



**Gambling Business Group Meeting Held
on Thursday 26th September 2019 at 11.00am.**

Venue; Ince & Co, Aldgate Tower, 2, Leman Street, London.

In attendance:-

- Nick Harding - Chair
- Peter Hannibal - CEO
- Amanda Fry - Administrator
- John Stirgedes - Electrocoin
- Steve Bierrum - Genesis Games
- Andrew Cotton - Ince & Co
- Chris Grunert - John Gaunt & Partners
- Wayne Forster - Moto
- Elizabeth Speed - Novomatic UK
- Simon Levingston - RCPA
- Steve Brownlow - Reflex Gaming
- Lee Morton - SG Gaming

Susanna Fitzgerald joined by phone

		<u>ACTIONS</u>
1	<p><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>Nick welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Andrew Cotton for hosting. Apologies were noted</p>	
2.	<p><u>Previous Meeting Notes and Actions</u></p> <p>NG advised that he had a meeting with Anna van der Gaag CBE who has taken over on the Advisory Board for Safer Gambling. NH advised that we were her first port of call. She is new to gambling and NH took her to one their venues where the staff represented themselves well and he has been invited to another meeting in 10 days time. NH will report on that meeting.</p> <p>Industry challenges – PH advised that we have been asked to provide post 1st April sessional data for Cat machines. PH to ask for feedback from GamCare and Gordon Moody. NH will also write to Henrietta Bowden-Jones for her views.</p> <p>RET Contributions – PH advised that the Gambling Commission called a meeting with charities a few weeks ago which was chaired by CAF (on behalf of the GC) to sort out which charities should be approved and what is the</p>	<p>Action: NH</p> <p>Action: PH & NH</p>

	<p>GambleAware and Gambling Commission role going forward. PH advised that Gordon Moody has been approached with regard to receiving RET donations direct. AC confirmed that there is a change in the LCCP and they have not come up with an approval process yet. YGAM & GamCare were also present.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Political Party Conferences</u></p> <p>NH advised that he attended the Labour Party Conference on Tuesday and will be attending the Tory Party Conference next week. AC asked if there was any discussion on Gambling. NH advised that there was no discussion on Gambling but Tom Watson and Carolyn Harris were both there together with Matt Zarb-Cousin to discuss gaming and loot boxes. AC asked if there has been any update from DCMS regarding post B2 stakes? NH advised that they will be doing their own separate evaluation on problem gambling. NH agreed that he would write to charities first, to get their views and then to DCMS</p>	Action: NH
4.	<p><u>National Audit Office</u></p> <p>NH advised that The Gambling Business Group were asked to help with their investigation into the effectiveness of the Gambling Act and the regulator. The NAO are engaged by the Crown and have around 600 people in an office in Victoria. PH advised that they were very helpful and that it was good to see Government doing an individual evaluation on what is going on. It is about finding a strategic approach, amongst many other things we mentioned the National Lottery and 16year olds being able to buy scratch cards. NH is waiting for their response which should be in about 6-8 weeks time.</p>	Action NH
5.	<p><u>Gambling Expert Group</u></p> <p>(a) <u>GBG Input</u></p> <p>PH had a meeting with a number of GBG members and the consensus was that most of the issues we have with gambling regulation are with the regulator themselves.</p> <p>(b) <u>FOI Request</u></p> <p>PH advised that information relating to the allocation of historical voluntary settlements were never evaluated and there has been no clarity of where the money has gone and it was advised by the OPSS that we make an FOI request. AC advised that he knows a firm of lawyers who have put in an FOI request as there are massive concerns with total inconsistency. It was agreed that PH will make an FOI request</p> <p>(c) <u>Critique v Regulators Code</u></p> <p>PH advised that a paper was distributed with the agenda. In carrying out this exercise there is an inherent risk that we end up damaging our relationship</p>	Action PH

	<p>with the regulator, and is more than happy to take any views from members in this regard:-</p> <p>SF advised that she gave evidence to the HOL Committee and Don Foster is very sympathetic with our views. There is good ammunition in the document on actually how good the Gambling Commission is. It was asked if we could get this document in front of the House of Lords which might give Don Foster some ammunition. SF advised that she could send this document to the clerk but then it would be her document which as a view of the industry. SF advised that evidence should have been in by today but NH advised that they seem pretty flexible on when evidence had to be submitted.</p> <p>SF advised that the timescale is sometime next year and PH agreed to draft a paper, putting all the examples in.</p> <p>Any additional contributions are welcome.</p> <p>(d) <u>Empathetic MPs</u></p> <p>PH asked if anyone has any empathetic MPs we could call on. AC suggested Peter Haine MP who is a consultant to Ince and might be able to help. AC will contact Peter Haine.</p>	<p>Action PH</p> <p>Action: A. Cotton</p>
6.	<p><u>Regulation</u></p> <p>(a) <u>Cat B Plan</u></p> <p>PH advised that the Gambling Commission started with their 'tracked play' suggestions 18 months ago and a year later we have not moved forward. The objective for the Industry is to get sectors together to agree responsible gambling measures. PH advised that BACTA have drafted a Roadmap and are willing to share this with us. PH will make contact.</p> <p>(b) <u>Gamble Feature Guidelines</u></p> <p>PH met with Nigel Owen and he has now have come up with a new set of words but may need some minor tweaks from the Machines Group.</p> <p>(c) <u>Quad Pods.</u></p> <p>NH advised there are currently regarded by the GC as one slot machine, but a Quad Pod is a divided machine with 4 slots, which has to be available for use. The Gambling Commission have advised three different views, but they are not happy with the Industry's use of them. This issue could easily tip over into tablets as well. BACTA is considering taking legal advice on these. There is a meeting on this next week</p> <p>(d) <u>Self-regulation of self-exclusion</u></p> <p>PH advised that this is what Andy Birleson at the GC is thinking about and asked would industry be agreeable to start self-regulating self-exclusion like</p>	<p>Action: PH</p> <p>Action PH</p>

	<p>test purchasing, which can probably be done - but who will pay for it and how is it to be tested. PH asked for this to be carried forward to the next meeting – the GC say they will be arranging a meeting with ourselves, BACTA and the Bingo Association (not sure about LBOs at this stage).</p> <p>(e) <u>Debit Card & Gambling – Best Practice</u></p> <p>PH advised that a meeting that came out of the Machines Sub Group, about how operators are using pdq machines/merchant codes and issuing cash for machine play (gambling). If a customer is using cash for gambling they should use a 7995 merchant code. NH advised that they could use an ATM machine anyway and if someone has an overdraft are they gambling on credit.</p>	Action PH
7.	<p><u>Gambling Crime and Fraud Protocol Project</u></p> <p>PH advised that this is about machine fraud & crimes shared amongst operators, who are understandably frightened to put data in the domain. Motoway Services have put together a form of rules to report crime and link crime across the different operators/regions, which is going to be extended so that operators can share similar information more widely, but some has to be deleted within a certain period of time.</p>	
8.	<p><u>RGSB move to the Advisory Board for Safer Gambling</u></p> <p>NH will report back in due course. Previous advisory panel meetings held with the old RGSB are now replaced with ‘industry liaison’ meetings with the new team, who have taken a fresh view. Next meeting on 8th October. PH will feedback on the meeting</p>	Action NH & PH
9.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>JS mentioned about Roulette and B5 machines. BACTA have B5’s on their Roadmap.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Conference Call on Tuesday 19th November 2019 at 11.00 am</p> <p><u>2020 Meeting Schedule</u> Venues still TBC – 11.00am to 1.00 pm</p> <p>Wed 29th January (<i>Meeting</i>) Wed 4th March (<i>Conference Call</i>) Wed 6th May (<i>Meeting</i>) Wed 15th July (<i>Conference Call</i>) Wed 23rd Sept (<i>Meeting</i>) Wed 18th November (<i>Conference Call</i>)</p>	Action: AF