



Our ref: 61443

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By email

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#### Dear Sir / Madam

# The Global Tote Limited applications for authorisation A91565 & A91566 – interested party consultation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has received applications for authorisation from The Global Tote Limited (the Applicant). The ACCC invites you to comment on the applications. A summary of the authorisation process including how to make a submission to the ACCC can be found here: <a href="mailto:summary of the authorisation process">summary of the authorisation process</a>.

The Applicant is seeking authorisation to enter into and give effect to a number of access agreements between the Applicant and third party corporate bookmakers operating in Australia. Particularly clause 10.3 of the agreement will restrict payment of rebates to a corporate bookmaker's customers in relation to bets made on their new wholesale Global Tote totalisator product for races and sporting events overseas and in Australia, without prior consent of the Applicant.

The Applicant submits that the authorisation will result in a number of public benefits including but not limited to increased liquidity and stability of pools, increased wagering opportunities for Australian customers and increased funding to the racing industry and economy generally. The Applicant submits that the authorisation will have minimal public detriment.

The Applicant is seeking authorisation for a period of five years.

## Interim authorisation

The Applicant has requested an interim authorisation to commence as early in 2017 as possible, and to continue until a final decision is made by the ACCC on the substantive application for authorisation. Interim authorisation is sought to make and give effect to the access agreements, as outlined above.

The ACCC endeavours to deal with requests for interim authorisation quickly. In making an assessment as to whether it is appropriate to grant interim authorisation, the ACCC is not required to undertake a full assessment of the benefit and detriment likely to arise as a result of the proposed conduct.

The ACCC decides whether to grant interim authorisation on a case by case basis. Should an applicant request interim authorisation, the ACCC will usually consider a range of factors, including harm to the applicant and other parties if interim is or is not granted, possible benefit and detriment to the public, the urgency of the matter, and whether the market would

be able to return to substantially its pre-interim state if the ACCC should later deny authorisation.

A full copy of the application for authorisation and interim authorisation is available on the ACCC's website www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister.

## **Request for submissions**

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the likely public benefits and effect on competition, or any other public detriment, from the proposed arrangements and whether interim authorisation should be granted, taking into account the factors set out above.

If you intend to provide a submission in relation to the applications for authorisation or the application for interim authorisation, please do so by **31 January 2017**. Submissions should be emailed to adjudication@accc.gov.au with the subject A91565 & A91566 - The Global Tote Limited – submission'.

Submissions, including oral submissions, will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion (guidelines are available here: guidelines for excluding information from the public register).

## **Timetable**

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the applications in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information

14 December 2016	Lodgement of applications, including request for interim authorisation, and supporting submission.
22 December 2016	Public consultation process begins.
31 January 2017	Closing date for submissions from interested parties on interim and substantive authorisation.
7 February 2017	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
Late February 2017	Decision on interim authorisation.
March 2017	Draft determination on substantive application.
April 2017	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
June 2017	Final determination.

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 applications at the draft and final determination stages. If you are able to, 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 applications.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Anna Giannakos on (03) 9290 6920, Tess Macrae on (03) 9290 1835 or <a href="mailto:adjudication@accc.gov.au">adjudication@accc.gov.au</a>.

Yours sincerely

Lyn Camilleri Director

Adjudication

## **Interested Party List**

ACT Bookmakers' Association

**ACT Gambling and Racing Commission** 

ACT Responsible Gambling (Turning Point)

Australasian Gaming Council

Australian Bookmakers Association/NSW Bookmakers' Cooperative Ltd

Australian Greyhound Racing Association

Australian Punters Association

Australian Racing Board

Australian Securities and Investments Commission

Australian Thoroughbred Racehorse Owners Council

**Australian Trainers Association** 

Australian Turf Club

Australian Wagering Council

AustralianBookmakers.com

Bet 365

Bet 365 (Legal representative)

Betfair Australia

Brisbane Greyhound Racing Club

Brisbane Racing Club

Canberra Greyhound Racing Club

Canberra Harness Racing Club

Canberra Racing Club

Choice

Clubs NSW

Clubs Queensland

Clubs Victoria

Community Clubs Victoria

Consumer and Business Services (SA)

Country Racing Association of WA

Country Racing Victoria

Crown Perth

CrownBet

Darwin Greyhound Racing

Darwin Turf Club

Federation of Bloodstock Agents Australia

Greyhound Breeders, Owners, and Trainers Association

**Greyhound Racing NSW** 

Greyhound Racing SA

Greyhound Racing Victoria

Greyhounds WA

Harness Racing Australia

Harness Racing NSW

Harness Racing SA

Harness Racing Victoria

Harness Racing WA

Independent Gaming (NSW)

Independent Gaming Corporation Ltd

Ladbrokes

Melbourne Racing Club

Minter Ellison

Moonee Valley Racing Club

**Network Gaming** 

**NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority** 

**NSW Liquor & Gaming** 

**NSW Treasury** 

NT Gambling & Licensing NT Government

NT Racing Commission, Department of Business

Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation

On the Punt

Palmerbet

Perth Racing

Provincial Racing Association of NSW

QLD Office of Liquor & Gaming Regulation

Queensland Bookmakers' Association

Queensland Country Racing Committee

Queensland Treasury (Commercial Group)

Racing and Wagering Western Australia (t/as TAB)

Racing Australia

Racing Clubs Tasmania

Racing Information Services Australia

Racing NSW

Racing Queensland

Racing SA

Racing Services Tasmania

Racing Victoria

Racingcorp

SA Consumer and Business Services

SA Department of Treasury and Finance

SA Independent Gambling Authority

**SA Lotteries Commission** 

SA Office for Recreation and Sport

South Australian Bookmakers' League Inc

South Australian Jockey Club

Sportsbet / Paddy Power

Sportsbetting.com.au

Tabcorp

TAS Department of Treasury & Finance (Liquor & Gaming Branch)

TAS Liquor and Gaming Commission

TAS Office of Racing Integrity

Tasmanian Bookmakers' Association

Tasmanian Racing Club

Tasmanian Turf Club

Tasracing

Tatts Group Thoroughbred Breeders Australia / Aushorse

Thoroughbred Racing NT

TopBetta

Unibet (legal representation)

Vic Commission for Gambling & Liquor Regulation

Vic Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing, Department of Justice and Regulation

VicRacing

Victorian Bookmakers' Association

Victorian Racing Club

Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation

WA - Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor

WA Bookmakers' Association (Inc)

WA Gaming and Wagering Commission of Western Australia

WA Minister for Housing; Racing and Gaming

WA Provincial Racing Association

William Hill