## **GBG** The Gambling Business Group

## Gambling Business Group Conference Call Held on January 24th 2018 at 11.00am.

On the call;

Nick Harding – Chair Peter Hannibal – GBG

Simon Reynolds - Coral Racing

Paul Parkins - Eurocoin James Armstrong - Eurocoin

Steve Brownlowe - Blueprint Gaming

Andy Powel – G Squared Ashleigh Lewis – MOTO

David Lucas - Fraser Brown

Graham Roberts - Inspired

Andrew Ludlow - NRM

Paul Dearlove – Majestic Tez Field – William Hill

Joanne Craig – Blueprint

Will Hawes - KPMG

Apologies;

Andrew Cotton - Gordon Dadds

Chris Robinson – Innoprint

Tony Boulton - Project

Jim Shipley – Mirage Leisure

Simon Levingston – RCPA

Chris Grunnert – John Gaunt & Partners

Susanna FitzGerald – OEC Law

Tony Boulton – Project

- 1. Introductions. NH welcomed everyone on to the call.
- 2. Points brought forward from the last meeting. There were no matters to be brought forwards on this occasion.
- 3. Gambling Commission;
  - a. Raising Standards conference November 2017. The meeting discussed the content and the tone that the GC CEO and now the Chairman have adopted PH has asked for a face to face meeting with the Chair to help him understand why much of what he is saying about the Industry is wrong. The meeting is not until late March due to the Chairman's availability. In the meantime NH & PH are meeting with Paul Hope, members to forward any points they would like to be raised. The flowing points were made by members:
    - i. The GBG should consider challenging some of the rhetoric with evidenced support maybe in a 'just for information' format.
    - ii. The GC clearly do not always provide evidence to back up what they are saying.
    - iii. The GC are rumoured to be using next year's LA Policy Reviews to encourage more local area profiles.

- b. Machines games feature and technical standards. Peter explained that there has been very little progress with these points as SMcP has been off over the festive period.
- 4. Government. The Gambling Review. General discussion ensued about the various submissions and Matt Hancock's alleged comments about £2. The specific detail regarding the GC's new focus on 'tracked play' was shared. The GBG has managed to get the non-betting trade bodies to work together on this and it has been agreed that Gauselmann & Novomatic will prepare some information for the GC.

## 5. Responsible Gambling.

- a. It was agreed that the GBG would endorse YGAM in some form, probably with an honorary membership.
- b. PH explained who Betknowmore are and that the ABB were supporting them financially, completely separate to Gamble Aware.
- c. Playright was also discussed following a presentation to the MSAs. SR interested in meeting them and it was agreed that they would be invited to a future meeting.
- d. The meeting talked about the changes at Gamble Aware and the rather strange 'Industry Panel' meeting held on the second day of their conference. There is still a growing concern over their attitude to fundraising. It was agreed that we should invite Marc Etches or Iain Corby to the next meeting.
- e. The potential for a levy was discussed.

## 6. AOB:

- a. ICE Feb 6th through to the 8th.
- b. Date of next GBG meeting Weds March 7<sup>th</sup> at TLT, Gresham Street, London.