



**GBG Zoom Meeting held on
Thursday 2nd July 2020 at 1.00 pm**

In attendance

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| Peter Hannibal (GBG) | Paul Comer (Moto) |
| Amanda Fry (GBG) | Nigel Kelly (Novomatic) |
| Stuart Green (Game Nation) | Ian Fuller (Playsafe) |
| Anthony Boulton (Gauselmann) | Steve Brownlow (Reflex Gaming)) |
| Mark Edmundson (GeWeTe) | Tracy Baitup (Roadchef) |
| Sophie Dean (GVC Group) | Brian Jamson (Roadchef) |
| Graham Roberts (Inseinc) | Nick Jackson (Welcome Break) |
| Lee Jefferson (Inseinc) | Tez Field (William Hill) |
| Peter Davies (Inseinc) | David Lucas |
| Wayne Forster (Moto) | Byron Evans |

		<u>ACTIONS</u>
1	<p><u>Introduction and Apologies</u></p> <p>PH welcomed everyone to the update meeting. Apologies were noted.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Matters from last meeting</u></p> <p>PH advised that he has still not had any questions for Carolyn Harris & there is still time to submit them if members are minded to.</p> <p>PH asked if there was any progress with the 13 point pubco guidance document raised by Steve Brownlow. DL & SB exchanged email addresses so that the info could be shared.</p> <p>PH advised that the draft letter to the Chancellor has now been circulated and thanks to Tony Boulton for sharing this.</p>	DL
3.	<p><u>General Updates</u></p> <p>a. <u>NEXSTART</u></p> <p>One of the key issues for NEXSTART is the different interpretations of the regulations and guidance that have been published to date for re-opening. This is an issue between different regulators, Police, Local Authorities and a few other people. There are different sets of FAQ's being developed and the intention is to get them all into one place for all/any FAQ's.</p>	

	<p>DL advised that the Authorities have already shown that they are capable of quite creative interpretation. There may be justification for the Group J Gambling Group to put something out there depending on how Local Authorities interpret the legislation and the regulations upon opening. If you encounter any examples of ways in which the regulation is misinterpreted then please let us know and we can address them in these FAQ's. We see this as a way to develop some consistency and fair interpretation and application of the regulations & guidance.</p> <p>PH advised that there are some police forces that are saying that machines should not be switched on in pubs, which is not in the regulations or guidance. The immediate recommendation is that pub operators make sure that they have the right precautions via their risk assessments for operating their machines. This has also gone back to NEXSTART to see if there is anything they can do about advising the police they should be consistent in their approach.</p> <p>b. <u>Government</u></p> <p>There are no further updates other than what everyone is already aware of with re-opening on Saturday. There is a lot of concern that the 2nd lockdown in Leicester may have to be replicated elsewhere in the country.</p> <p>c. <u>Members</u></p> <p>PH encouraged members to raise anything they want to mention or issues that that they have encountered so that it can be addressed.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Guidance on Cat B ratios</u></p> <p>The document has now been ratified by the NEXSTART forum. It is therefore endorsed by the National Association of Licensing Enforcement Officers, the LGA, the Gambling Commission and the other people on that forum. It will be enhanced with everyone's name at that meeting and then circulated widely so that everyone is working from the same principal when applying the 20% rule.</p> <p>It will go out through the NEXSTART network to local councils and the IOL so it will reach the licensing enforcement officers. Trade Associations will also get it and the GBG will circulate it to its membership.</p>	AF
5.	<p><u>Guidance on General Compliance</u></p> <p>PH advised that this document is similar the one above but is more broad in terms of approach to the interpretation of the Gambling Act in conjunction with the COVID rules.</p> <p>Again, the emphasis for this document is on the statement that Kit Malthouse made in a letter to licensing authorities and Chairmen of Licensing Committees to show a pragmatic approach in the way they interpret conditions attached to licences.</p>	

	<p>This will go out in the same way as the previous document. PH advised that the final document will be with you this afternoon.</p>	AF
6.	<p><u>Track & Trace Requirements</u></p> <p>PH advised that there has been no Government Guidance issued on this yet, however it is expected later on today. There are so many implications such as what you record? how you record it? how long you keep it? Do you only have to record the leader and not the whole group? All of which needs clarifying.</p> <p>It is now confirmed that there is a requirement for AGC's and FEC's to fall in line with the track and trace guidelines. PH has circulated the guidelines produced by bacta. PH is concerned that not all AGC operators are members of bacta and the document should be made available to all Licenced Operators.</p> <p>PH has asked the Gambling Commission if they would be prepared to share this with all licensees. They are looking to see if it is possible.</p> <p>Byron advised that the BA put out their revised guidance last night and it uses slightly different wording to bacta but pretty much says the same thing. It was noted that all bingo operators are BA members so will receive this document.</p>	
7.	<p><u>ABSG progress report published 26th June 2020</u></p> <p>It was noted that the ABSG (Advisory Board for Safer Gambling which used to be RGSB) has published its progress report.</p>	
8.	<p><u>HOL Report published overnight</u></p> <p>PH advised that this report was published this morning on Gambling Harm. Unfortunately, this report, on top of the other preceding 4 or 5 reports, is nearly 200 pages long.</p> <p>There are some concerns to note such as recommendation No. 13 which says; <i>Section 22 of the Gambling Act should be amended as follows: Paragraph B should be amended to provide that the Commission should not permit gambling unless it believes that to do so would be consistent with the licensing objectives, where the current Act says the Gambling Commission will aim to permit. A new paragraph should be added making the identification and the prevention of potential and actual harm a third in the Commission's objectives.</i></p> <p>This proposes a fundamental change in the status of Gambling in UK Law.</p> <p>The report is pushing for DCMS to deliver the Gambling Act review that they promised urgently, with the usual criticism of the Gambling Commission, and the DCMS.</p> <p>Byron highlighted Point 101 of the report which requests the re-introduction of the Triennial Review and for it to be re-introduced this year and completed by Summer 2021.</p>	

9.	<p><u>Any other Business</u></p> <p>PH asked members that following on from Saturday if anyone gets issues please let him know so we can raise them and maybe get them resolved at or before the NEXSTART meeting next Thursday.</p> <p>Peter Davies advised that it is important that we get as much guidance out as we can because there are all types of interpretation and glad NEXSTART picked it up.</p>	
10	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u></p> <p>Thursday 9th July at 1.00 pm</p>	