

Minutes of the Flemington LAC Liquor Accord Meeting held at Auburn Tennis and Recreation Club on Wednesday 13th November 2013 at 10:00am

ATTENDEES:

Peter Denmead (Chairman), Constable Paul Aishou, Nathan Titmuss, Greta Fletcher, Rosie Vranic, Glenn Fraser, Ann Batkin, Will Steinhauer, Rowan Eastenbrook, Brett See, John Ross, Ben Jeisiner, Sharon Arrow, Patrick Pignataro, Margaret Ward, Kym Warner, Phillip McKenzie, Mitchell Hood, Dwane Goodman, Kerry Ryan, Kylie Beckett, Phillip Parels, Chris Dunn, Anthony Trimarchi, Daniel Mitchell, Megan Dessent, Geoff Jansen.

APOLOGIES:

David Mantle, John Seward, David Calder, Julie Sloggett, Damien Smith, Kshitiz Rajkarnikar.

The Chairman Peter Denmead declared the meeting open at 10:10 am.

REVIEW MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13TH AUGUST 2013

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of meeting held 13th August 2013 be adopted as a true and correct record of proceedings.

No matters arising from those minutes.

FLEMINGTON LAC SPEAKERS:

The Chairman introduced all guest speakers that attended the meeting as arranged.

PAUL AISHOU – FLEMINGTON LAC Presentation

Senior Constable Paul Aishou provided brief presentation on recent concerns of Flemington Liquor Accord members. He stated the following:

- Alcohol Related Crime was 5% of all incidents within last 3 months (down by 1% comparing to previous 3 months period); 7% of all incidents within this year.
- For upcoming Christmas and New Year Season it is advisable to:
 - ✓ Be on top of RSA (be proactive);
 - ✓ Armed Hold Ups prevention (patrol car parks, sus vehicles/persons, keep counters/surfaces clean, be compliant, record as much info as possible).
 - ✓ Glassing Incidents (don't let it happen at your venue and if it does happen – crime scene preservation is vital).

BRETT SEE – COMMON COMPLIANCE ISSUES

Brett See, Senior Compliance Officer from OLGR briefly discussed the current compliance trends and common offences. Brett stated that the hospitality industry overall is now significantly safer than ever before (with lowest levels of violence and intoxication showing in crime statistics), because the industry is working hard to reduce the negative factors and paying a lot of attention to compliance.

Following changes introduced on 22 August 2011:

- Responsible Service of Alcohol and Responsible Conduct of Gambling certificates are no longer issued in NSW.
- Graduates of RSA and RCG courses obtain an interim certificate, which allows a course graduate to immediately work for up to 90 days in roles that require this competency;
- Within 90 days each graduate must visit a participating Australia Post outlet, apply for their card and have it processed and mailed to them.

One of the most common issues with this new process is that people still overlook their interim certificate expiry dates and keep working after that date, without obtaining the card. This is especially common amongst temporary visitors, backpackers, people that do not have good English and do not understand local legislation requirements.

If audited and found in such situation, employees must go to the Post Office and apply for their card immediately. They can still obtain their card within the 5 year period since they have completed the course and they would not be a subject to a fine. Competency Cards changeover process is being implemented gradually and the last date for the transition to paperless system is 30 June 2016. After that date there will be no old-style valid paper certificates in NSW.

Brett suggested that all members of Flemington Accord should regularly check the website of OLGR (http://www.olgr.nsw.gov.au/olgr_default.asp). Home page of this website always has updates on what is new in the industry and there is also a possibility to register for the bi-monthly e-news service.

KERRY RYAN – PLAN B: DRINK DRIVING PREVENTION CAMPAIGN

Kerry Ryan (Road User Safety Officer for Sydney Region) explained that the Plan B drink driving campaign is about making positive choices to get home safely after a night out, highlighting that driving is not an option.

This campaign aims to:

- ✓ Contribute to an overall reduction in the road toll;
- ✓ Promote alternative transport options to empower drivers to make the choice not to drink and drive and this includes staying with friends, using public transport or catching a taxi, for example.
- ✓ Maintain awareness of mobile RBT police enforcement.

The Plan B resources available to venues are:

- ✓ Posters,
- ✓ Coasters,
- ✓ Digital images for in-venue screens,
- ✓ Bottle bags,
- ✓ T-shirts for bar staff and
- ✓ Alcohol carton stickers.



Interested parties should contact the Road Safety Officer at their Local Council (Kym Warner at Strathfield and Milan Letunica at Auburn) to place an order.

DANIEL MITCHELL & ANTHONY TRIMARCHI – CLUB INDUSTRY’S COMPLIANCE AND LEGISLATION OVERVIEW

Daniel Mitchell, Clubs NSW Senior Policy Officer (Gambling), explained the ClubSAFE Program, which is the club industry’s Responsible Conduct of Gambling Program. This program was initially developed by ClubsNSW with significant input from the Australian Institute for Gaming Research and is a comprehensive program designed to help registered clubs manage responsible gambling operations that exceeds legislative requirements and community expectations.

ClubsNSW recently significantly improved ClubSAFE responsible gambling program including:

- ✓ **Multi-venue self-exclusion scheme:**
 - Use the latest online technology to provide relevant parties with simple tool for excluding patrons, who have problem with gambling, from multiple clubs in a single event;
 - In the process of negotiating with the AHA to ensure that the MVSE system provides coverage of both clubs and hotels.
- ✓ **Nathan Hindmarsh campaign:**
 - NRL legend and former problem gambler Nathan Hindmarsh leads campaign to encourage help-seeking among problem gamblers;
 - Campaign tag line: “If gambling isn’t fun anymore, it’s OK to ask for help”;
 - Nathan Hindmarsh has a high profile amongst the key target audience of 18-25 year old males, where problem gambling prevalence rates are at their highest.
- ✓ **Memorandum of understanding with Responsible Gambling Fund:**
 - ClubSAFE is entering into an MoU with RGF;
 - Support for public awareness campaigns in clubs;
 - Introductory sessions for club staff with their local RGF funded counselling services.
- ✓ **Gaming Machine Regulation Amendment:**
 - Prize forfeiture for self-excluded patrons;
 - Check details against the self-exclusion register before issue prize-winning check;
 - Acts as deterrent to breaching self-exclusion;
 - Is supported by problem gamblers and their counsellors;
 - Forfeited funds to go to the RGF.

Anthony Trimarchi, Clubs NSW Senior Policy Officer (Liquor), briefly reviewed the Liquor Act and the relationship between current legislation and the clubs industry in NSW. He noted statistical information that shows that Clubs are safer than they have ever been before. He stated that the policy objectives of both the Liquor Act and Gaming and Liquor Administration Act remain valid and that the current legislative framework has been successful in securing its objectives, as affirmed data from the independent NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) and the NSW Ministry of Health.

Key results of the Liquor Act from 2008-2012:

- Assaults in licenced clubs – 46% reduction;
- Assaults in all licenced premises – 31% reduction;

- Assaults on police – 30% reduction;
- Alcohol-related non-domestic assaults – 28% reduction;
- Emergency ward attendance rate for acute alcohol problems – 6% reduction;
- Emergency ward attendance rate for acute alcohol problems for youth (18-24y.o.) – 13% reduction.

Based on the current evidence, further regulation of the club industry is unwarranted and undesired.

ClubsNSW strongly opposes the contemplation of introduction of trading restrictions and “lock-out” periods that force responsible clubs to comply with a uniform set of measures due to the fact that a small minority of licenced premises have been unable to meet legislative and community standards with regard to amenity and safety. Instead, further targeted action should be taken on a case-by-case basis.

COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Treasurer’s Report

Account Details at 1st November 2013	
Opening Balance	\$27,686.45
Total Credits	+\$450.00
Total Debits	-\$561.00
Closing Balance	\$27,575.45

GENERAL BUSINESS

The Chairman showed the new Flemington Liquor Accord stickers that are now available for members.

The Chairman also mentioned that there is a flyer available based on compliance requirements and common issues and is targeting small restaurants around the area. It states that there is a point of contact at the Accord for the compliance issues. If there are any businesses within the Accord that would like some consultation on their compliance, required signage and etc., they are welcome to contact us. This flyer will be distributed by Paul Aishou.

We will also be running the campaign “Be a smart passenger” and if someone is interested in getting some material for their venues, they are welcome to contact the Accord.

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 11th February 2014 at DOOLEYS Lidcombe Catholic Club.

The Chairman thanked all speakers and members that attended the meeting and wished all happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Meeting closed 11:30am.

Peter Denmead.....
Chairperson

Date.....