

ISSUED BY THE NSW DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, LIQUOR & GAMING NSW

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### **NORTH RICHMOND HOTEL PENALISED FOR SERVING ALCOHOL TO MINORS**

North Richmond Hotel will have its liquor licence suspended for 24 hours for serving alcohol to minors.

The Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority has ordered the hotel to shut on 12 November for the offence, which was identified by NSW Police during a walkthrough on 25 August 2017.

When entering the venue, police noticed two male patrons who appeared to be under the age of 18.

When approached, the two males admitted to being 17 years of age and consuming more than 10 schooners between them over several hours.

In subsequent interviews with the venue's employees, one of the bar staff admitted to serving the minors on 'auto-pilot' without asking for photo ID.

Both the member of staff and the licensee were issued penalty notices by police for the offence.

Under the [Minors Sanctions Scheme](#), the Authority can hand out escalating penalties to venues found guilty of serving alcohol to minors, which includes licence suspensions of up to 28 days.

In handing out the penalty, the Authority noted that the venue had no adverse history of compliance issues with its liquor licence.

Liquor & Gaming NSW Director of Compliance Operations, Sean Goodchild, said serving alcohol to minors is one of the most serious offences under NSW liquor laws due to the high risks of harm.

"This case should serve as a reminder to all venues as we head into the busy festive season," he said.

"Under the Minors Sanction Scheme, escalating penalties apply for selling alcohol to under 18s including liquor licence suspensions, cancellations and disqualifications.

"Licensed venues are advised to ask for age ID of any patrons who appear under the age of 25."

Further information on underage drinking laws is available [here](#).

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