



**Introduction by the Moderator: Wayne Henrys,  
Head of Racing Wagering Product at the Hong  
Kong Jockey Club**

Welcome everyone from your various locations and timezones, here in Hong Kong we are 45 minutes away from our first race at Happy Valley this evening.

In a previous WoTA webinar back in March 2022 the Hong Kong Jockey Club gave you some early insight into our plans for developing a new business to business bet by bet Commingling protocol known as the Racing Wagering Information and Transaction Integrity Protocol.

Since then, some of you may know that we have started building a platform that we call the World Pool Platform, to host commingling via the new protocol on Hong Kong racing and World Pool events. At the core of this platform we are using WEB3 technologies such as Smart Contracts and Distributed Ledger Technology. However, we recognise this is very much a case of us dipping our toe in the water in the form of using WEB3 as infrastructure.

We know that WEB3 is so much more than this, and while the space has been buffeted by some high profile collapses and overall market downturns we know it remains a key recruitment space for our future customers. At the Asian Racing Conference in Melbourne Australia in February this year our Executive Director of Wagering Michael Fitzsimons previewed some of the areas we are developing related to what I might call the WEB3 lifestyle. We are already supporting influencers (in Asia they are also known as KOLs) to build their own networks around sport, including racing, and entertainment through party events and livestreaming in conjunction with our race meetings. We are developing apps and displays that draw on the crypto and day trading experiences that many of our customers had in recent years and we are aiming for frictionless user experiences when it comes to the actual trading and betting transactions.

However, our development are small steps compared to some of the products and experiences that our speakers are going to share with us now. We'll be hearing about the next generation of virtual racing, life in the metaverse and also about the tokenisation of real and virtual horses.