



Minister for Tourism, Innovation and Sport and
Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics
and Paralympics Sport and Engagement

Our ref: CTS 25103/21

Your ref: A798619

Mr Neil Laurie
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Dear Mr Laurie

I write in response to your letter regarding ePetition 3639-21 tabled in Parliament on 2 December 2021, in relation to prohibiting a person who has a criminal history playing first grade or representative sport in Queensland.

Participation and the conduct of players in sport in Australia is largely self-regulated. At the state and national levels, major sports and sporting leagues have in place policies and/or by-laws, along with codes of conduct that regulate player behaviour and include provisions for breaches by members, for reporting and complaint handling.

Morals clauses within player contracts also capture adherence to codes of conduct and any breaches of morals clauses can result in harsh penalties being imposed by the relevant sport's administrator. Leagues, clubs, and individual players are also subject to public scrutiny, negative media and face potential loss of sponsorship and disciplinary sanctions resulting from breaching a policy, by-law or morals clause, or failing to uphold public expectation relating to conduct and behaviour.

Sport Integrity Australia, through the National Integrity Framework (the Framework), has established a suite of policies that set out broad expectations for the conduct of all participants in sport, including those at professional and elite levels. The Framework takes a proactive approach to mitigating integrity threats to sports, and sets out fundamental expectations relating to safeguarding children, member protection, competition manipulation and sports wagering, and the misuse of drugs and medicines.

The Queensland Government does not propose to introduce specific state-level legislation to regulate participation in sport (including first grade or representative sport). Improvements to existing approaches should involve national input with collaboration across all stakeholders.

I trust this information is of assistance to the petitioners.

In accordance with Standing Order 31, I request that this letter be tabled today.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stirling'.

STIRLING HINCHLIFFE MP
Minister for Tourism, Innovation and Sport and
Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics
and Paralympics Sport and Engagement

4 January 2022