

Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission

Annual Report 2016-17

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COMMISSION CHAIR'S REPORT

This last reporting period has been an extremely busy one for the Commission.

In December 2016, amendments to the *Gaming Control Act 1993* gave effect to the Government's policy to introduce community interest test provisions in the Commission's consideration of new applications for the possession of gaming machines. This is a practice that exists in all other jurisdictions in various forms and the Commission commends the Government's move to provide this opportunity for stakeholders to have a say on matters that affect their communities.

In December, the Commission was charged with developing the community interest matters (to be prescribed in regulation) that the Commission will be required to consider when assessing an application and the guidelines to assist in the operation of the process. Following extensive consultation with stakeholders, the Commission made recommendations to Government in June 2017; these were accepted in full, and have since commenced from 1 September 2017.

In late 2016, the Government established a Parliamentary Joint Select Committee (JSC) on Future Gaming Markets in Tasmania post 2023, when the Deed with the Federal Group to exclusively own and operate electronic gaming machines in the State can first be terminated. The Commission prepared a written submission and appeared before the JSC in February 2017. Our key message was that problem gambling remains a significant social and economic issue for Tasmania and the impacts are felt not just on the health and well-being of individuals but on their families and the broader community. We commended to the JSC the findings and recommendations of the Productivity Commission's *Report into Gambling (2010)*, which we believe remains the landmark piece of independent research on minimising harm associated with gambling in Australia.

This period has also involved the legislative requirement to review the *Responsible Gambling Mandatory Code of Practice for Tasmania*. The Commission approved a two-stage process; the first involving desktop research conducted independently by Tasmanian consultancy firm Stenning and Associates to identify contemporary harm minimisation policies and initiatives of other Australian and international jurisdictions, as well as identifying a number of general research studies that are relevant for assessing the effectiveness of various harm minimisation measures. This was completed in March 2017.

Using this information, as well as that from other sources, such as Part B of the *Third Social and Economic Impact Study of Gambling in Tasmania*, the Commission developed an Options Paper outlining potential enhancements to the harm minimisation measures in the *Mandatory Code*. This Options Paper was not released in this reporting period but will form the second part of the process.

I was fortunate to attend the annual Australasian Casino and Gambling Regulators Conference, held this year in Auckland. The issues facing regulators in all jurisdictions remain similar, although we have much to be grateful for in the small scale of Tasmania.

The increasing popularity of online gambling was a central focus with individual jurisdictional regulators feeling powerless to impact meaningfully in this “borderless” activity. We were presented with information on the growth of eSports (seeking representation at the Olympic Games in 2024) and fantasy sports - already providing a huge market for online gambling worldwide - and the emergence of (over 700) digital currencies such as Bitcoin that, in the gambling space, provide a very fast, anonymous way to gamble online.

These initiatives are not just “in the future” but well and truly with us now. They highlight the need for significant reform of state and federal legislation if players are to be protected and governments – who bear the public social costs of addressing harm – are to reap any compensatory revenue from these activities.

Liquor licensing matters

In October 2016, the Commissioner for Licensing referred an application for a Special (Liquor) Licence to the Commission for determination on the basis that certain factors made the application sufficiently unusual for it to be in the public interest to so refer. Following consideration of all the documentation and a site visit, the Commission was of the view that the premises in question was a supermarket. Pursuant to section 25A of the *Liquor Licensing Act 1990*, this precluded it being granted a liquor licence. The application was refused.

The Commission also heard one appeal on a decision of the Commissioner for Licensing. Following consideration of all documentation, the decision was upheld.

Conclusion

Being such a busy year, additional work has fallen on the staff of the Liquor and Gaming Branch who support the Commission to perform its statutory functions. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Branch members for their dedication and professional service. The Commission values highly their efforts and acknowledges the significant burden placed on them to produce quality work within tight timelines.



Ms Jenny Cranston
Chair

THE TASMANIAN LIQUOR AND GAMING COMMISSION

The Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission is an independent body responsible for the regulation of gaming and wagering in Tasmania, established under the *Gaming Control Act 1993*. The Commission is also the appeal body in relation to the *Liquor Licensing Act 1990*.

The Commission is a three-person body whose members for the 2016-17 year were:

- Ms Jenny Cranston – Chair;
- Mr Stuart Barry; and
- Ms Leanne Topfer.

The Commission:

- regulates and controls gaming and wagering to ensure that it is conducted honestly and is free from criminal influence and exploitation;
- approves internal control, administrative and accounting procedures, rules and conditions in relation to gaming and wagering activities, and determines disciplinary matters;
- investigates and makes recommendations to the Treasurer with regards to matters relating to gaming and other forms of wagering;
- researches and investigates matters relating to the control of gaming and other forms of wagering including the probity and financial security of persons involved in the management of gaming and other forms of wagering;
- liaises with other authorities and people responsible for the regulation and control of the conduct of gaming or other forms of wagering;
- reviews and determines complaints relating to the conduct of gaming or other forms of wagering;
- oversees the administration of the Community Support Levy including recommending and reporting of annual budgets to the Treasurer;
- fosters responsible gambling and seeks to minimise the harm from problem gambling;
- performs such other functions as are imposed on it by the *Gaming Control Act 1993*, *TT-Line Gaming Act 1993*, *Liquor Licensing Act 1990* or any other Act or as are prescribed;
- hears liquor licence applications referred to it by the Commissioner for Licensing under the *Liquor Licensing Act*; and

- hears appeals against decisions of the Commissioner for Licensing under the Liquor Licensing Act.

The Commission is supported by staff of the Liquor and Gaming Branch in undertaking its day-to-day activities. The Branch is located within the Revenue, Gaming and Licensing Division of the Department of Treasury and Finance.

The Branch has offices in Hobart and Launceston, and maintains a presence at Wrest Point Hotel Casino and Country Club Casino.



KEY EVENTS IN 2016-17

Social and Economic Impact Study (SEIS)

The *Gaming Control Act 1993* requires that an independent review of the social and economic impact of gambling in Tasmania is conducted every three years. This is the responsibility of the Treasurer and the management of the study is undertaken by the Liquor and Gaming Branch.

Work on the 2017 (fourth) study commenced during the reporting period and will continue during 2017-18. A consortium comprising ACIL Allen Consulting, Deakin University, Central Queensland University and the Social Research Centre was appointed to undertake the study. The 2017 SEIS will include a core set of variables that are consistent across the 2013 and 2011 studies to facilitate tracking across time. These variables include demographic characteristics, gambling participation, gambling frequency, gambling expenditure, problem gambling severity, electronic gaming machine gambling (pokies), online gambling, help-seeking, quality of life, hazardous drinking, smoking, illegal and prescription drugs use, depression and anxiety, and telephone status. The final report is due by 31 December 2017.

The previous three studies are available at www.gaming.tas.gov.au (under “Reduce harm from gambling” > “Social and Economic Impact Studies”).

Communications

The Branch has continued to release information bulletins to bring readers more timely and up-to-date information about new and changed licences, disciplinary actions, reminders, and policy and regulatory initiatives.

In 2016-17, the Branch published two Liquor and Gaming News bulletins on its website and emailed to over 800 subscribers. The newsletters and bulletins are available at www.gaming.tas.gov.au (under “About Us” > “Recent News”). Applications to be added to the subscription list can be made by emailing gaming@treasury.tas.gov.au.

In addition to the periodic bulletin, the Deputy Secretary Revenue, Gaming and Licensing of the Department of Treasury and Finance often contributes a column to the bi-monthly Tasmanian Hospitality Association’s *Hospitality Review*, to impart information and changes on gambling and liquor issues, policy and legislation and inform the industry of its legal obligations.

The Branch has continued to update its ‘new look’ website during the year to provide “Industry Alerts” on liquor, gaming and wagering issues and a regular update on new initiatives.

Stakeholder meetings

Each year the Commission conducts monthly meetings with stakeholders. These meetings are designed to allow both parties to raise issues of interest and/or concern, and for key stakeholders, in particular, to discuss matters of Commission policy. Key stakeholders with whom the Commission met in 2016-17 include the Federal Group; the Tasmanian Hospitality Association; UBET TAS; Kalis Hospitality; the Gambling Support Program; Community, Sport and Recreation Tasmania; and Anglicare Tasmania (including its Gamblers Help service).

Community Support Levy

The Gaming Control Act requires that a percentage of the gross profit derived from gaming machines in hotels and clubs is paid to the Community Support Levy under the control of the Treasurer. The contribution is four per cent of the gross profit from gaming machines operated in hotels and clubs. In addition, if applicable, four per cent of Tasmanian monthly betting exchange commission, derived from brokered wagering events held in Australia, is paid to the CSL.

In 2016-17, \$4 420 808 was paid into the CSL from the profits of gaming machines in clubs and hotels and from betting exchange commission.

Under the Act, the Treasurer must distribute the CSL in the following manner:

- 25 per cent for the benefit of sport and recreation clubs;
- 25 per cent for the benefit of charitable organisations; and
- 50 per cent for the provision of -
 - research into gambling;
 - services for the prevention of compulsive gambling;
 - treatment for the rehabilitation of compulsive gamblers;
 - community education concerning gambling; and
 - other health services.

The Department of Health and Human Services has administrative responsibility for making recommendations to the Minister for Human Services for expenditure in respect to the 50 per cent CSL component. DHHS also administers 25 per cent of CSL funds dedicated to the benefit of charitable organisations.

Community, Sport and Recreation Tasmania, a business unit of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, is responsible for expending 25 per cent of the CSL for the benefit of sport and recreation clubs. It does this through two grant programs – the Major and Minor Grants Programs.

The Commission performs a strategic oversight function in respect to the CSL, and is responsible for advising the Treasurer that the allocation of funds from the CSL by DHHS and CSRT are in accordance with their respective budgets.

A summary of the CSL funds disbursed during 2016-17 is provided in Table 4. A summary of expenditure during 2016-17 is provided below, with further detail provided in Table 5.

Problem gambling category (50 per cent)

In 2016-17, \$1 768 850 was expended by DHHS on the provision of services to communities including services to assist those persons and their families affected by problem gambling. Details of the amounts disbursed can be identified in Table 5.



Charitable organisations category (25 per cent)

In 2016-17, \$1 147 901 was expended by DHHS on the charitable organisations category of which \$181 512 was paid to the Charitable Organisations Grant Program. A list of the grant recipients for 2016-17 can be identified by visiting the DHHS webpage at www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/gambling/grants.

Sport and recreation category (25 per cent)

In 2016-17, \$1 121 323 was expended by CSRT on sport and recreation charitable grants. A list of grant recipients can be identified by visiting the CSRT webpage at: www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/csr/sportrec/funding_opportunities/community_support_levy.

Neighbourhood House Program

During 2014-15, the Treasurer determined to approve the allocation of \$1.5 million per annum to the Neighbourhood House Program from the DHHS CSL budget for a further four years from 2015-16 to 2018-19.



GAMING AND WAGERING TABLES 2016-17

Table 1: Tax rates relating to gaming and wagering activities in Tasmania 2016-17

Gaming activity		Tax rate
Casino table games		0.88 per cent of annual gross profit
Keno		5.88 per cent of annual gross profit
Gaming machines		25.88 per cent of annual gross profit
Additional 4 per cent Community Support Levy derived from the annual gross profit of gaming machines in hotels and clubs.		
TT-Line (Spirit of Tasmania vessels)		
Gaming machines for TT-Line		17.91 per cent of annual gross profit
Other forms of gaming for TT-Line ¹		7.91 per cent of annual gross profit
Internet gaming and wagering		
Betting exchange		5 per cent of commissions received
Additional CSL amount being 4 per cent of commission received from Tasmanian residents on events held in Australia. ²		
Lotteries (no state lotteries)	Through revenue sharing arrangements with Victoria and Queensland, Tasmania receives tax collected in those states for all tickets sold in Tasmania.	

Notes:

1. There are no other forms of gaming other than gaming machines currently operating on the Spirit of Tasmania vessels.
2. There are no betting exchanges operating from Tasmania. Betfair surrendered its Tasmanian Gaming Licence in November 2016.



Table 2: Player expenditure, taxation and fees 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2017

CASINOS	TAXATION AND FEES ⁸					PLAYER EXPENDITURE ⁸				
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Table Gaming	79 877	75 078	84 945	86 281	83 091	9 076 889	8 531 595	9 652 864	9 804 665	9 452 150
Gaming Machine ¹	19 394 837	20 347 579	20 510 135	19 768 938	18 486 881	80 586 175	79 140 442	79 770 682	76 869 111	71 953 573
Keno Gaming	168 703	177 001	186 398	184 067	172 556	2 869 103	2 918 223	3 170 037	3 130 386	2 934 631
Casino Unclaimed Prizes ²	1 897	4 221	6 087	5 517	3 865	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Casinos	19 645 313	20 603 879	20 787 565	20 044 803	18 746 393	92 532 166	90 590 260	92 593 583	89 804 162	84 340 353
HOTELS AND CLUBS										
Gaming Machines	28 902 794	28 739 564	29 466 922	29 566 357	28 552 857	113 336 939	111 049 318	113 859 824	114 244 039	110 327 885
Keno Gaming	1 546 235	1 734 976	1 776 183	1 948 552	1 868 227	26 296 522	29 506 393	30 207 198	33 336 414	31 772 568
Keno Unclaimed Prizes	315 017	300 537	268 944	300 868	736 735	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Hotels and Clubs	30 764 046	30 775 076	31 512 049	31 815 777	31 157 818	139 633 461	140 555 711	144 067 021	147 580 453	142 100 453
INTERNET GAMING AND WAGERING										
Betting Exchange Tax ³	2 537 570	2 661 203	2 860 495	2 944 504	724 064	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total Internet Gaming and Wagering	2 537 570	2 661 203	2 860 495	2 944 504	724 064					
LOTTERIES										
Lotteries	29 281 901	28 333 291	28 208 656	30 246 276	28 772 541	38 510 081 ⁷	37 364 634	37 431 823	40 251 035	38 378 959
Soccer Pools	79 273	65 357	55 508	46 738	56 470	137 818	113 624	96 502	81 255	98 174
Total Lotteries	29 361 173	28 398 648	28 264 164	30 293 014	28 829 010	38 647 899	37 478 258	37 528 325	40 332 290	38 477 133
TOTAL TAXATION / EXPENDITURE	82 308 102	82 438 806	83 424 273	85 098 097	79 457 287	270 813 526	268 624 229	274 188 929	277 716 905	264 917 939
LICENCE FEES AND PENALTIES										
Casino Licence Fees	3 444 000	3 477 600	3 573 600	3 604 800	3 652 800					
Casino Penalties	2 600	31 850	30 500	67 550	1 570					
Hotel and Club Fees	302 935	312 860	301 571	318 410	321 137					
Hotel and Club Penalties	5 980	10 790	5 622	6 240	13 865					
Minor Gaming Fees	39 924	19 709	39 772	20 630	38 066					
Internet Gaming and Wagering Fees ^{4 5}	514 200	438 000	584 143	182 458	164 926					
Annual Totalizator Wagering Levy	6 768 000	6 862 000	6 956 000	7 097 000	7 191 000					
Totalizator / Internet Gaming and Wagering Penalties ⁶	650	0	1 300	4 620	0					
Total Licence Fees and Penalties	11 078 289	11 152 809	11 492 008	11 301 708	11 383 364					
TOTAL	93 386 391	93 591 615	94 916 282	96 399 806	90 840 650	270 813 526	268 624 229	274 188 929	277 716 905	264 917 939

Notes 2016-17:

1. The figures reported for casino gaming machines includes gaming conducted on the Spirits of Tasmania ferries.
2. Casino unclaimed prizes includes gaming machine unclaimed prizes.
3. Betfair moved its operations interstate in September 2016.
4. Includes non-refundable three year Betting Exchange endorsement fee payment.
5. 2016-17 figure includes pro-rata refund after Betfair surrendered its Tasmanian gaming Licence in November 2016.
6. Penalties include players winnings forfeited to the Crown.
7. 2012-13 lotteries and total expenditure corrected after previous typographical error.
8. All figures are reported in nominal terms.

Table 3: Hotel and club gaming machine player expenditure by municipality 2015-16 and 2016-17¹

Municipality	2015-16 \$	2016-17 \$
Combined Municipalities ²	\$19,109,559	\$17,711,285
Burnie	\$7,309,592	\$7,096,280
Central Coast	\$7,106,034	\$6,806,183
Clarence	\$9,162,541	\$9,762,612
Devonport	\$11,139,448	\$10,614,734
Dorset	\$1,459,409	\$1,393,899
Glenorchy	\$21,382,349	\$20,139,049
Hobart ³	\$5,961,663	\$5,817,581
Launceston ³	\$17,222,054	\$16,889,342
Northern Midlands	\$1,355,118	\$1,525,701
Sorell	\$3,040,289	\$2,898,717
Waratah-Wynyard	\$5,678,677	\$5,269,424
West Coast	\$1,954,926	\$1,865,797
West Tamar	\$2,215,140	\$2,149,652
Total	\$114,096,799	\$109,940,255

Notes:

1. Player expenditure figures have been reported as Accrual amounts. Player expenditure is the total amount wagered less the amount won, by people who gamble.
2. Municipalities with less than three premises have been combined to protect information of a highly sensitive commercial nature: Break O'Day, Brighton, Circular Head, Derwent Valley, Huon Valley, Kentish, Kingborough, Latrobe, Meander Valley and Southern Midlands.
3. Figures for Hobart and Launceston exclude gaming machines operating at Wrest Point and Country Club Casinos.

Table 4: Summary of Community Support Levy trust account 2016-17

	DHHS	DHHS	CSRT	
	50 per cent of Levy to: Support services, research, community education, other health services	25 per cent of Levy to: Charitable organisations	25 per cent of Levy to: Sporting organisations	TOTAL
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Opening trust account balance	315 160	0	0	315 160
Add CSL receipts 2016-17	2 210 404	1 105 202	1 105 202	4 420 808
Total	2 525 564	1 105 202	1 105 202	4 735 968
Less CSL funds disbursed to DHHS and CSRT in 2016-17	1 760 404	1 105 202	1 105 202	3 970 808
Less funds disbursed to the Department of Treasury and Finance in 2016-17 for the following purposes:				
Social and Economic Impact Study	249 761			249 761
Tasmanian Gambling Exclusion Scheme	47 977			47 977
Review of the Responsible Gambling Mandatory Code of Practice for Tasmania	44 834			44 834
Balance of CSL funds in trust account as at 30 June 2017	422 588	0	0	422 588

Table 5: Summary of Community Support Levy expenditure 2016-17

	DHHS	DHHS	CSRT	TOTAL
	50 per cent of Levy to: Support services, research, community education, other health services	25 per cent of Levy to: Charitable organisations	25 per cent of Levy to: Sporting organisations	
	\$	\$	\$	\$
CSL monies held from 2015-16 allocation for future expenditure	203 710	(17 331)	177 755	364 134
2016-17 CSL funds received	1 760 404	1 161 355 ¹	1 146 926 ²	4 068 685
Total CSL funds available 2016-17	1 964 114	1 144 024	1 324 681	4 432 819
Less funds allocated for:				
Administration costs	230 392		1 986 ³	232 378
Gambling support services	649 328			649 328
Gambling community education	345 677			345 677
Gambling research	11 625			11 625
Neighbourhood House Program	531 828	966 389		1 498 217
Charitable Organisations Grant Program		181 512		181 512
Sport and recreation charitable grants			1 119 337	1 119 337
Total CSL expenditure 2016-17	1 768 850	1 147 901	1 121 323	4 038 074
Monies held by DHHS and CSRT from 2016-17 allocation for future expenditure	195 264	(3 877)	203 358	394 745

¹ Includes a returned grant of \$56 153.

² Includes returned grants of \$40 030, \$1 218 and \$476.

³ Salary savings resulted in budgeted administrative costs being underutilised.

Table 6: Hotel and club gaming machine numbers at 30 June 2016 and 30 June 2017

	Hotels		Clubs		Total	
	No of venues	No of machines	No of venues	No of machines	No of venues	No of machines
30 June 2016	90	2 248	7	127	97	2 375
30 June 2017	90	2 248	7	127	97	2 375

Table 7: Special employee and technician licences issued or renewed 2016-17

During 2016-17, 755 special employee licences and 66 technician licences were issued (including renewal applications). As a consequence of incomplete applications, the Commission refused to consider 20 applications.

The total number of licensed special employees decreased from 3 241 in 2015-16 to 2 864 in 2016-17.

The total number of licensed technicians decreased from 332 in 2015-16 to 298 in 2016-17.

	Special employees				Technicians
	Casino	Licensed premises gaming operative ¹	Gaming operator	Tasmanian gaming licence operatives ²	
Licences Issued for period 2016-17 ¹	71	673	5	6	66
Applications Refused for period 2016-17	0	20	0	0	0
Licences Issued as at 30/06/2017	469	2 254	32	109	298

Notes:

1. Licences issued include all new licences issued, renewed licences as well as existing licences that have been upgraded to a new category of licence.
2. Licensed Premises Gaming Operative includes hotel and club employees.
3. Tasmanian Gaming Licence Operatives includes betting exchange and totalisator employees.

Table 8: Minor gaming permits 2016-17

As at 30 June 2017 there were 326 minor gaming permits issued. The table below lists the approvals for authorised games during 2016-17.

Game	Authorised Game Approvals
Raffles	36
Bingo	45
Lucky Envelopes	46
Calcutta Sweepstakes	13
Instant Draw Bingo	2

Further information on minor gaming, including permit applications, is available at www.gaming.tas.gov.au (under “Apply for a Gaming Licence, Gaming Equipment Roll listing or a Minor Gaming Permit”).

Table 9: Complaints received and investigated by the Commission 2016-17

Licence type	Table games	Keno	Gaming machines	Exclusion	Wagering	Other (general)	Minor gaming	Total
Casino	2	2	2	0	0	1	0	7
Hotel/clubs	N/A	13	3	4	1	2	6	29
Gaming operator	N/A	1	1	0	N/A	0	N/A	2
Tasmanian gaming licence	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0

N/A: Gaming activity not applicable to licence type

Table 10: Disciplinary action against casino operators 2016-17

Licence Holder	Venue	Section of Act	Breach	Outcome
Australian National Hotels Pty Ltd	Wrest Point Hotel Casino	137(4)	Commenced trade without a drop box attached to Rapid Roulette	Fined \$1 570

Table 11: Disciplinary action against those listed on the Roll of Recognized Manufacturers, Suppliers and Testers of Gaming Equipment 2016-17

Licence holder	Section of Act	Breach	Outcome
SG Gaming ANZ Pty Ltd	112S(1A)(a)	Supply of unsatisfactory gaming equipment	Fined \$10 205
Aristocrat Technologies Australia Pty Ltd	112S(1A)(a)	Supply of unsatisfactory gaming equipment	Fined \$10 205
SG Gaming ANZ Pty Ltd	112S(1A)(a)	Supply of unsatisfactory gaming equipment	Fined \$10 205
GTA Pty Ltd (GLI Australia)	112S(1A)(b)	Unsatisfactory testing of gaming machine software	Letter of censure

Table 12: Disciplinary action against licensed premises gaming licence holders 2016-17

Licence Holder	Venue	Section of Act	Breach	Outcome
Oakley Hotels Pty Ltd	Queens Head Inn	92(2)	Non-compliance with the Commission's Surveillance Standards	Fined \$1 256
Oakley Hotels Pty Ltd	Queens Head Inn	50(2)	Allow staff to perform the duties of a special employee when not licensed to do so	Fined \$628
Tasmanian Outstanding Property Investments Pty Ltd	Retreat Hotel	50(2)	Allow staff to perform the duties of a special employee when not licensed to do so	Fined \$1 848
Jonod Pty Ltd	Alexander Hotel	50(2)	Allow staff to perform the duties of a special employee when not licensed to do so	Fined \$1 256

Table 13: Disciplinary action against special employees 2016-17

Licence Holder	Section of Act	Breach	Outcome
Andrew Neville Hodgetts	112U(1)(b)	Charged with computer-related fraud or dishonesty	Licence suspended

In addition, 359 special employee licences were suspended during 2016-17 for non-attendance at an approved Responsible Conduct of Gambling course in accordance with a condition of their licences (in breach of section 56(1) of the Act).



LIQUOR LICENSING INFORMATION 2016-17

Liquor licensing decisions appealable in 2016-17

During 2016-17 the Commissioner for Licensing made in the order of 2 000 decisions that could be appealed to the Commission. Of these, one decision was appealed to the Commission by the applicant. The Commission upheld the Commissioner's decision, which was made on the grounds that the Commissioner was not satisfied that the application was in the best interests of the community or that it furthered the object of the Liquor Licensing Act relating to the minimising of harm arising from the misuse of liquor.



GLOSSARY

Betting exchange

A betting exchange means a facility that enables persons to:

- (a) place or accept, through the betting exchange operator, wagers with other persons; or
- (b) place with the betting exchange operator wagers that, on acceptance, are matched with opposing wagers placed with and accepted by the operator (so as to offset all risk to the operator).

Casino gaming

Includes wagers on table games, gaming machines and keno at a casino. Casino games have set rules and fixed odds, designed to return a percentage from each wager to the casino operator.

Electronic gaming machine (EGM)

A device where a player may place a wager on a game of pure chance or a game of both chance and an application of skill, but not pure skill or manual dexterity with potential to win a prize either in cash or in kind. In most jurisdictions, including Tasmania, operators must return at least 85 per cent of wagers to players as winnings, either by cash or a mixture of cash and product. Gaming machines have the capacity to be linked in order to offer major jackpots.

Gamblers Help

A group of gambling support service providers, contracted by the Department of Health and Human Services and funded through the Community Support Levy, offering counselling services and support to anyone affected by gambling. The Gamblers Help services are currently offered through a partnership between Relationships Australia and Anglicare Tasmania.

Gambling

The lawful placement of a wager or bet on the outcome of a game of chance or future uncertain event (for example, horse race or sports event).

Gaming

Gaming is all legal forms of gambling on games of chance or part games of chance, such as lotteries, poker, gaming machines, keno, casino gaming, football pools, minor gaming and some forms of interactive gaming.

Interactive gambling

Interactive gambling is defined as the act of gambling or wagering via a telecommunications device (such as the internet or telephone) in a contingency relating to a sports event, race wagering event (horse or greyhound racing), simulated game, major lottery, pools, brokered wagering (betting exchange) or totalizator wagering.

Keno

A game where a player wagers that their chosen numbers match any of the 20 numbers randomly selected from a group of 80 numbers via a computer system. Keno is linked to all licensed gaming venues in Tasmania enabling the operator to offer large jackpot prizes. Keno has a fixed pay-scale such that the payout for each wager is established by rules, and is independent of the total wagers made on the game.

Lotteries

A lottery is a scheme or device for the distribution of a prize, where the distribution of the prize involves an element of chance for which payment or consideration is given (that is, the sale of a ticket). Lottery products include things such as lotto, pools and instant lotteries and these products are sold by lottery operators at various outlets around Australia such as newsagents.

Minor gaming

The collective name given to raffles, bingo, lucky envelopes and calcutta sweepstakes. The proceeds must be used for a not-for-profit organisation or for charitable reasons and not for the private gain or benefit of any person, except by way of charity.

Player expenditure

The amount of money that players have lost gambling during a given period. It is calculated as the total amount gambled (turnover) less the amount won by players.

Racing

Is the legal conduct of thoroughbred, harness or greyhound racing.

Soccer Pools

Soccer Pools is a numbers game of chance where the winning numbers are based on the results of the United Kingdom or Australian soccer matches.

Special employee

A special employee is the holder of a licence under the *Gaming Control Act 1993* who may be employed by a hotel or club, casino, betting exchange operator or totalizator operator to undertake prescribed duties in relation to gaming or wagering operations.

Technician

A technician is the holder of a licence under the *Gaming Control Act 1993* who may install, repair or maintain gaming equipment in Tasmania, including gaming machines, security systems and gaming and wagering equipment.

Totalizator wagering

A form of wagering that allows bets on runners in a race or an event, with all the bets from that bet type going into a pool. At the end of the race or event, the totalizator operator deducts a commission from the pool and the rest is distributed to all persons with winning bets.

Wagering

Wagering is all legal forms of gambling on racing and sporting events.



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