

Perth Local Joint Pitch Council

Minutes of the 15th Meeting held at Perth Racecourse on Friday 1 December 2006

In attendance:

Chair and secretary	Haig Jenkinson	Betting Ring Manager
	Morag Reid, Sam Morshead	Perth Racecourse Executive
	Cumbie Bowers	Fife & District Bookmakers
	James Cameron	Rails Bookmakers Association

1 Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

There were no matters arising and the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2 Designated Numbers 2007

The Council members had previously been furnished with documentation regarding bookmaker attendances in 2006 together with opt-in/ opt-out details. Further, members had been issued with crowd attendance figures during the 2006 season.

A short discussion on the recent OFT report regarding their investigation into the setting of designated numbers followed.

CB told Council that Fife and District Bookmakers Association felt that designated numbers in Tattersalls were too high and should be reduced. However, in light of the recent OFT report, CB told Council that his association would not be seeking a reduction in the numbers for 2007. CB also opined that there was anyway a general downward trend as seen by bookmaker attendances.

CB told Council that Fife and District BA felt there was a requirement for a further 2 positions to be added to the Silver Ring numbers on the two Sunday fixtures. He told Council that by adding a further two positions this should ensure that customer service is maintained in this area of the course. Furthermore, CB asked that the NJPC auction a further 2 positions in the Silver Ring prior to the 2007 season to establish a further "waiting" list for this ring.

CB told SM that he felt the building of the new Nelson Stand rather than being an asset for Tattersalls bookmakers had actually been detrimental to Tattersalls bookmakers' trade. SM countered by indicating that crowd attendances at Perth were at a record figure and were averaging 4,500 persons per meeting and that this was the biggest average crowd attendance on any Scottish racecourse since the opening of Licensed Betting Offices. SM further indicated that runners at Perth were at a very healthy average of 10.1 runners per race and continued to increase. SM felt that if bookmaker turnover was suffering it was outside factors that were having the greatest influence on trade. A discussion ensued regarding betting exchanges and their effect on the market.

Council unanimously accepted CB's proposals for designated numbers 2007 and these are attached.

3 AOB

There was no other business.

PERTH DESIGNATED NUMBERS 2007

Tattersalls:

39 10 Jun, 15 July
36 27 Apr
33 25 Apr, 26 Apr, 16 May, 17 May, 31 July, 1 Aug, 26 Sep, 27 Sep
30 4 July, 5 July

Rails:

4 All days

Dewhurst:

4 All days

Silver:

14 10 Jun, 15 July
4 All other days