

Community Gaming in the Northern Territory

What is it all about?



Gaming Control Act

- The *Gaming Control Act* is the law which governs gaming activities in the Northern Territory.
The objects of this Act are –
 - (a) to promote probity and integrity in gaming;
 - (b) to maintain the probity and integrity of persons engaged in gaming in the Territory;
 - (c) to promote fairness, integrity and efficiency in the operations of persons engaged in gaming in the Territory;
 - (d) to reduce any adverse social impact of gaming; and
 - (e) to promote a balanced contribution by the gaming industry to general community benefit and amenity.
- The Gaming Control (Community Gaming) Regulations, which regulate *Gaming Control Act*, provide guidelines and procedures on how community gaming activities are conducted in the Northern Territory.



What is it all about?

- The new Gaming Control (Community Gaming) Regulations of the *Gaming Control Act* simplify and clarify guidelines and procedures that have been in place since the early 1990's.
- The Regulations provide legal guidelines as to how lotteries, raffles, lotto, tipping competitions, bingo, Calcuttas and sweepstakes can be conducted in the Northern Territory.
- There are a range of community gaming activities that do and do not require a permit in the Northern Territory.
- The new regulations introduce a complaint management process. If a person is dissatisfied with the conduct of a lottery, a complaint can be lodged with the Director of Licensing and the complaint will be investigated and resolved.

What is it all about?

- The Regulations substantially increase the threshold at which a lottery permit is required, from \$600 in ticket sales to \$5,001 in ticket sales, reducing the administrative burden on approved associations.
- They simplify and reduce the red tape associated with the operation of trade lotteries, while increasing transparency and accountability for all fundraising activities that involve gaming.
- This should increase the confidence of the public that lotteries and gaming-related fund raising activities are being operated honestly, and that there is an appropriate mechanism for the resolution of complaints and disputes.
- Provides a Schedule of Prohibited Games.



Who can participate?

- Only **approved associations** may conduct lotteries for fund raising purposes, as has been the case for a very long time. There are hundreds of associations already approved in the Territory, which have been successfully conducting lotteries for many years.
- In order to be approved, an association must apply to the Director of Licensing. You need not be an incorporated association, but you must have a suitable constitution, identify your office holders and nominate a person to be responsible for conducting lotteries.
- There is no fee for approval. An application form to become an approved association is on the RGL government website, www.nt.gov.au/ntt/licensing or is available from your nearest Territory Business Centre.



Who can participate?

- Once approved, an association may operate raffles, lotteries, calcuttas, sweepstakes, bingo, tipping competitions and other games without permit, provided that total ticket sales do not exceed \$5,000. Permits are required for larger lotteries.
- Previously, associations required a permit if ticket sales were expected to exceed \$600.

Community gaming not requiring a permit

An Approved Association may conduct the following without a permit:

- ✿ Sweepstakes, calcuttas and Bingo.
- ✿ Free entry lottery with prize less than or equal to (\leq) \$2,000
- ✿ Raffles with ticket sales \leq \$5,000
- ✿ Mini Lotto with a prize \leq \$5,000
- ✿ Tipping Competition with prize \leq \$5,000



Community gaming not requiring a permit

For an Approved Association or business in the NT:

- ✦ Minor Trade Lottery with prize $\leq \$5,000$.



Community gaming requiring a permit

For an Approved Association:

- ✱ Minor Lottery with ticket sales $\geq \$5,001$ and $\leq \$20,000$.
- ✱ Major Lottery with Ticket sales $> \$20,000$.

For an Approved Association or business:

- ✱ Major Trade Lottery with prize $> \$5,000$.

For a business:

- ✱ Interstate Trade Lottery without a current interstate Trade Lottery Permit.

Other conditions of approval

- ✿ The approved association or business must not contravene the Act or Regulations.
- ✿ The Director of Licensing must be notified if there are any changes to the approved association eg. authorised person, changes to constitution, changes to association details, object or purposes etc.
- ✿ Notify the Director of the authorised person not later than 14 days after the annual general meeting.

More Information

- For further information contact Racing, Gaming and Licensing on tel. 89991302.

