

Mr Daniel Munk
By email to: daniel@munkmanagement.com.au

15 February 2024

Dear Mr Munk

Applicant	Strathfield Recreation Club Ltd
Application for	Gaming machine threshold (GMT) increase and a gaming machine entitlement (GME) transfer
Decision Date	24 January 2024
Licence name	Strathfield Recreation Club Ltd
Licence No.	LIQC300230538
Trading hours	Monday to Sunday 5:00 AM – 5:00 AM
Shutdown hours	Monday to Sunday 4:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Premises	4A Lyons Street Strathfield NSW 2135
Legislation	Sections 3, 19 and 34 of the <i>Gaming Machines Act 2001</i> Section 53 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>

Decision of the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority
Application for a GMT increase and a GME transfer – Strathfield Recreation Club Limited

We **refuse** the application under section 34 of the *Gaming Machines Act 2001*.

Statement of reasons

Overall, we are concerned that the social impact of approving the application may be detrimental to the well-being of the local or broader community.

Our findings

Procedural requirements

We are satisfied that the secretary of the club holds a recognised competency card with a current RCG endorsement.

Community impact

Local and broader communities

The relevant 'local community' is the community in the suburb of Strathfield, and the relevant 'broader community' comprises the Local Government Area of Burwood.

Office of Responsible Gambling identified risk factors

The Office of Responsible Gambling (ORG) has identified a number of problem gaming risk indicators for local areas and recommend proceeding with caution in cases where these exceed NSW average figures. The following risk indicators have been identified for the Burwood LGA:

- the proportion of population aged 20-24 is almost double the NSW average
- the proportion of the population who speak a language other than English at home is double the NSW average

Findings of concern

We note that we refused the same application at our meeting on 12 October 2023 and that the venue submitted a new application with a revised Gaming Plan of Management (GPOM). We appreciate the letter sent by the Club's General Manager as part of the application and note that further harm minimisation measures have been implemented since the last decision was made. We also reviewed the statements provided by the two selling clubs, Oxley Bowling Club & Edgeworth Bowling Club Co-operative Limited outlining their positions.

Our concerns remain the same as outlined in our Statement of Reasons dated 29 November 2023. We are particularly concerned about the venue's availability of 28 hours of post-midnight gaming, with 14 hours of these during the higher risk post-2AM period. The area has high rates of at-risk gamblers compared to the NSW average and the venue's high profitability per electronic gaming machine is indicative of high gaming intensity and associated risk of gaming harm.

While we recognise some improvement in the GPOM, we consider that this, and any conditions that might be imposed, would not effectively mitigate the high risks presented.

The material we considered

We considered all the material we received about the application, including:

Application Material

- completed application dated 28 November 2023
- liquor licence details recorded as at 4 July 2023
- Gaming Plan of Management documents for the premises, implemented June 2021 and reviewed November 2023
- letter from the General Manager of the Strathfield Recreation Club titled '*Re- Submission of GMT & GME transfer to: LIQC300230538 Strathfield Recreation Club Limited*'
- letter from the Secretary of the Oxley Bowling Club titled '*Department of Liquor & Gaming decision on the sale and transfer of GME's between Oxley Bowling Club Limited – Strathfield Recreation Club Limited.*'
- letter from the Chief Executive Officer of the Edgeworth Sport and Rec Club addressed to Mr Danny Munk

Other relevant material

- correspondence between L&GNSW staff and the applicant between 4 December 2023 and 11 December 2023 in relation to the assessment of the application.

This decision will be published on the [Liquor & Gaming NSW website](#).

If you have any questions

Please contact the case manager, Marina Rahman, at Marina.Rahman@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Caroline Lamb

Chairperson

For and on behalf of the **Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority**