

Perth Local Joint Pitch Council

Minutes of the 16th Meeting held at Perth Racecourse on Thursday 5 July 2007

In attendance:

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

1 Silver Ring Area

The Council met in order to discuss ways in which they could improve the Silver Ring betting ring area for bookmakers and to assist the crowd flow in the centre of the course on the busy days.

SM told Council that in future he would pitch the hospitality tent with the front of it parallel to the racetrack running rail rather than the structure being positioned end on. The result of this will mean that the tent “depth” will be much less obtrusive and that members of the public coming from the car park area to the bookmakers will have a more direct route. SM will leave gaps in the white running rail that borders the car park boundary to assist access to the betting ring area.

CB asked SM if he could move the wooden viewing platform from the area in front of the pitches. SM agreed and indicated that this would be moved up the course away from the bookmakers area in time for the next racemeeting.

Alongside this the area directly in front of the bookmakers will be cordoned off prior to admission to members of the public and then opened up just before the first race. This should ensure that members of the public can safely enjoy having a bet without having to traverse an area previously set up for picnics etc.

JC asked if the area where the bookmakers bet from could be given permanent anchorage points in a strip of tarmac running the length of the pitches of some one metre width. This would allow a permanency to the area and improve working conditions for all those betting.

JC suggested that funds held by the NJPC on behalf of the LJPC – currently standing at £2,315 – could be used to finance this initiative.

SM and CB both endorsed the view that tarmacing and permanent anchorage points would improve significantly the bookmakers betting area.

The Council unanimously supported the proposal and SM will provide HJ with estimate for the work to be carried out in order to release funds from the NJPC.

SM told Council that he intended to move the running rail at the end of the season and in doing so hoped that he could move the emergency access gate onto the racecourse thus giving a greater area for the bookmakers to bet from. With this in mind, he indicated it would make sense for final preparation and laying of tarmac to take place in the close season. All endorsed this view.

2 AOB

There was no other business.