



Media release

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QRIC announces new appointment

The Queensland Racing Integrity Commissioner has announced the appointment of a new head of the Integrity Regulation Unit (IRU).

“I’m pleased to announce that Detective Sergeant Tracey Pelling has been appointed to the role of IRU manager,” Commissioner Ross Barnett said.

The IRU’s functions include the enforcement of licensing requirements for the racing industry as well as stable and kennel inspections to ensure the welfare of racing animals.

“Detective Pelling is currently the Officer-in-Charge of the Queensland Racing Crime Squad (QRCS) and has been involved in a number of significant investigations which have resulted in the arrest of racing industry participants for offences ranging from match (race) fixing to money laundering and serious animal cruelty,” Commissioner Barnett said.

Detective Pelling was appointed to head the QRCS when the Commission commenced operations in July last year.

Prior to her appointment she led the Greyhound Racing Inquiry Task Force.

This specialist multi-agency team was tasked with investigating allegations of live baiting and serious animal cruelty in the greyhound racing industry.

The Task Force was formed following the live baiting inquiry headed by Alan MacSporran QC.

Detective Pelling joined the Queensland Police Service in 1998 and holds a Bachelor of Policing from Charles Sturt University.

She is a reservist in the Royal Australian Air Force and was deployed on operations in the Middle East in 2013.

Detective Pelling also enjoys a strong personal connection with the racing industry.

“Detective Pelling is the cousin of jockey Mike Pelling who twice won the Doomben 10000 and rode Kythera to third place in the 1976 Melbourne Cup,” Commissioner Barnett said.

“He was considered among the elite jockeys produced in Queensland.

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

“Mike Pelling was also a thinker away from the racetrack and invented the Pelling Pacifiers which is a type of horse blinkers now used worldwide.”

Detective Pelling says she’s delighted by her appointment to the position of IRU Manager.

“This new role allows me to make good use of a long association with the racing industry,” Detective Pelling said.

“I applied for the role because it was a logical step for me.

“I love racing and am looking forward to working to further enhance the racing industry’s reputation for integrity across all three codes,” Detective Pelling said.

Detective Pelling is due to officially start in her new role in February 2018.

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