



PRESS RELEASE

24th February 2010

ABB AND RGA WELCOME GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE PARRY REPORT

Following confirmation today that the Government has accepted all of the recommendations in the Sports Betting Integrity Panel Report (The 'Parry' Report), the ABB and the RGA have committed themselves to working with the Gambling Commission to implement them through measures which are proportionate and effective.

The recommendations that apply directly to the betting industry revolve around the establishment of a Sports Betting Intelligence Unit at the Gambling Commission; ensuring there is a consistency of approach when reporting suspicious activities to the Gambling Commission; and making clear to sportsmen and women that they should not bet when their relevant sports governing bodies prohibit it.

Clive Hawkswood, the RGA's chief executive commented that: 'Although the evidence, including that in an independent report that we published in January, demonstrates that instances of betting related corruption in sport are very few and far between we can never be complacent about the risks. It is important therefore that the betting industry in collaboration with the Gambling Commission and the sports themselves take reasonable steps to address the threats that exist.'

With regard to training and education, which are also covered in the Parry Report, we are very pleased that the betting industry, through the RGA and a number of the biggest betting operators in Britain, recently agreed a partnership with the Professional Players Federation to provide funding and support for the development of suitable programmes.'

Patrick Nixon, the ABB's Chief Executive, said that: 'We remaining committed to the process of establishing an effective intelligence, reporting and investigation process relating to integrity in sports betting issues, and we believe that the Gambling Commission should be able to achieve this through existing resources. The Commission already has a professional intelligence infrastructure and

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analyst and investigation capability that bears comparison with that of any law enforcement or sports regulatory body. We will provide resource and expertise where required. If any new costs do emerge as these recommendations are applied then, provided they are proportionate and can be fully justified, the betting industry will meet those that it incurs in providing its support and we assume that the sports will do likewise.'

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Background information about the ABB and RGA can be found at:

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