

The General Manager
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
GPO Box 3131
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Calandra Barrett
Manager
Cockburn Ice Arena
239 Barrington Street
BIBRA LAKE WA 6163

12th August 2009

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in regards to your interested party consultation, 'Exclusive Dealing Notification N94049 – Ice Hockey Australia.'

I do not believe that Ice Hockey Australia (hereafter referred to as IHA) should be allowed to sanction, through suspension or expulsion, any member of IHA who has participated, or is participating, in a non-sanctioned Australian or International ice hockey game or league.

We believe that this is an anti-competitive proposition and will grievously disadvantage individual ice skating rinks and ice hockey players alike. As an example, by allowing such a proposal, it may prevent rinks from holding summer leagues, which are never run by the associations and IHA. Summer leagues are conducted in house by individual rinks for the benefit of the players. We want as many players in the sport as possible and I believe that if this application is passed it will lower the participation rates in the sport which is bad for any sport trying to grow its member base.

In general, it should not be permissible for the governing body of ice hockey in Australia to dictate to individual rinks what games/leagues/programs they can or cannot conduct. This would be extremely detrimental to the efficient and effective business operations of a rink. The sport of ice hockey is an integral part of the business of any rink and as such it is necessary that the rinks themselves have the ability to determine what games/leagues/programs are conducted in their own facilities.

In closing, I would like to reiterate that I do not support an exclusive dealing notification being granted to IHA, as I believe that it would contravene the objectives of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* that are designed to prevent anti-competitive arrangements or conduct.

If you have more information pertaining to why IHA thinks it necessary to pass this motion I would like to see it. I can not see how it could help Ice Hockey in Australia only stifle it.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any other queries or concerns.

Kind Regards
Calandra Barrett
Manager
Cockburn Ice Arena