

Hon Corey Wingard MP Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing

19 November 2019

Three new board members to join Harness Racing South Australia

Minister for Racing Corey Wingard today announced his endorsement of three new members to join the Harness Racing South Australia (HRSA) board of directors.

Following a thorough selection process, Marc Taintey, Emma Grigson-Gair and George Fiacchi will be appointed to the board in the very near future and with their collective experience and fresh ideas bring with them the ability to grow the organisation's top line and increase revenue.

Mr Taintey joins as a Board Director Finance and Ms Grigson-Gair and Mr Fiacchi join as Independent Board Directors.

Marc Taintey is a chartered accountant and member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and brings a wealth of finance and commercial skills to HRSA. His expertise is evaluating business models and identifying opportunities for reform and growth.

Mr Taintey served as Chief Financial Officer at Harcourts International and was part of a team that saw the business expand throughout Australia, as well as into South Africa and the United States.

Military veteran Emma Grigson-Gair is the Director of Disaster Preparedness and Resilience at the Department for Health and Wellbeing and a recent graduate of the inaugural AIS Executive Talent Program.

During her time at Health SA, Ms Grigson-Gair has been heavily involved in cultural reform and has spearheaded projects to improve cultural practices.

Managing Director at Fiacchi Media and Management, George Fiacchi has extensive experience on various boards and committees and has previously worked as a business consultant with national franchise groups, major retailers, banking organisations and AFL sporting clubs.

Mr Fiacchi's forte is designing customer focused commercial strategies and building successful teams with strong leadership.

Minister for Racing Corey Wingard said all three are clearly hard-working and committed to improving the organisation.

"I want to see Harness Racing grow. I believe Harness Racing has a place in creating and growing jobs in South Australia," Minister Wingard said.

"Mr Taintey, Ms Grigson-Gair and Mr Fiacchi are all highly experienced in their respective fields and ready to make a difference in harness racing here in SA.

"I welcome their keen interest in HRSA and wish them all the best in their new roles."

Harness Racing SA CEO Ross Neal said the trio will be a tremendous asset to the industry.

“All three bring to the table an impressive and diverse range of skills as well as plenty of experience and expertise that will undoubtedly benefit harness racing in South Australia,” Mr Neal said.

Earlier this year the State Government announced a significant \$24 million stimulus package for South Australia’s racing industry to help protect local jobs and boost the industry to become more competitive.