



PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

Australia

PO Box 20308
World Square
Sydney NSW 2002

08 8556 5828
Info@peta.org.au
PETA.org.au

Mr Gillon McLachlan
CEO, Tabcorp

27 October 2026

Dear Mr McLachlan:

Hello from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, PETA. As we approach another Melbourne Cup, we'd like to ask Tab to make betting odds more accurate and transparent by including the odds that a horse will die during the race.

PETA calculates, based on fatality statistics, that the decimal odds of a fatality across the four days of the Melbourne Cup Carnival are around 6.0, or 5:1. Adding such odds to betting slips would remind punters that they're not only playing with money, but the lives of gentle, clever individuals every time they place a bet. Horses are prey animals who are easily stressed and who value liberation, but in the racing industry, they're forcibly bred, confined to stables, and forced to run on command while bits, reins, tongue ties and whips cause them pain.

It's only fair that anyone betting on the Melbourne Cup be aware of all the potential outcomes of a race, including that horses commonly suffer catastrophic injuries, pulmonary bleeding, falls, deaths, and post-race euthanasia.

We look forward to hearing from you and hope you'll take this opportunity to make the opaque horse betting business more transparent.

Sincerely,

Emily Rice
Senior Communications Advisor to PETA Australia

Entities

- PETA US
- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)