



GBG Machines Group Meeting Notes

Held on Wednesday 6th September 2023 via Zoom at 11.00 am.

In attendance:

Nigel Davis (Merkur) – Chair
 Steve Sharp (GBG)
 Charlotte Meller (GBG)
 Amanda Fry (GBG)
 Steve Brownlow (Bpops)
 Heidi Hards (Buzz Bingo)
 Michael Douglas (Buzz Bingo)
 Andrea Rushworth (Crown Leisure)
 Mark Edmundson (GeWeTe)
 Howard Gant (IHL)

Josh Holt (Inseinc)
 Lee Jefferson (Inseinc)
 Mike Slee (ITL Group)
 Lee Morton (Light & Wonder)
 Paul Monkman (Light & Wonder)
 Mark Gibson (Luxury Leisure)
 Peter Fagg (NRM)
 Imogen Moss (Popleston Allen)
 Dave Newman (Welcome Break)

Item		Action
1	<p>Welcome and Introductions.</p> <p>ND welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted. PH sent his apologies so CM will be helping ND with the agenda. There were no declarations of interests.</p>	
2	<p>Notes from Meeting held on 9th May 2023 – Any outstanding matters</p> <p>3.4 Consider making changes to allow trials to linked machines in venues other than individual casinos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ND advised there was a Linked Jackpot Meeting – the principles were shared – any technical developments have been parked until there is a spec to work with. This proposal requires primary legislative changes which DCMS have said is unlikely in the foreseeable future. 	
3.	<p>Consultation Responses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Changes to 80:20 Regulations b) Cashless Questions c) Cat D Cash Payout to Over 18s only <p>These drafts have been produced following discussions with relevant GBG Groups in recent weeks. These drafts will be updated with any comments/feedback and</p>	

	<p>shared round to all GBG members w/c 11 September so please submit any comments by email as soon as possible.</p> <p>Clarification was sought on Cashless Q33a and why the cashless working group had suggested £20 maximum transaction value. In essence this reflects the current SINGLE cash transaction value set in the Gaming Machines Circumstances of Use Regulations. The transactional costs (from card to machine back to card) of a higher amount would be too prohibitive.</p> <p>In relation to Q28a in the 80:20 machine ratio draft response – whilst the complete removal of machine ratios (option 3) would be the industry’s preferred option, there is concern that the requirement to have player protection measures in place on Cat B3 machines is an early step towards player tracking.</p>	
4.	<p>DCMS Data Request</p> <p>DCMS has spoken to machine manufacturers and trade bodies (GBG, Bingo Association, Bacta and BGC) about its request for a huge range of machine data to sit alongside its consultation responses. All have raised concerns about how the data could be deconstructed to reveal commercially sensitive information and that the data could be mis-interpreted or extrapolated to represent a highly inflated understanding of machines performance. There are also concerns that manufacturers use different session times, making it even harder to align data. Rather than the manufacturers asking operators if they can share anonymised data with DCMS, the abovementioned trade bodies have proposed to DCMS that the manufacturers seek agreement from operators to send the data to the Trade bodies who would collectively amalgamate the anonymised data before it is sent to DCMS.</p>	
5.	<p>Machine Security Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counterfeit Scottish £20 notes are still going in NV200’s. This has been rectified from an Innovative Technology point of view, earlier this year and is still with relevant machine suppliers/manufacturers. Innovative are not aware of any recent issues, if any member has details to share, as always, ITL will work with individual companies on findings. • Scheming that happens on bullion bars rather than crow bars where ND has had a couple of incidents • PM advised about a software issue on a Shanagan’s game on an Inspired product which has been removed. • Florins have been doing the rounds again on some note accepters that have not been updated 	
6.	<p>Standards & Protocols</p> <p>Following an email from Rob Wheeler after the meeting he stated that there was nothing to report on Protocols & Standards. The next Tech Forum is scheduled for Wed 27th Sept 2023.</p>	
7.	<p>Any other business</p>	

	<p>a) Gaming Machine Technical Standards The Commission will start pre consultation engagement on this in October – not just looking at the areas which will need updating in light of White Paper changes, but also any wider issues. This Group may want to invite the Commission lead (Graham Burgin) to a future meeting. ND will set up a smaller working group before the Nov Machines Meeting</p> <p>b) Triennial Review. DCMS has advised that it will not look at this until the current consultation work is complete and therefore the GBG Exec suggests that we liaise with the other trade bodies and write to the Minister requesting a summer 2024 discussion, and to engage with members on proposed new S&P limits</p> <p>c) Date of Next Meeting: Wed 29th Nov 2023</p> <p><u>Dates for 2024</u> Wed 14th Feb Wed 8th May Wed 4th Sept Wed 27th Nov</p>	<p>Action ND</p>
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Meeting finished at 11.40