



Thanks for another fantastic year!

I'm delighted to inform you that NZCT has had another fantastic year, thanks to the hard work of all of you – our venue operators, managers and staff. We've generated a surplus of \$42.87 million from your gaming operations, which has translated into \$42.93 million returned to the New Zealand community through 2,168 grants to 1,836 worthy organisations.

In keeping with our mission to fund participation in amateur sport, 81% of the funds went to local sports clubs, and regional and national sporting bodies to support New Zealanders, especially our youth, in achieving their personal and team goals. The remaining 19% went to health, education, community, arts and cultural organisations that also provide great benefit to their communities.

Compliance reminder: Banking dates and operating gaming machines over the holidays

Banking and venue payments through the Christmas holiday period: Venue payments will be paid each Friday, or the next working day, provided GMP for the previous week is paid. Wednesday and Thursday direct debits will be taken each Thursday unless other arrangements are agreed.

Venues should keep as much as possible to their normal banking regime and are encouraged to bank at every opportunity to reduce the amount of cash on site. The venue manager is responsible for the GMP until the funds are paid into NZCT's account.

GMP obligations must be met regardless of provincial holidays.

Operating gaming machines when sale of alcohol is restricted:

A reminder that gaming machines can only be operated while the 'primary activity' of your venue is offered and available. This primary activity may be restricted at times, such as on Christmas Day.

Venues that are primarily or exclusively used for the sale, supply and consumption of alcohol, such as taverns and pubs, won't be considered to have their 'primary activity offered and available' if the alcohol licence doesn't allow the sale and consumption of alcohol by customers on the premises. As the primary activity of the venue is not offered and available, the venue isn't permitted to operate its gaming machines during these times. This applies even if alcohol is being served to diners on days, such as Christmas Day, where the sale of alcohol is restricted.

For any venue, such as a hotel, pool hall, bowling alley or restaurant, where the primary activity continues to be offered and available despite restrictions placed on the venue by its

The strong sports focus and values-based principles we have adopted make working for NZCT in leadership and operational roles both a pleasure and a passion. I and my staff look forward to working with you even harder next year to ensure kids get into sport, and that sport and recreation in New Zealand are available to everyone equally for long-term community good and wellbeing.

My best wishes to you for the holiday season and New Year 2018.

Mike Knell
Chief Executive



alcohol licence or other legislation, the venue can operate its gaming machines if all other obligations for Class 4 gambling operation are met. Your venue licence will show what your primary activity is.

If you have any questions about banking days or gaming machine operation over the Christmas and New Year period, feel free to call your NZCT regional manager or usual liaison person.

Industry update: New approach to assessing venues

The Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) has developed a new framework for assessing venue compliance, which rolled out from the beginning of December after a preliminary trial in 12 venues in Auckland and Tauranga. The new framework is heavily harm minimisation-focused and intended to encourage venues to demonstrate good practice and continual improvement, rather than minimum compliance.

Venue performance will be evaluated in terms of 'outcomes', rather than a 'pass or fail' approach and is intended to encourage:

- managers to build a culture of care in their venues
- venue staff to get better at identifying people showing signs of problem gambling

- venue staff to get better at responding to people showing signs of problem gambling.

In most cases, you will be notified in advance and a time will be set for the assessment in consultation with you. Your NZCT liaison person will help you with any additional training around expected outcomes before the assessment takes place.

Ensure all supervising staff have up-to-date training. NZCT's training resources have been updated to reflect the new host responsibility requirements – see NZCT's website for details or go to www.nzctresources.weebly.com. The Gamble Host Responsibility resources on the Choice Not Chance website (www.choicenotchance.org.nz) may also be of interest.

The DIA's website carries information about the new process. NZCT will be interested in any feedback from you about it.



Good in the 'hood: Bouncing back at Opiki School

It won't be long before Opiki School's children and the community can make full use of their tennis courts again. NZCT awarded the school \$20,000 to resurface the tennis courts with multi-purpose synthetic sports turf.

Michelle Moleta, Grants Officer at Opiki School, which is near Palmerston North, explains the funding was needed to make the tennis courts usable again. "The current Opiki tennis courts have needed upgrading for some time as the surface had deteriorated and is slippery when wet. After a rainy year like we've had, it highlighted the need for a safe, all-weather area that Opiki School children and the community can use to play sports."

Michelle says obtaining this grant from NZCT has been the key to achieving the turf project. "Our total turf project cost will exceed \$70,000, and we have been successful at fundraising a substantial proportion of this ourselves. We're aware that in a small community such as ours the resources are limited, and we find ourselves always asking the same people for money when fundraising. Having the amount of \$20,000 generously donated by NZCT is a huge help, and we cannot thank NZCT enough for their generous support."

The new multi-purpose turf surface will be marked for a variety of sports such as tennis, netball, hockey and basketball. It is the only facility in the area and is open to the community for use.

“Upgrading our tennis courts with this multi-sports turf will allow teachers, coaches and our children to utilise the facility all year round as the field gets too wet to play sport on. We expect to increase the number of school sports teams, and we hope to see the community use the courts a lot more,”
concludes Michelle.”



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NZCT The Wrap is a bi-monthly publication for NZCT venue operators. We welcome your comments and feedback about issues raised in this edition or topics you would like covered in the future. Simply speak to your regional manager or contact Tanya Piejus: tanya.piejus@nzct.org.nz

