

**'Open Letter' to All Bookmakers.**

**28<sup>th</sup> November 2012.**

With the 1<sup>st</sup> September now behind us, we can turn our attention to those matters needed to revitalise our industry.

The three trade associations who represent the vast majority of 'on-course' bookmakers are aware of the issues that cause most concern to their respective members. In the first instance 'Pitch Renting', together with the flagrant, and in some cases innocent, abuse of the use of both schedule Y and schedule X.

The main principle of any trade association is to safeguard the interests of the membership and to research and advise on industry matters that can affect individuals and companies alike.

The ARB, NAB and RBA, being mindful of the concerns of their respective members over many issues, but first and foremost the abuse of schedule Y and schedule X, and also having been approached by a member of the RCA negotiating team expressing concerns on this matter, took the decision to form a 'committee' comprising of two representatives from each of the associations. Their remit was to address the numerous concerns and complaints received from the membership with regard to such abuses, and to produce guidelines that help any misconceptions or grey areas that exist with regard to Section 4 – Bookmakers obligations (4.4) – of the licence to operate on any given racecourse.

In order to safeguard the interests of all bookmakers, some of whom may be trading unwittingly in breach of Clause 4 (4.4), we are seeking a clear legal interpretation and the 'committee' will reconvene once we have received the advice and have had the opportunity to digest its contents and discussed such advice with the RCA representative.

If any bookmaker wishes to add their input to this issue then they should contact their respective association.

This letter has been issued jointly by the following associations.

Association of Racecourse Bookmakers. (ARB).

National Association of Bookmakers. (NAB).

Rails Bookmakers Association. (RBA).

*28<sup>th</sup> November 2012.*