

Gambling Self Change

Fact Sheet 6: About Responsible Gambling

Working together to keep gambling fun and safe

The activity of gambling involves many stakeholders – gamblers, venue operators, government regulators and communities.

Venue Operators

A responsible venue operator provides gambling entertainment in a pleasant, safe and secure environment with:

- Helpful and professional staff
- Staff commitment to the principles of the Responsible Conduct of Gaming, a guiding framework for venues and staff.
- Commitment to both industry and legislative Gambling Codes of Practice

In Tasmania, venues for legal gambling entertainment include hotels, clubs, casinos, race tracks, licensed agencies for the TOTE and lotteries, and the Bass Strait ferries.

Gambling Legislation and Regulation

Effective legislation and regulation balances the interests of gamblers, the community and the gambling industry. These laws are enforced by professional compliance staff who:

- Monitor and regulate gambling activity within the community
- Investigate complaints
- Resolve disputes
- Monitor compliance with regulation
- Issue Rules and Directions to industry participants

- Test and approve gambling products
- Racing Services Tasmania in the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources is responsible for regulating racing and sports betting activities of bookmakers registered under the Racing Regulation Act 1952.

All gaming activities such as casino table gaming, Keno, lotteries and machines are regulated by the Tasmanian Gaming Commission, an independent body set up under the Gaming Control Act 1993. The Treasurer has the portfolio responsibility for this Act and for gaming and liquor licensing matters.

Legislation addressing the social impact of gambling

The Community Support Levy (CSL) was also established under the Gaming Control Act 1993 and provides for

- Gambling research
- Services for those affected by gambling
- Community education and harm minimisation
- Grants for community programs, charitable projects and sport.

Apart from sports programs, these activities are managed by the Gambling Support Program within the Department of Health and Human Services. Grants for sport and recreation are administered by the Office of Sport and Recreation within the Department of Economic Development.

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Communities

Responsible communities take an active interest in gambling's role and impact by:

- Being informed and aware of the nature of gambling.
- Providing relevant services and programs to meet community needs.
- Advocating for consumer rights.
- Setting community standards for responsible gambling.

The gambler

A responsible gambler is an aware gambler, who:

- Knows the odds
- Gambles for fun – not as a way to make money
- Accepts the risk of losing their bet
- Gambles within sensible limits
- Recognises that gambling is not a way to solve financial or personal problems
- Fully understands their chosen gambling product
- Is realistic about the part luck plays in gambling

Who to contact ...

Venue Operator Peak Bodies

Australian Hotels Association (03) 6224 7033

Tattersall's (03) 8517 7777

TOTE Tasmania (03) 6233 4433

Wrest Point Casino (03) 6225 0112

Country Club Resort (03) 6335 5777

Network Gaming (03) 6225 7916

Gambling Licensing and Regulation

Tas. Gaming Commission (03) 6233 2475

Racing Services Tasmania (03) 6336 2450

Gambling Support Services

Gambling Helpline Tasmania 1800 858 858

- Free crisis counselling and referral service, 24 hours, statewide.

Anglicare Tasmania 1800 243 232

Relationships Australia Tasmania 1300 364 277

- Free personal, family and financial counselling.

Other fact sheets in this series:

- 1 Gambling a problem? Help is at hand
- 2 If you don't need help- read this
- 3 Coping with the effects of someone else's gambling
- 4 Test your gambling behaviours
- 5 Helpful hints for family and friends
- 6 About Responsible Gambling

Gambling Helpline 1800 858 858

CONTACT DETAILS

Gambling Support Program, GPO Box 125, Hobart, Tas 7000

03 6233 2790 gambling@dhhs.tas.gov.au www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/gambling



Tasmania
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