

Betting and Lotteries Commission invites public views on HKJC's proposal of increasing number of simulcast days

The following is issued on behalf of the Betting and Lotteries Commission:

The Betting and Lotteries Commission (BLC) today (October 29) invites, through its Secretariat in the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB), members of the public to submit written representations on the proposal by the Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) to increase the number of simulcast days.

As regards horse race betting, the HKJC is currently allowed to conduct betting on no more than 88 local race days, 10 non-local races falling on local race days and 23 simulcast occasions on non-local race days (known as simulcast days) in each racing season. No betting on local and non-local races is allowed during the summer break from July 17 to August 31.

The HKJC has proposed to increase the maximum number of simulcast days per year by 14 (i.e. from 23 to 37 days) and allow such additional simulcast days to take place during the summer break starting from 2021. The HKJC is required to obtain prior approval of the Secretary for Home Affairs (SHA) before taking forward the proposal.

Before making a recommendation to the SHA on the above-mentioned matter in accordance with its function as stipulated in the Betting Duty Ordinance, the BLC would like to understand the views of members of the public. Members of the public may submit their views on the HKJC's proposal to the Secretariat to the BLC by post (date of the stamp chop will be taken as the submission date), by fax or by email on or before November 27, 2020.

For details of the HKJC's proposal and the submission of written representations, please refer to the HAB's website (hab.gov.hk/en/home/index.htm).