



# Media Release

26 September 2018

## Stewards abandon Ipswich meeting for safety reasons

In consultation with senior jockeys, QRIC Stewards made the decision to abandon the running of the races at the Ipswich Turf Club today.

QRIC Chief Thoroughbred Steward Peter Chadwick said stewards had been continuously monitoring the condition of the Ipswich track after a malfunctioning sprinkler system flooded the track on Monday night in the section between the winning post and the 1500m mark.

“Our inspections yesterday deemed the track safe however it was a heavy 9.

“We chose to give it every opportunity to recover before today’s meeting,” he said.

“Overnight weather conditions prompted stewards to call several jockeys in early to be present during the final track inspection.”

Mr Chadwick said the consensus of those senior riders was that while the majority of the course was safe for racing, the section of the track immediately past the winning post had not recovered sufficiently to allow the riders to safely restrain their horses on pulling up.

“Based on that advice, stewards decided to declare at midday that the meeting should not proceed,” he said.

“The safety of the riders and the horses set to take part in today’s meeting is paramount and must be the first consideration before any race meeting goes ahead.”

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)

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