

## **GBG Machines Group Meeting Notes**

## Held on Tuesday 9th May 2023 via Teams at 2.00 pm.

#### In attendance:

Peter Hannibal (GBG) – Chair Steve Sharp (GBG) Charlotte Meller (GBG)

Amanda Fry (GBG) Rob Wheeler (GBG)

Steve Brownlow (Bpops)
Simon Reynolds (Buzz Bingo)
Sam Moore (Buzz Bingo)

Ashley Molloy (Game Nation)

Howard Gant (IHL)

Dragoljub Shulyak (JCM Global) Evgeny Shulyak (JCM Global) Lee Morton (Light & Wonder) Chris Packer (Luxury Leisure) Paul Monkman (Luxury Leisure) Mark Gibson (Luxury Leisure)

Nigel Davis (Merkur)
Shakila Neill (Moto)
Peter Fagg (NRM)
Rocky Toor (Oktopay)
Dean Gourlay (Oktopay)
Brian Jamson (Roadchef)

Dave Newman (Welcome Break)

Item		Action
1	Welcome and Introductions.	
	PH welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted. There were no declarations of interests. PH will chair the meeting as ND is on holiday (but on the call).	
2	Notes from Meeting held on 15th February 2023 – Any outstanding matters	
	<b>5.1 Standards &amp; Protocols</b> RW has circulated a schedule for manufacturers to declare which versions of GBG protocols they support and it will be available in Dropbox. PH offered help from GBG Exec if RW needs it.	
3.	Machine Security Issues	
	<ul> <li>a) ND stated that the counterfeit Scottish £20 note is doing the rounds again and it is now able to bypass the latest update on older technology.</li> </ul>	

	<ul> <li>b) SN stated that MSA's have had ATRs broken into with angle grinders. Someone is visiting the Motorway Services scoping the venue and returning later with a cycle helmet on using the angle grinder to attack the cash machine. They started off in the South and now in the Midlands area. There is a warrant out for his arrest.</li> <li>PM stated they have been hit via the old Astra cabinet – crow bar opened with force and ran out with a hopper which is difficult to prevent.</li> </ul>	
4.	Standards & Protocols	
	RW stated there is no update. Minor amendments to the MDC protocol and has been approved by default. There is a meeting at the end of this month for a general catch up.	
5.	Machines & Technical Related items from the White paper for	
	PH stated that there are six machine related proposed changes from the White Paper to discuss. CM shared the screen with the Machine points. Awaiting exact timings from DCMS which we will hopefully find out on 12th and will re-group accordingly	
	1. Debit card payments	
	<ul> <li>The intended removal of the prohibition on debit cards on gaming machines.</li> <li>Government and Commission to develop consultation options for cashless payments including the player protection measures that would be required before the removal of the prohibition</li> <li>Secondary legislation matter for the SoS to be able to change through a statutory instrument</li> <li>Consulting during Summer 2023</li> <li>Government requires any addition or new requirements for operators in relation to cashless payments on gaming machines to be in place before the prohibition is lifted.</li> <li>GBG over the past 18 months has been working with Bingo Association, BACTA, a couple of casinos on a cross industry discussion with the Gambling Commission and DCMS to get us to this point. The group is still in existence but was waiting to see what was in the WP. GBG also has a small group who were helping with the banking side of this and engaging with NMI who will help us understand the integration to the banks.</li> <li>It was agreed that the GBG Cashless Working Group should meet again (with operators) and if anyone is interested in joining that Group to let PH or AF know. PH will identify a date as soon as possible after the DCMS Meeting on the 12th.</li> </ul>	Action PH/All members

# 2. Machine games and licensed bingo premises - Rules on Gaming Machines in Land-Based Premises

- Commission to review gaming machine technical standards to include sessional play and other safer gambling initiatives.
- Extending the player protections that we install in machines
- Need to work closely with the Gambling Commission on making sure proposals put forward are tested and proven to be of benefit before they are implemented

### 3. New Pilot Working

- This has implications for gaming machines
- In original Call for Evidence, we asked for the ability to test new products and concepts for future proofing (without the GC saying we can't introduce anything until we prove it does not cause additional harm).
- Need to understand the timings.
- Ask the Lawyers Group to propose an outline process that might satisfy interested parties that Pilots are safe, controlled and thorough.

Action PH/CM

# 4. <u>Consider making changes to allow trials of linked machines in venues other</u> than individual casinos

- A two-stage approach where Ministers are able to make secondary legislation changes permitting a wider rollout of linked machine games.
- We already have experience and evidence out there in casinos and no evidence anywhere of harm being created by those jackpots – need to back this up with formal research
- Already completed preliminary work with Nigel and Tech Forum in terms of delivery & structure
- ND will reconvene the group again and move onto the next stage

#### 5. Cat B machines in land-based venues

- Changes to current 80/20 rule on gaming machines in arcades and bingo clubs.
- Government to consult on reducing the ratio from 80/20 to 50/50 (Category C/D to B3 machines) in bingo and arcades
- Consultation process Summer 2023 Secondary Legislation
- In the meantime, Government strongly encourages operators to continue to improve player safety controls on B3 machines for example by introducing controls to alert staff where a player meets spend or time limits.
- GBG will put together a number of questions for members to answer

Action ND

	6. Children & Young Adults	
	<ul> <li>Make the legal minimum age to play all cash Category D slot machine style games 18 years old (does not extend to other Category D machines such as crane grabbers and coin pushers).</li> <li>Government to consult on secondary legislation in Summer 2023.</li> <li>GBG will work with other Trade Assoc's on this.</li> </ul>	
	GBG will set up the meetings and canvas members thoughts. We will keep having these meetings to update everyone. GBG will come back following the meeting with DCMS on 12th May.	Action PH/CM
6.	Any other business	
	PH thanked members for their time today.	
	Date of next meeting Wednesday 6th September 2023	
	Remaining 2023 Dates Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	

Meeting finished at 14.47