

The Victoria Racing Club (VRC) Board is delighted to make the following announcements today.

At last year's Annual General Meeting (AGM), amendments to our Constitution were approved by members. As part of this approval, the Board introduced a Board Charter which underscores our ongoing commitment to strong governance and transparency for our members and stakeholders. The Charter released in February 2022, documents matters such as the composition of the Board, including the skills and experience needed to be a Director, our commitment to diversity and our approach to tenure.

1. RETIREMENT OF DIRECTOR

On 22 September 2022, the Board accepted the retirement of Judge Katherine Bourke at its Board meeting.

Judge Bourke joined the Committee in July 2004 and became a director of the Board when it was formed in 2006. During her time as director, Judge Bourke served as the Chair of the Disciplinary Sub-Committee and contributed to many of the key developments in the Club. Judge Bourke's legal expertise proved invaluable on many occasions and her well recognised and respected engagement approach with existing and new members was a feature of her time as a VRC director.

Chairman, Neil Wilson paid tribute to Judge Bourke for her significant contribution to the Club.

'In dealings with our members, government officials, our partners and sponsors, racing participants and special guests, Katherine's ability to communicate with anyone is one of her greatest attributes.

'Katherine has an innate love of our great sport, a deep understanding of how thoroughbred racing is conducted, and has an enormous respect for all participants. As a horse owner herself, she knows what it takes to be involved in this incredible industry.

'Coming from a family steeped in racing tradition, Katherine appreciates the privilege of representing the Victoria Racing Club and has done so at all times at home and abroad with professionalism, distinction and with her trade-mark, and much loved, humour.

Retiring director Judge Katherine Bourke made the following comments about her time at the VRC.

"My time at the VRC has been a big part of my life, and I have been privileged to be part of such an extraordinary organisation.

I would like to thank the many VRC members who I have developed a friendship with over the years, and thank them for their feedback and support for our Club.

The people I have met, and the experiences I have had will be enduring and as I leave the VRC I am very confident we are well placed for future success under the direction of the current Board and management."



2. NEW DIRECTORS

As a result of the additional director position approved at last year's AGM by members, and the position created as a result of Judge Bourke's retirement, the VRC Board is pleased to announce that two new directors are joining the Board.

After an extensive process that considered an impressive list of highly credentialed candidates, the following VRC members will be joining the VRC Board at the October meeting.

- Vicki Canning; and
- Allison Purdey.

Each of the new directors brings to the Club a special set of skills, as well as a broad network of relationships that complement the existing directors. The areas of expertise covered by these appointments, which are central to our future direction, include membership engagement, governance, strategy, legal, risk, and horse welfare.

Importantly, as long-term members, they both have significant racing interests, and a profound respect for the VRC, as a Club, as a business, and as a brand.

Each director is filling a casual vacancy, and as is the case with every appointment to a casual vacancy, each director is required to offer themselves for re-election by the members ahead of the AGM in December.

A background summary for each director follows:

VICKI CANNING

Vicki Canning is a highly regarded senior executive and an experienced Chief Executive Officer in private healthcare, with a particular focus on strategy, customer engagement and compliance. In a career spanning almost 40 years, Vicki is well known for her ability to lead and achieve excellent business results with a strong focus on ensuring a positive customer experience. Vicki has medical board director experience and has also consulted to boards, advising on compliance and governance, amongst other things.

Earlier in Vicki's career she was a registered nurse and a director of nursing.

Vicki has been involved in the racing industry since she was a teenager, including riding trackwork at Flemington, and has been a thoroughbred racehorse owner and VRC member for 20 years.

ALLISON PURDEY

Allison Purdey is the Deputy General Counsel at a listed international mining company and is an experienced and trusted legal adviser and leader with Australian and international experience in mergers and acquisitions, corporate/commercial, finance, company secretarial and compliance.

Earlier in Allison's career, she worked in legal affairs at a broadcaster and has provided legal advice to racing industry clients on matters including equine quarantine, wagering and broadcasting.

Allison has board director experience, holding roles on not-for-profit and community sporting boards and committees.



Allison also has experience in industries including manufacturing, media, peak sporting bodies and engaging with regulators.

Allison has been involved in the racing industry for most of her life and is a thoroughbred racehorse owner and VRC member for 23 years.

We farewell a highly experienced and passionate Director and thank Judge Katherine Bourke for her outstanding contribution over 18 years and we welcome our two new Directors, Vicki Canning and Allison Purdey, and look forward to their contribution to our Club.