

Media Release

The Hon Martin Pakula MP

Attorney-General

Minister for Racing



Tuesday, 7 March, 2017

GRASS IS GREENER AT EDENHOPE CUP

The grass will be greener at Edenhope racecourse thanks to a \$75,000 funding injection for a new irrigation system and race day attractions for the Edenhope Cup on Saturday 11 March.

The Andrews Labor Government is providing \$36,000 towards the Cup and much-needed trackside upgrades, courtesy of the Victorian Racing Industry Fund and Raceday Attraction Program.

Edenhope Race Club is also contributing \$19,000 and Country Racing Victoria is providing \$11,000. The local community is also banding together to provide more than \$8000 in contributions and in-kind support.

The new irrigation system, installed earlier this year, will help to keep the public lawns in top condition all year round. The upgraded system features 24 pop-up sprinklers and a water-saving timer to allow night irrigation, reducing evaporation.

The Edenhope Cup will feature entertainment both on and off the track for racegoers including live music, organised kids sports and a fashions on the field competition.

Patrons will also have access to a free shuttle bus from Mt Gambier, Hamilton, Horsham and Naracoorte to ensure they can get safely to and from the track.

Edenhope Cup is part of Country Racing Victoria's Relax at the Country Races campaign, which covers 42 weekend and feature race meetings across regional Victoria between February and April 2017.

Racing in the Wimmera region generates more than \$37 million in economic benefit each year and employs more than 360 people in full-time equivalent jobs.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Racing Martin Pakula

"The Edenhope Cup is always a fantastic country racing event that provides entertainment for the whole family."

"The irrigation upgrade has improved the Edenhope racecourse, providing more public lawn area for people to enjoy on race days."

Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Jaala Pulford

"We're proud to support this event and bring even more people to the Wimmera – that's good news for small businesses and even better news for Edenhope locals."

Quotes attributable to Edenhope Race Club President Kelvin Burns

"We're grateful for the support that the Victorian Government has provided to help make the 2017 Edenhope Cup a success."

"The new irrigation system will also ensure that our public grounds are lush and green all year round, improving the experience of visitors on race day."