



25 September 2013



**Motorcycling Victoria**

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Dr Jane Hendtlass  
Coroner  
Coroners Court of Victoria  
Level 11  
222 Exhibition Street  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Dr Hendtlass

**Court ref: COR 2007 000739**  
**Coronial investigation into the death of Anthony Roach**  
**Response to findings**

I refer to the Coroner's findings, which were delivered on 26 June 2013.

This letter is the response of Motorcycling Victoria and is confined to those recommendations, being recommendations 2 and 3, which were made in relation to Motorcycling Victoria.

Motorcycling Victoria acknowledges the content of the Coroner's findings and, as part of its commitment to maintain safety in its sport, will carefully consider the Coroner's recommendations to determine the most appropriate response by Motorcycling Victoria.

**Recommendation 2**

1. Motorcycling Australia Limited is the peak body for motorcycling sport in Australia and is recognised as a National Sporting Organisation by the Australian Sports Commission. Motorcycling Victoria is the peak body for motorcycling sport in Victoria and is recognised as a State Sporting Association by Sport and Recreation Victoria (Victorian Government).
2. Pursuant to rule 12(a) of its Constitution, Motorcycling Australia "*recognises a SCB [state controlling body] in each State as the controlling body responsible for ensuring the efficient administration of motorcycling in that SCB's State strictly in accordance with the Objects*".
3. The relevant Object in Motorcycling Australia's Constitution is rule 2(c) that states "*MA is established solely to: ... (c) adopt, formulate, issue, interpret, implement and amend from time to time General Competition Rules including regulations and appendices (GCR) and such other regulations as are necessary for the control and conduct of motorcycling in Australia;*"
4. Motorcycling Victoria and all sanctioned motorcycling events are governed by the competition rules as promulgated by Motorcycling Australia. Although Motorcycling



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Victoria is involved in the rule-making process during the consultation phase through the 'MX Commission' (an advisory committee of Motorcycling Australia), ultimately the rules of competitive motorcycling and specifically motocross are controlled by Motorcycling Australia. This includes any rules relating to the start of a race.

5. In response to the Coroner's findings, Motorcycling Victoria will forward the recommendation to Motorcycling Australia and the MX Commission and raise the issue for discussion at an appropriate MX Commission meeting. Consequently, Motorcycling Victoria will ask Motorcycling Australia and the MX Commission to consider the way in which motocross races are started to improve the time and/or space separation of race participants early in the race and to consider whether any changes to the start of a race would reduce the risk of serious incidents involving following riders.

**Recommendation 3**

6. Motorcycling Victoria, all other state controlling bodies and Motorcycling Australia have recently undertaken significant steps towards contracting a new database provider for motorcycling in Australia. The current timeframe indicates it is likely that this new system will be implemented and functional by early 2014.
7. A compulsory requirement for any new provider, agreed upon by all parties, is the capability to track and report injuries and accidents occurring at all sanctioned motorcycling events in Australia. This particular capability will be a high level function of the proposed database.
8. It is Motorcycling Victoria's belief that the *Sportsinjurytracker* sports injury surveillance system would not be needed (or provide any further assistance or insight) upon implementation of the new database.
9. It is Motorcycling Victoria's view that, considering the expected timeframe before implementation of the new database, any significant investment in time and resources by Motorcycling Victoria (and its clubs) to learn and implement the *Sportsinjurytracker* system would be better directed towards the new system.

If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me on (03) 9673 0602.

Yours sincerely

Paul Bray  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Motorcycling Victoria