

## GAMBLING PRODUCTS DISCUSSION GROUP - 22 AUGUST 2018

- JC advised that meetings will be taken for this meeting and future meetings. Minutes to be circulated for comment and then accepted at next working group.

### UPDATES FROM LAST MEETING

- JC advised that no update on Mini Roulette and Play Spot
- JC advised that Longitude pressing and rule/system submissions being considered
- NV advised that Keno Mega Millions still being considered by Minister. Suggested approval date was noted for the 1 September, but will need to be amended as will not be able to enforce the date.

### RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING TOOL UPDATE

- TP provided an update on the RGAT. An initial draft provided to the VCGLR yesterday and JC/CC advised that draft was being considered
- TP advised that a 3 tiered approach was draft in the RGAT and the approach and information was consistent with RGMAC work, in particular in relation to harm contributors regarding gambling product
- TP advised that it will be useful to start to 'road test' the draft and assess its relevance in considering new products
- TP to circulate to the working group for comments
- TP advised that he will consider presenting to academic to endorse the approach.
- JC advised that draft RGAT to be presented to LRP in September to endorse the draft approach.

### GAMBLING RESEARCH UPDATE

- TP advised of two recent gambling research pieces, both available on the VRGF website:
  - 1) NICK DOWLING: Responsible Gambling Limits
    - Findings outlined that harm attributable to extent of gambling
    - Example of finding: someone who gambles 45-65 times in 12 months has a high likelihood of 'experiencing harm'
  - 2) MATT ROCKLOFF: Mobile and Simulated Apps
    - Highlighted that people are more likely to gamble on real EGMs if gamble on apps and apps do not substitute for those that have a gambling problem.

### SKILL BASED GAMING (Pop Shots and the FOTB Trial)

- JC outlined the discussion at the NSWP/AGE in relation to skilled based gaming and the pop shots and FOTB trial

- JC advised that VCGLR view, which is supported by NSW (also have Pop Shots application on hand), is that information from the proposed FOTB trial could provide information to inform the Pop Shots assessment.
- HM provided information regarding the status of the proposed FOTB trial:
  - 2 week window to collect trial data
  - Patrons who played the FOTB game during the trial will be surveyed
  - Game will be positioned and compared to a 'comparable' existing gaming machine to assess performance
  - The brief to approve the FOTB trial is currently with the Minister, however unsure of turnaround time for consideration and unsure of the outcome.
- NV sought clarity regarding whether the VCGLR would refuse or hold of the Pop Shots approval if waiting for FOTB trial data. JC advised that VCGLR would look to communicate with WYMAC, if this was the desired approach, and advise that the application would not be determined until the data was available.
- TP advised that the VRGF had concerns regarding the impact that the Pop Shots product may have on problem gamblers, and would recommend, at minimum, the game be considered for approval with serious trial conditions including controlled observations, interviews, data capture and analysis, etc
- LS raised the issue of confusion for the player regarding what is skill based gaming and not, as several games current present somewhat of a illusion of skill
- HM advised that industry perception is that the FOTB product in particular is less harmful tyranny existing games due the breaks in play during the skilled based component. JC advised that the FOTB game at the AGE presented minimum 4 minute breaks in play.
- The working group discussed the key differences between FOTB and Pop Shots, and that the FOTB trial may not contribute to considerations of pop shots. It is believed that the trial may only look to identify the way the player identifies with skilled based, and not necessarily whether the game is responsible.
- JC asked the working group if they considered the results of a FOTB trial may be useful information in considering the Pop Shots game. The working group agreed with this view and supported that any skilled based game should only be considered after the FOTB trial results are known.
- In the event that the FOTB trial was not endorsed by the Minister, the VCGLR would look to actively consult with OLGR/VRGF on the Pop Shots game to gain views to inform the VCGLRs decision making process.
- JC advised that the VCGLR would consider consulting with WYMAC and presents its view on information gathering and consultation.

#### **AGE/GRWA/NSWP UPDATE**

- JC and ST provided an update on the VCGLRs attendance at the AGE/GRWA/NSWP.
- Various skilled based products on display where discussed, including those that provided a Frogger and Pinball type game
- JC advised that GRWA was underwhelming and lacked a clear target audience. A few interesting sessions on esports, which focused on attracting the 'millennials' as a customer via esports rather than betting in particular
- JC advised that RTP and Skilled Based Gaming discussed at length at the NSWP.
- JC advised that a memo is being prepared re lessons learned from NSW visit and this will be circulated amongst group.

**DISPLAY OF PAST JACKPOT WINS AT CROWN/VENUE**

- JC advised that a few companies at the AGE were displaying electronic signage that displayed current and past jackpot results/wins. This was concerning considering the recent recommended prohibition of past results being displayed on gaming machines.
- Manufacturers have expressed concerns regarding the proposed change to the standards, due to these products being available.
- NV advised that this issue could be considered as a policy matter by OLGR.

**GAMING MACHINE STANDARDS (RTP AND OTHERS)**

- JC provided an update on the RTP matter and the VCGLR position that:
  - the PID requirements on the Vic Appendix be changed to correct RTP to plural and provide a corrective statement, and
  - The Minister be requested to change the Player Information Standards to vary the information on the Know the Pokies brochure to current RTP to plural and provide a corrective statement AND introduce a talker/sign regarding RTP.
- JC advised that the VCGLR have drafted a letter to OLGR advising of the request to change the Player Information Standards to provide the corrective statement re RTP which will filter down to the Vic Appendix.
- NV advised that the OLGR were keen to review the Player Information Standards and would welcome the letter from the VCGLR
- JC advised that the NSW and the GTA supported this view.