

Local Impact Assessment Class 1 Application

**Mollymook Golf Club Ltd
Golf Avenue
Mollymook Beach NSW 2539**

**Mollymook Golf Club
(LIQC300242676)
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. INTRODUCTION

This document is a Local Impact Assessment Class 1 to accompany a Threshold Increase Application made for the approval of a 'low range' gaming machine threshold increase of twenty (20) in relation to the Mollymook Golf Club Ltd (the "Club"). The Club is situated at Golf Avenue, Mollymook Beach NSW 2539, which is located in the Band 2 SA2 of Ulladulla within the Shoalhaven City Council LGA.

The Club's current gaming machine threshold is 129. The Club proposes to increase its gaming machine threshold by a further twenty (20) gaming machine entitlements for the threshold to be 149. This LIA provides details of the Local Community.

2. RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING MEASURES

Chapter 3 of this Report details the mandatory and additional responsible conduct of gambling measures put in place at the Club.

3. LOCAL COMMUNITY

The Ulladulla SA2 has been identified as the Local Community. Chapter 5 provides a demographic description of the area and Local Community.

4. POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

Chapter 6 of this Report details the benefits that the Club will provide to the Local Community if the application is approved.

5. CONCLUSION

Given the satisfaction of the requirements of the *Gaming Machines Act 2001* ("the Act") and the associated Gaming Machines Regulation 2019 (the "Regulations") through the conduct of gaming machine operation at the Club in a responsible manner, along with the evidence of a positive contribution to the Local Community, it is the Club's belief that this LIA meets the requirements of the Legislation.

1. INTRODUCTION

This Report is a Class 1 Local Impact Assessment (“LIA”) to accompany a Threshold Increase Application for a Band 2 SA2 Venue for a “low-range” increase. The increase will be for twenty (20) gaming machines to be installed at the Mollymook Golf Club located at Golf Parade, Mollymook Beach in the Shoalhaven City Local Council Area.

Methodology

In respect of LIAs relating to threshold increase applications, the LIA Guidelines provide that the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority (the “Authority”) can only approve a LIA where the LIA complies with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations and demonstrates that gambling activities will be conducted in a responsible manner.

The Guidelines further state that a Class 1 LIA must demonstrate that the proposed increase in the gaming machine threshold for the Club will provide a positive contribution towards the Local Community in which the Club is situated.

2. DETAILS OF THE VENUE

- 2.1 The Mollymook Golf Club Ltd was established in 1952 comprising of a 9-hole par 28 golf course and a large modern Clubhouse. The course was reconstructed in 2021 and is now a modern short course. The Beachside Clubhouse is located directly adjacent to Mollymook Beach and has impeded views north and east along the beach and coast. The Club provides a 260 seat bistro, an 80 seat café, a 120 seat lounge and a 120 seat function area. Live entertainment is provided Friday and Saturday nights together with weekly promotions and raffles.
- 2.2 The Club also maintains a golf course known as Mollymook Golf Club Hilltop established in 1979, which is an 18-hole championship course a short distance from the Beachside Clubhouse.
- 2.3 The Club’s Board of Directors are in the process of lodging Development Application to expand the Club’s gaming room to accommodate 99 gaming machines indoors and 50 outdoors, to modernize the lounge, bistro, foyer and bottle shop areas become relevant to the emerging market and also provide administration facilities that are separate from the business of the Clubhouse. Updates will also be made to provide another income stream for the Club through the development of a mini golf facility. The redevelopment works have been scheduled to be staged over a 3-year period commencing 2023.
- 2.4 The Club also owns 2 parcels of land directly adjacent to the Hilltop Club Course comprising a total of 3.5 hectares. Both blocks are well located away from residential areas and front onto picturesque creek and golf course views. The Club is in the process of applying for a Site Compatibility Certificate for one of those blocks with the intention to developing seniors independent living units. The purpose is to provide the Club with long-term revenue diversification that will complement the core competencies of the licensed club and golf operations.
- 2.5 During the last financial year, the Club has made a series of donations to a number of deserving sporting clubs, charities and community projects within the local area

amounting to in excess of \$118,000. These donations were made to, but not limited to, a number of local Sporting Clubs, Mollymook Surf Life Saving Club, Milton Ulladulla Men's Shed, Ulladulla Districts Community Resource Centre, Safe Work Community Care Incorporated, Ulladulla Public School, Nepean P&C Association, University of Wollongong, Cancer Council, Black Dog Institute, Legacy and many other further deserving associations.

- 2.6 The Club's gaming machine threshold is currently approved for 129 gaming machine entitlements, with the Club operating 129 gaming machines.
- 2.7 The intention of this application is to apply for a further twenty (20) gaming machine entitlements to be procured and transferred to the Club's licence is to allow 149 gaming machines to be operated at the Club.
- 2.8 The Club's licence is not restricted in relation to trading hours although Condition 91 was endorsed on the licence on 4 March 2016 limiting the number of occasions the Club may operate for the sale and supplied of liquor after 1.30 am to no more than 12 occasions within a 12-month period.
- 2.9 Despite this, the Club usually operates between the hours of 9.30 am to 12.00 midnight 7 days per week.
- 2.10 The gaming machine shutdown period that applies to the Club's licence is 3.30 am to 9.30 am Monday to Sunday inclusive; and 4.00 am to 10.00 am on public holidays.
- 2.11 The internal floor space area of the Club's building is approximately 3,110 square metres, with the current gaming room being 430 square metres (and to be expanded to 668 square metres in 2023 on the redevelopment of the Club's premises to accommodate the additional gaming machines and to provide adequate social distancing for members and their guests).
- 2.12 The Club is not a new club, as defined by Section 4 of the Act. Accordingly, clause 31 of the Regulation does not apply to this application.

3. RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING MEASURES

- 3.1 The provision of gaming machines is only one aspect of the services and facilities provided at the Club.
- 3.2 Gaming is provided within a designated gaming room, which is restricted to persons over the age of 18 years.
- 3.3 The requirements of the Act and Regulations are complied with, in that:-
 - (a) All staff involved in gaming duties hold a current and approved responsible conduct of gaming (RCG) competency card (or interim certificates). Copies of competency cards (or interim certificates) are kept by each staff member when working at the Club and are available for inspection;

- (b) The Club makes arrangements through ClubsNSW for the provision of gambling counselling;
 - (c) The Club participates in the ClubsNSW Gaming self-exclusion scheme and policy;
 - (d) Staff are trained in the requirements of the self-exclusion scheme and associated referral process;
 - (e) All statutory signage is prominently displayed throughout the gaming room;
 - (f) Pamphlets informing patrons of the dangers of problem gambling and of the availability of counselling and the self-exclusion scheme are displayed within the Club in a number of community languages;
 - (g) The Club's automatic telling machine (ATM) is located outside the gaming room. Patrons are not permitted to make withdrawals on credit;
 - (h) The Club does not advertise the availability of the gaming machines operated at the Club;
 - (i) The Club does not accept third party cheques or the cashing of cheques by patrons;
 - (j) There is a limit of \$5,000 on cash payment for winnings;
 - (k) Minors are not permitted entry to the Club's gaming room;
 - (l) Consumer information on the chance of winning maximum prizes and jackpots is made available in the gaming area;
 - (m) The Club does not publish any gaming machine advertising;
 - (n) All gambling-related signs are situated within the Club and are not visible from the exterior of the Club's premises; and
 - (o) Inducements are not offered at the Club for the use of the gaming machines.
- 3.4 The Club engages a Gaming Room Attendant who is present to provide supervision of this area. The presence of the Gaming Room Attendant allows management to make early detection of any possible signs of problem gambling being experienced at the Club.

4. LOCAL COMMUNITY

4.1 The Local Community is the Ulladulla SA2.

4.2 The charitable contributions made by the Club have been outlined above. In addition, community organisations such as a number of Sporting Clubs, Mollymook Surf Life Saving Club, Milton Ulladulla Men's Shed, Ulladulla Districts Community Resource Centre, Safe Work Community Care Incorporated, Ulladulla Public School P&C

Association, University of Wollongong, Cancer Council, Black Dog Institute, Legacy and many other deserving associations.

5. DEMOGRAPHICS

5.1 The Ulladulla SA2 had a population of 15,278 at the 2016 Census, covering the areas of Milton, Mollymook, Mollymook Beach, Woodstock, Ulladulla, Burrow Lake.

5.2 Other relevant demographic information of the Ulladulla SA2 is set out below:

- 51.8% of the population is male
- 48.2% of the population is female
- The median age is 53
- 47.3% of the population aged 55 years of age or older.

5.3 Of the people aged 15 and over, 46.1% compared to 59.2% of NSW and 57.7% for Australia work full time; whilst in comparison 41.3% work part time compared to 29.7% for NSW and 30.4% for Australia. The unemployment percentage is 6.4% for Ulladulla compared to 6.3% for NSW and 6.9% for Australia.

5.4 The most common occupations in the SA2 are technicians and trade workers at 16.5%, professionals at 16.3% and community and personal service workers at 13.7% whilst sales workers are 13.0%.

5.5 The Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia, 2016 discloses the following scores in Sans Souci-Ramsgate:

INDICATOR	Ulladulla SA2 Score	Ulladulla SA2 Decile
IRSEAD	969	4
IRSED	941	3
IER	980	4
IEO	944	3

5.6 The SA2 area is a well-known holiday destination for intra and interstate travellers taking into consideration its location on the NSW South Coast adjacent to beaches and other water facilities. The population consists of 47.3% of those persons over the age of 55 or over as at the 2016 Census. A large proportion of those persons being retirees or part-time workers who are living on superannuation and other savings in the twilight of their years.

5.7 Using the gaming machine data report prepared and issued by Liquor and Gaming NSW, for the period 1 June 2021 to 30 November 2021, the net profit for all gaming machines for clubs in the Shoalhaven City Council LGA is \$23,408,835, with the average profit per machine being \$16,877.32 for that 6-month period.

5.8 The gaming performance data report for the Club shows the total revenue for a 12-month period, from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022, to be \$4,972,177.08, with the average profit per machine being \$38,544.00 for that 12-month period.

- 5.9 The profit per machine for the Club for the nominated 6-month period for 1 June 2021 to 30 November 2021 was \$1,761,733.43 with an average profit per machine of \$13,656.85, which is less than the LGA's profit per machine for the corresponding 6-month reporting period.

6. POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

- 6.1 Clause 35 of the Regulation requires this LIA to include details of the benefits that the Club will provide to the local community if the Application is approved.
- 6.2 A positive contribution shall be made by way of a financial contribution of \$578,160.00 if this Application is approved.
- 6.3 The proposed contribution will be made to the Secretary of the Responsible Gambling Fund pursuant to Section 36A of the Gaming Machines Act 2001 and Section 115B of the Casino Control Act 1992.

Calculation of Amount of Financial Contribution

- 6.4 The amount of the financial contribution was calculated in accordance with the formula set out in the current edition of the Class 1 Local Impact Assessment Process Guidelines published by the Authority.
- 6.5 The average profits were calculated from 12 months of gaming performance data from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022.
- 6.6 In addition, the Club proposes to continue with the support of the local sports/community groups and other deserving charities within the Local Community as it has done in the previous years.
- 6.7 The positive contribution will benefit the Local Community as determined by the Responsible Gambling Fund. The Club will also review and implement new responsible gaming and harm minimisation strategies (if considered necessary) in order to minimise any potential negative impacts on the local community.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 This LIA, pursuant to Clause 33 of the Regulations, defines the Applicant's Local Community, details the positive contributions that the Club will provide to the Local Community if the Threshold Increase Application is approved, and details the harm minimisation and responsible gambling measures that are in place at the Club's premises.
- 7.2 The Club operates gaming machines at the Club's premises in compliance with mandated legislative requirements. The Applicant implements the ClubsNSW self-exclusion program.
- 7.3 The Applicant submits that this Class 1 LIA accompanying the 'low range' application satisfies the requirements of Section 36(3) of the Act, and applicable regulations and guidelines. This application demonstrates the purposes of Section 36(3)(a) and (b)

namely that gambling activities in the Club are currently conducted responsibly and will continue to be conducted responsibly if this application should be approved.

- 7.4 The proposed increase in the gaming threshold will provide a positive contribution towards the Local Community on the basis of the Club's proposed financial contribution to be paid in accordance with Section 36(3)(a) of the Act.
- 7.5 It is therefore submitted that the tests as set out in the Guideline and Regulations are met and the Club submits that the Threshold Increase Application should be approved.