

STEWARDS' TECHNOLOGY CONTINUES TO RACE AHEAD

RACING NSW STEWARDS NOW HAVE THE 'STEWARDS CONTROL CENTRE' AT THEIR DISPOSAL THAT ADDS NEW COMPONENTS TO THEIR GROWING ARSENAL COMPILED: MARK BRASSEL



Racing NSW's Integrity Department has added a major resource to observing and providing guidance to officiating stewards during raceday.

The Stewards Control Centre has been developed with state-of-the-art technology allowing stewards to remotely officiate race meetings throughout New South Wales.

This technology permits stewards to remotely view and participate in the raceday stewards' room and have access to and control the Hawkeye replay system remotely.

The equipment provides multiple benefits that otherwise could not be achieved given the geographical spread of race meetings across the State.

"It offers an additional level of oversight for both conducting races and any subsequent inquiries," said Racing NSW Senior Steward, Steve Railton.

"The technology gives us the capacity to not only watch the races from our own viewpoint, but also from the perspective of the stewards officiating at the meeting.

"This external perspective allows us to observe conduct

remotely that may otherwise go unnoticed.

"Our senior stewards can also observe and mentor junior stewards handling the race meetings and offer guidance on any serious or major issues that may arise.

"The advanced technology leads to more in-depth analysis from stewards for meetings."

Another benefit is the possibility of a regional steward being unable to attend a meeting due to an emergency, some of their functions can be absorbed by the remote steward.

This ensures the race meeting

is still comprehensively serviced.

The internal control also aids the rotation among country regions without extensive travel costs, ensuring each region receives a mix of stewards throughout the year.

Administrative functions can also be done from the Centre such as compiling steward reports.

The reduction of administrative duties for stewards allows them to better focus their attention on raceday matters.

Racing NSW maintains an industry leading traineeship program that sees junior stewards thoroughly trained in their roles, with skills developed under the close mentorship of senior stewards.

This program has developed many of the leading stewards

internationally and continues to produce highly capable and mature stewards to cover NSW race meetings.

To better support these stewards, a key focus of the Integrity Department is to streamline administrative functions through technology.

Along with the Stewards Control Centre, steps are being taken to introduce a fully digitised 'case management system' that will incorporate AI technologies to more effectively and efficiently manage the stewards' workloads.

These technological developments demonstrate the commitment of the department to allowing 'stewards to be stewards' and ensures a better use of resources across the department. **RNSW**



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