

# MEDIA RELEASE



THOROUGHBRED RACING SA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2014

## MURRAY BRIDGE RACE CLUB CANCELLATION – WEDNESDAY 15/01/2014

Thoroughbred Racing SA (TRSA) has cancelled the Murray Bridge race meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 15 due to the forecast extreme weather conditions.

In deciding to cancel the race meeting the following factors were taken into account;

- The official weather forecast as released by the Bureau of Meteorology indicated five consecutive days, beginning Monday, January 13, of ambient temperatures of 40 Degrees Celsius and above.
- The forecast for Wednesday, January 15 at Murray Bridge is 43 Degrees Celsius.
- Information obtained from the Bureau of Meteorology “Pilot Heatwave Forecast for Australia” indicated that Murray Bridge would be considered to be in the “Heatwave/Severe Heatwave” category on Wednesday.
- The likely impact to rider and horse welfare.

It should also be noted that adequate measures to assist with heat relief for horses in the tie-up stall areas – such as the provision of suitable commercial grade cooling fans like those seen at Morphettville – were unlikely to be available.

TRSA has consulted with all stakeholders and, in addition, has taken advice from a qualified Medical Practitioner on athlete welfare.

Another key consideration is the fact that overnight temperatures are forecast to be relatively high which would see no relief in the compounding effect of five continuous days of extreme heat conditions.

It is regrettable to lose any race meeting, however the decision was made in the best interests of all concerned.

### **Media enquiries:**

Natasha Wade, Michels Warren

0419 819 306 or [nwade@micwar.com.au](mailto:nwade@micwar.com.au)