



Our ref: CB10000457
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Dear Sir/Madam

Collective Bargaining Notification CB10000457 lodged by Victorian Off - Course Agents Association Inc. — interested party consultation

Introduction

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has received a collective bargaining notification from Victorian Off - Course Agents Association (**VOCAA**) to collectively negotiate the terms of a Distribution Services Agreement on behalf of its current and future TAB agency members with Tabcorp Wagering (Vic) Pty Ltd (**Tabcorp**) for the provision of services as agent of Tabcorp (the **notification**).

VOCAA represents stand-alone off-course TAB agencies in Victoria which have been appointed by the target, Tabcorp to supply a betting service to the public at various premises throughout Victoria (excluding licensed premises) as agents of Tabcorp. VOCAA expects that each participant in the proposed collective bargaining arrangements will enter into a separate agreement with Tabcorp.

VOCAA currently represents approximately 70 agents who operate approximately 91 agencies at various locations throughout Victoria. These agents operate stand-alone off-course TAB agencies, as opposed to Tabcorp wagering operations which are located in licensed venues (i.e. PubTABs or ClubTABs).

Under the existing Distribution Services Agreement between Tabcorp and the TAB Agency members, Tabcorp has obligations to the agents, including payment of agency fees and commission and the supply of business premises, fit out, equipment and facilities, training, promotional material, manuals, information and assistance, licences and public liability insurance.

The purpose of this letter is to invite your comments as a party who may be interested in providing a submission to the ACCC in relation to these arrangements. Please see the ACCC's publication '[Small Business Collective Bargaining Notifications & the Competition and Consumer Act](#)' for a summary of the notification process and how to make a submission to the ACCC.

A copy of the notification is available on the ACCC's website [Collective bargaining notifications register](#).

Background

VOCAA has previously had immunity under similar collective bargaining notifications lodged with the ACCC in 2012 and 2015.

VOCAA's current collective bargaining notification was lodged on 03 September 2018 and it seeks immunity for at least six years.

The legal protection provided by a collective bargaining notification commences 14 days after the notification is lodged, unless the ACCC objects within this period.

Request for submissions

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the likely public benefits and the likely effect on competition, or any other public detriment, from VOCAA's proposed collective bargaining arrangements.

Submissions on the notification should be provided by **14 September 2018**. Please email submissions to adjudication@accc.gov.au with the subject "CB10000457 – 'Victorian Off - Course Agents Association' – submission".

Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Saraj Bhullar on (03) 9290 1941 or via email to adjudication@accc.gov.au to organise a suitable time.

Submissions, including oral submissions, will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication [Guidelines for excluding information from the public register](#).

Please advise if you do not wish to make a submission at this time, but would like to be informed of the progress of the ACCC's review of the notification. Please provide a nominated contact email address for future correspondence.

You can also forward this letter to any other party who may wish to make a submission to the ACCC regarding the notification.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please contact Saraj Bhullar on (03) 9290 1941 or via email to adjudication@accc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Susie Black
A/g Director
Adjudication

Victorian Off-Course Agents Association – CB10000457 – Interested party list

- AHA Victoria
- Clubs Victoria Inc.
- Australian Bookmakers' Association
- Office of Gaming and Racing Victoria
- Racing Victoria Ltd
- Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation