

Communique

Meeting No: 2022.02

Date: Thursday 23 June 2022

The Racing and Breeding (RGR) Industry Reference Committee (IRC) met via video conference on Thursday 23 June 2022. Present at the meeting were IRC members, guests and representatives from Skills Impact.

2022 Industry Summary and RGR Industry Skills Report

The IRC was updated on the Industry Summary requirements for submission in September 2022 including recommendations for future work.

An RGR Industry Skills Report has been drafted which provides industry-specific detail on skills themes and issues. RGR IRC members have been asked to review the draft skills report and provide feedback, and approve release for public consultation.

Round Table Discussion

The IRC members discussed issues, trends, emerging opportunities and views on skills and training. Discussions included:

- Worker shortages and retention being experienced across all sectors, with many employers offering above award wages, incentives and pay increases.
- Rising costs, especially regional, are creating concerns for long term viability of training racehorses.
- All sectors are promoting to attract workers to the industry with several different initiatives. Thoroughbred industry seeing increasing successes as their programs have been running for approximately 4-5 years.

VET Reform

IRC members were provided with an update on the VET reform confirming that Skills Impact has submitted an application for the Agribusiness, Food and Fibre Cluster.

Next Meeting

The next Racing and Breeding IRC meeting will be held in Melbourne as a hybrid face to face/video meeting early September. Dates to be confirmed.