

# GBG Zoom Meeting held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 12.00 pm

## In attendance

Peter Hannibal (GBG)
Amanda Fry (GBG)
Alan Humble (Crane PI)
John Stergides (Electrocoin)
Mark Edmundson (GeWeTe)
Andy Bullock (Innovative Technology)
Graham Roberts (Inseinc)
Lee Jefferson (Inseinc)

Paul Comer (Moto)
Nigel Kelly (Novomatic)
Brian Jamson (Roadchef)
Tracy Baitup (Roadchef)
Lee Morton (Scientific Games)
Tez Field (William Hill)
Steve Brownlow
Graham Glanfield
Tony Eyre

		<u>ACTIONS</u>
1	Welcome and Apologies	
	PH welcomed everyone to the update meeting. Apologies were noted.	
2.	Matters brought forward from the last meeting	
	PH had no matters to bring forward from the last meeting on 23 <sup>rd</sup> July and none were raised by members.	
3.	New Issues	
	Face Coverings from tomorrow	
	PH advised that DCMS has changed the wording in the Bingo Association's operating guidelines "All bingo customers are required to wear a face covering during their visit to Bingo although they are able to remove this once seated in the Bingo hall to consume food and drink" which comes into effect from tomorrow, along with all other venues.	
	Reopening – latest info	
	<ul> <li>a. Casinos are still closed everywhere</li> <li>b. LBO's are open in England, Scotland and Wales subject to regional Covid restrictions</li> <li>c. Bingo are open in England &amp; Wales, subject to Covid restrictions, but not open in Scotland.</li> <li>d. AGC's &amp; FEC's are open in England &amp; Wales, subject to Covid restrictions, but not open in Scotland yet.</li> </ul> PH advised that in terms of the local restrictions	

- a. Aberdeen was locked down at 5.00 pm on Wednesday and will be reviewed in 7 days time
- b. We are expecting some news this afternoon on the situations in Leicester and the North West

## 4. General Updates

#### **NEXSTART**

PH advised that there are 2/3 cases a week on the liquor licensing front of over zealous licensing enforcement officers who are going into premises with "all guns blazing". However, when the review starts to happen it transpires that the elected councillors are not in agreement with this heavy handed approach the regulators are taking so there is a conflict within local authorities about how to approach Covid enforcement. Much of it is caused by conflicting guidelines and interpretations by different regulators causing confusion.

## Social Distancing – Welsh Government update

PH advised that the Welsh Government put some new guidelines out yesterday on social distancing

https://gov.wales/taking-all-reasonable-measures-minimise-risk-exposure-coronavirus-workplaces-and-premises-open

Social distancing in England and Scotland is guidance and therefore not enforceable however in Wales Social Distancing is in the regulations so you can be prosecuted if you don't comply. This new guidance whilst helpful, now contradicts the regulations so there will be added confusion.

## GC Summer Bulletin

The Gambling Commission published their Summer Bulletin which we circulated earlier.

PH brought everyone's attention to the section in the Local Authority bulletin that tries to explain machine percentage pay out and return to player. It is very detailed and not easy to understand. It is a little bizarre that the GC think it necessary or appropriate to educate licensing officers on how machine games are structured.

## <u>Members</u>

There were no other issues raised by members.

PH advised that the licensing officers on Nexstart say there are no issues on gambling. All the issues seem to be with the police and health and safety guys who are trying to understand how to enforce regulations.

# 5. **Ongoing Matters**

#### **Games Design Consultation**

	PH advised that there was a meeting last week and he will write up the notes and circulate them.	PH
	VIP Consultation	
	There is a VIP consultation.	
	PH advised that we are expecting, around the middle of next month, a consultation to come out on Affordability which is a concern for many operators. There was a recent presentation by the Gambling Commission talking about Affordability and a £150 a month threshold after which consumers need to prove that they can afford to spend more by sharing their financial details.	
	GR asked if this assumes a £150 loss in real terms rather than total spend (stake including recycled)? If you start with £50 in week one of the month and you are up by end of week one then you spend your winnings in week two etc. We will not know the detail until the consultation documents are published. But it is important that everyone is alert to the implications of this proposed restriction on consumer spending. PH added that the only way this can be realistically managed is by account based player, which the meeting agreed.	
	PH will keep members posted on further updates	PH
	Update on discussions on potential removal of debit card prohibition	
	PH advised that we have agreed that BACTA, Bingo Association and ourselves will work together to sort out a case and sort out the technological issues maybe go as far as commercials. There are still some fundamental issues to overcome before we should start asking for debit card prohibition to be removed.	
	MSG Meetings	
	PH advised that members have been asking when MSG meeting can be put back in the diary and AF is working on some dates.	AF
6.	Any other Business	
	PH commented on William Hill paying back the furlough money. GR advised that a number of major companies have highlighted that they are looking to pay that money back to the Government. There are 190 shops that will not be opening post Covid return.	
	PH advised that the Betting and Gaming Council appear to be trying to set the scene for the Gambling Act Review to get Westminster to look on the industry in a positive light.	
6	Date of next meeting	
	It was agreed that the next meeting will be in two week's time on <a href="Friday 21st August 2020 at 12.00 pm">Friday 21st August 2020 at 12.00 pm</a> . AF will send out a calendar invite	AF