

**To: Bob Carr, The Premier's Office
Carl Scully, Minister for Roads
Donald Page, Shadow Minister for Roads**

Petition for the Return of Common Sense in the Approval of Footraces and

We, the undersigned, do hereby petition the government of New South Wales to roll back the new rules and regulations which effectively terminate organised, established recreational fun runs. In the past two years, the Sydney metro area has lost a long list of heritage events which served as community fund-raisers, encouraged healthy lifestyles and fitness, fostered local participation and civic-mindedness, and generated a healthy, festive family-spirited comraderie within local suburbs. The regulatory pressure on, and resulting extinction of, each of these events has been carried out under the guise of safety and liability concerns, but for which the prohibitive regulations end up alienating and disenfranchising large portions of the community.

The pace of cancellation of races and fun runs has been increasing at an alarming rate in the past few months. Events that are still going are threatened as organisers are faced with demands that are logistically or financially impossible to bear. We believe the tactics used and requirement placed by government agencies like the RTA and Parks Department are counter to the community spirit and civic mindedness that nurture our families, community prosperity and our health as a nation.

The events include but are not limited to:

- 1) The **Pub to Pub** fun run starting in Dee Why, attracting more than 1,200 runners of all ages last year, and in its 11th year as a fun run. Proceeds benefitted two local hospitals, surf life saving clubs and the NSW Rural Fire Brigade.
- 2) The **Palm Beach to Manly** run, which was organised by the Harbord Diggers. This race started at 5 AM on a Saturday with most runners finishing by 7:30 AM, hardly a traffic issue at that early hour.
- 3) The **Cities Marathon** - the oldest continuing marathon in Sydney at 22 years
- 4) The **Bicentennial Park Homebush Bay Fun Run** organised by the Strathfield Rotary Club to raise money for The Children's Medical Foundation
- 5) The **Bay to Breakers** fun run in Gosford, in its 20th year.

Name	Address	Signature
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		

13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53

54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90

91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127

128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164

165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185