

Racing Integrity (Fee Unit Conversion) Amendment regulation 2022

Explanatory Notes for SL 2022 No. 65

made under the

Racing Integrity Act 2016

General Outline

Short title

Racing Integrity (Fee Unit Conversion) Amendment Regulation 2022

Authorising law

Section 266 of the *Racing Integrity Act 2016*

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

The main objective of the *Racing Integrity (Fee Unit Conversion) Amendment Regulation 2022* (the amendment regulation) is to convert the expression of regulatory fees and charges from a dollar amount to a fee unit amount. The Amendment regulation does not seek to substantially change fee amounts, only how they are expressed in the legislation.

Indexation of regulatory fees and charges is undertaken on an annual basis and represents a significant administrative burden to the government, as each year an amendment regulation is required to change each amount in line with Government Indexation Rates (GIR).

Recent amendments to the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954* enable fees and charges to be expressed in fee units, rather than dollar amounts. This significantly reduces the administrative burden associated with annual indexation because indexation of the fees will be achieved automatically when the value of fee units themselves under the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954* are updated.

Achievement of policy objectives

Fee unit implementation is achieved by removing reference to dollars within the legislation and replacing them with reference to fee units. Given that the value of a fee unit on commencement is exactly \$1.00, fees are converted without modification of the actual figures. For example, a fee of \$20.00 becomes 20.00 fee units.

To remain consistent with other licensing fees charged by the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission under s 56 of the *Racing Integrity Act 2016*, the amendment regulation includes an alternative rounding rule. This provides instruction on the method of rounding used to achieve a whole dollar amount.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The amendment regulation is mechanical in nature and hence is not inconsistent with the main objectives of the authorising Act.

Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation

The amendment regulation is not inconsistent with policy objectives expressed in other legislation.

Alternative ways of achieving policy objectives

There are no alternative methods of achieving the policy objectives

Benefits and costs of implementation

The implementation of fee units will reduce the annual administrative burden across government associated with annual indexation of fees.

There are no costs associated with this amendment regulation.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The amendment regulation has been drafted with regard to, and is consistent with, the fundamental legislative principles as defined in section 4 of the *Legislative Standards Act 1992*.

Consultation

Given its machinery nature, there was no external consultation on this amendment regulation.

The subordinate legislation was self-assessed by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, which is the administering agency for the *Racing Integrity Act 2016*, in accordance with the *Queensland Government Guide to Better Regulation*. The department assessed that it is excluded from undertaking further regulatory impact analysis on the basis of agency-assessed Category (a) – Regulatory proposals that make consequential amendments.