

----- Forwarded by Betty WW FONG/LEGCO on 2009/07/03 PM 04:56 -----



"Erwin Chu"

2009/07/03 PM 12:47

Subject Hong Kong Jockey Club's proposal on extra race days

Dear Mr Ip,

I am writing on behalf of the Racing Club to express my views on the recent proposal to add 5 extra racedays and 20 simulcasts each year.

The Racing Club was established in 2007. Most of our fellow members are young professionals who are passionate about this sport, enjoy the fun, the thrill and the entertainment of horse racing. For us, a day (or an evening) at the races is more – a lot more than just betting.

The Racing Club provides an excellent opportunity for members to develop their knowledge and interests in horse racing and equestrian sport. Each year, the Racing Club organises overseas trips for its members to attend major international races. These trips are eye opener for many of our members who were born and raised in Hong Kong and have a relatively narrow perspective of horse racing.

Though our Club members are among the younger generation in the community, unlike what some of the concern groups claimed, we are able to appreciate the sport of racing, the sportsmanship and the skills it involved. However, when betting on horses is concerned, this is of far less importance.

I am extremely excited to hear that the Hong Kong Jockey Club has proposed to the Government to add five extra race days a year. I look forward to seeing the proposal to be granted and implemented.

Best regards,  
Erwin Chu