on their toll free number 1800 333 000 or e-mail [reportsomething@qric.qld.gov.au](mailto:reportsomething@qric.qld.gov.au)**

