

Communique

Meeting No: 2022.03

Date: Tuesday 13 September 2022

The Racing and Breeding (RGR) Industry Reference Committee (IRC) met via video conference on Tuesday 13 September 2022. Present at the meeting were IRC members, guests and representatives from Skills Impact.

2022 Industry Skills Report and Industry Summary

The 2022 RGR Industry Skills Summary and RGR Industry Skills Report were approved by the IRC after the completion of industry and public consultation. The IRC noted that the industry is experiencing shortages in occupations including stud staff, officials, stewards and stable hands.

The IRC recommended priorities for consideration under the new system:

- creating nationally consistent assessment and training resources across all qualifications, with immediate priorities for track riders and stewards/integrity qualifications
- activities to support engagement with employers that have identified RTO barriers to delivery
- mapping of career pathways to assist the National Careers Institute to address critical workforce shortages through the promotion of careers
- review of RGR40221 Certificate IV in Racing (Jockey) to remove prerequisites and duplications, included in the core concerning riding, to free up training hours to include updated skills required to fill training gaps (The IRC noted this may include the development of supporting nationally consistent assessment and training resources).

The IRC also agreed that the industry should work with other Agribusiness, Food and Fibre industries on:

- research and planning projects to identify and address skills gaps relating to traceability, provenance and blockchain
- identifying digital skills needs using the Digital Workforce Capability and VET framework currently in development (along with other digital capability frameworks).

VET Reform

Skills Impact provided an update on VET reform processes including the Industry Clusters grant program, qualifications reform and the national microcredential framework pilot. Skills Impact has been invited by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) to further discuss the submission to support the

Agribusiness, Food and Fibre Industry Cluster. DEWR have advised that the new program is expected to be launched prior to the end of 2022.

Acknowledgement and thanks

Appreciation was expressed for the time, effort, input and expertise voluntarily given by members of this committee and a particular acknowledgement was offered of Geoff Bloom's leadership. Geoff Bloom has been involved in VET for a long time, including with rural training. Geoff Bloom will inform Racing Australia that he will step aside from being involved in VET. Skills Impact, thanked the RGR IRC for their dedication and work to improve the racing and breeding industries.

DRAFT