

**Australian Brumby Alliance** 

## Media release - 8 December 2022 ABA Supreme Court case against Parks Victoria MR4

Australian Brumby Alliance Inc (ABA) commenced proceedings in the Supreme Court of Victoria against Parks Victoria (PV) on 2 September 2022, alleging that Parks Victoria's inhumane shooting of Brumbies, also known as Wild Horses, shooting is unlawful and does not comply with the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.

Miss Pickering of the ABA said "This tragic slaughter was totally uncalled for. "There were, and still are, viable alternatives like rehoming, in place, but Parks Victoria and Government still prioritise kill policies" and "tragically ignore PV's earlier rehoming policy which provided opportunity for Brumbies to have a second chance at life as a valued domestic horse."

Visit the ABA website <u>www.australianbrumbyalliance.org.au</u> to see how Brumby Rehoming is run by dedicated volunteer with the skills to gentle and prepare previously wild horses for a new life using the skills Brumbies develop to survive in the wild to offer horse riders.

The Supreme Court heard our case via a link as 2 people involved tested Covid-Positive over the 2 court hearing days held against Parks Victoria held on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022.

The Judge is expected to hand down his decision on the ABA-v-PV case over the next few months. However, Miss Pickering cautioned that "While our Barristers effectively stated our case while Parks Victoria's witness experienced some significant memory lapses, that is NO guarantee of a positive result for Brumbies. What matters now is how the Judge weights up the facts provided, during the case, in relation to technical legal parameters.

"If ABA is successful in the case, Parks Victoria will have to stop the inhumane shooting of Brumbies and manage the iconic Brumby population by further developing its community partnerships to apply control methods such as rehoming and fertility control, which are proven effective overseas and equally suitable for Victoria's Brumbies" said Ms Pickering.

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