



Our ref: 59435
Contact officer: Theo Kelly
Contact phone: (02) 6243 1179

13 April 2016

23 Marcus Clarke Street
Canberra ACT 2601
GPO Box 3131
Canberra ACT 2601
tel: (02) 6243 1111
fax: (02) 6243 1199
adjudication@acc.gov.au
www.acc.gov.au

Dear Interested Party

Tenpin Bowling Australia application for authorisation A91531 – draft determination & interim authorisation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has issued a draft determination and granted interim authorisation in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Tenpin Bowling Australia (**TBA**) on 3 March 2016.

Please see the ACCC's publication [Authorisation process - the basics](#) for a summary of the authorisation process and how to make a submission to the ACCC.

TBA is seeking authorisation for bowling centres operated by members of the Australian Bowling Proprietors Australia (**ABPA**) and Bowling Centres Australia (**AMF**) to require league bowlers to be members of TBA in order to participate in competitions at ABPA and AMF bowling centres.

TBA has also sought interim authorisation to implement this conduct immediately. Interim authorisation protects the arrangements for which authorisation is sought from legal action under the relevant provisions of the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* while the ACCC considers and evaluates the merits of the application.

Draft determination

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination and summary of its reasons is attached.

For the reasons set out in its draft determination, the ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for ten years. The ACCC has also granted interim authorisation.

Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicant or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **2 May 2016**. "Submissions should be emailed to adjudication@acc.gov.au with the subject "A91531 – Tenpin Bowling Australia – submission".

A pre-decision conference provides the opportunity for interested parties to make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by **13 May 2016**.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made should a pre-decision conference be called, and will then release a final determination in relation to these applications.

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](#).

Timetable

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

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
3 March 2016	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
18 March 2016	Public consultation process begins.
13 April 2016	Draft determination and interim authorisation.
April/May 2016	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
May/June 2016	Final determination.

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 Theo Kelly on (02) 6243 1179 or adjudication@acc.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Baethan Mullen
Acting General Manager
Adjudication Branch