

News Release Deputy Premier John Rau

Attorney General
Minister for Planning
Minister for Business Services and Consumers



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Fixed odds at the track for TAB punters

The Minister for Business Services and Consumers John Rau has revoked a Ministerial Direction to the Independent Gambling Authority to allow the SA TAB to offer fixed odds betting at the track for the first time.

The move comes in time for tomorrow's Derby Day and next Tuesday's Melbourne Cup racing events.

"This brings the TAB into line with other bookmakers at the track that also offer fixed-odds betting," Mr Rau said.

"Previously, punters could get fixed odds online through the TAB or at off-site venues but not at the track.

"This meant that people attending racing events could bet with fixed odds on their smartphones or tablet devices yet TAB services on the track could not offer them."

Thoroughbred Racing SA Chief Executive Officer Jim Watters has welcomed the move.

"The inability of racing clubs to offer this service to their on-course patrons has been the source of great frustration and disappointment to clubs," Mr Watters said.

"Thoroughbred Racing SA was strongly of the view that there should be no disincentive to anyone to attend on-course nor any incentive to wager solely off course, and we are delighted with the new decision.

"The change will allow patrons to enjoy the excitement of the full on-course experience, and still be able to place a bet on all options already available off course."

The agreement also allows bookmakers to apply to operate by telephone 24/7 from an approved location, subject to defined on-course attendance criteria.

With so much racing around the corner, the Minister has also reminded punters to gamble responsibly.

"We all enjoy a punt this time of year and it is important that people do so responsibly," Mr Rau said.