



Local Impact Assessment Class 1  
Application

**Mount Lewis Bowling Club  
Co-operative Limited**

Venue ID: 228851  
16 Waterloo Road  
Greenacre NSW 2190

December 2009

## **Executive Summary**

- Mount Lewis Bowling Club (the parent club) is located in the Bankstown Local Government Area (LGA) classified as Band 3 by the Casino, Liquor and Gaming Control Authority (CLGCA).
- St John's Bowling and Recreation Club (the dissolved club) is located in the Canterbury Local Government Area (LGA) classified as Band 3 by the Casino, Liquor and Gaming Control Authority (CLGCA).
- Mount Lewis Bowling Club was presented with a unique opportunity to amalgamate with St John's Bowling and Recreation Club Lakemba (the dissolved club). This was a unique amalgamation as St John's Lakemba sold their property to the adjoining Catholic school and were leasing the property from the school. The lease was not renewed and St John's Bowling and Recreation Club had nowhere to go. St John's Lakemba was in operation for 46 years, maintaining similar objectives to Mount Lewis Bowling Club.
- The Board of Directors and Members of St John's Bowling and Recreation Club and Mount Lewis Bowling Club voted to proceed with an amalgamation. Both Clubs entered into Memorandum of Understanding which was made available to members of both Clubs. The Memorandum outlined each Club's obligations with regard to meeting the necessary Club and statutory requirements to achieve a successful amalgamation.
- The Parent Club is submitting a Class 1 Local Impact Assessment requesting a poker machine threshold increase to enable a transfer of the entitlements from the dissolved club in accordance with Regulation 38A of the Gaming Machines Regulation 2002.
- The Parent Club is located 1.9 kilometres from the dissolved club.
- Trading on the premises of the dissolved club ceased permanently on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2009.
- The Parent Club currently has approval to operate 47 gaming machines; a threshold increase of 16 from the dissolved Club would bring this total to 63.
- There are specific benefits our community would receive from an increase to our threshold; 1) Implementation of a Junior Bowls Academy and Coaching program which aims to forge a community partnership with schools in our local area. 2) The completion of stage two of the Clubs water retention and recycling system. 3) Development of Junior Football within our local community.
- The Parent Club adheres to all harm minimisation and responsible gambling measures stated in the Gaming Machine Regulation 2002 and the Gaming Machine Act 2001 and is a member of the Clubsafe Responsible Gambling Program while adopting the Clubs NSW Registered Clubs Responsible Conduct of Gaming Code of Practice – Best Practice Guidelines.
- The Parent Club operates a Self Exclusion Scheme which is made available to all members and visitors. All staff are required to hold a current Liquor Administration Board approved Responsible Conduct of Gaming (RCG) certificate and are provided ongoing in house RCG training.

## **Introduction**

The following submission outlines an application for a threshold increase of 16 for Mount Lewis Bowling Club in accordance with Regulation 38A of the Gaming Machines Regulation 2002.

Mount Lewis Bowling Club is located in the Bankstown Local Government Area, classified as Band 3 by the Casino, Liquor Gaming Control Authority. The Club operates premises at 16 Waterloo Road, Greenacre NSW.

In May 2009 the Club finalised an amalgamation with St Johns Bowling and Recreation Club Lakemba. Both Clubs entered into a Memorandum of Understanding outlining each Club's obligations with regard to meeting the necessary Club and statutory requirements to achieve a successful amalgamation. The amalgamation resulted in St Johns Bowling and Recreation Club Lakemba closing their premises at 58 Sproule Street, Lakemba. Their limited assets and small membership of 50 transferred to Mount Lewis Bowling Club.

Mount Lewis Bowling Club is now seeking through the submission of this Class 1 LIA an increase to our threshold to enable to facilitate the transfer of entitlements from the dissolved club. The transfer would provide assistance with the extra costs associated with the transfer of members from the dissolved club eg the continuation of sponsorship arrangements, pennant competitions, member's amenities, transport and administration.

Mount Lewis Bowling Club defines its local community as an area extending 4kms from the premises at 16 Waterloo Road Greenacre for the purpose of this LIA 1. The majority of Members and visitors fall within this community area. The Club provides our local community with cost effective services and facilities, transport and ongoing support.

## **Benefits to the Local Community**

### **Junior Bowls Academy**

In the event that our threshold increase is granted. The Club will be implementing a Junior Bowls Academy and Coaching Clinic which initially will be directed at schools within a two kilometre radius from Mount Lewis Bowling Club. The 13 schools will be invited to conduct the game of lawn bowls as a school sports program and will be offered to students from year 8 to year 12. Each school will have the option of selecting individual students that show interest in learning lawn bowls or sending a whole class as a sports group. Bowls coaching will be provided at each session to offer education and support to the attending students while identifying potential natural talent. Students that show an interest beyond their school sport commitment will be offered further development and one on one coaching. The 13 schools will also be invited to compete in inter school bowls competitions to assist in the selection process. All bowls equipment will be provided to the students attending.

We believe the program will forge community partnerships with local schools providing benefits well beyond this year and into the future. The Club will be fostering the abilities of juniors at the early stages of their sporting life, providing sporting knowledge, team work and camaraderie while introducing the game of lawn bowls at a grass roots level. The Junior Bowls Academy assists with the Clubs long term plan to increase and improve the community's knowledge of bowls as a sport for all ages.

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The annual costs of our academy would be \$50,000 which would include coaching staff, bowls equipment, bowls clothing, scholarships, transport and operational costs. It is intended to have a 2 year Junior Bowls Academy program. This would be assessed at the completion of year one with any improvements implemented for the second year of the program. The overall success and future viability of the Junior Bowls Academy would be assessed at the completion of year two.

### **Water Retention and Recycling System**

Mount Lewis Bowling Club will be completing stage two of its water retention and recycling system. The systems stage one was completed in 2007 and involved the installation of a 100,000 litre sub surface water tank and associated pipe work. 50% of the clubs roof runoff is diverted to the storage tank to reduce the clubs reliance on the mains supply. To date stage one has reduced the Clubs water usage by 20%. The cost of stage one totalled \$80,000.

Stage two will provide the most significant water saving by recycling irrigated water and fertilizers used weekly to maintain three bowling greens. Stage two involves the installation of a sub surface holding tank and silt arrestor. Water used to irrigate the greens would be collected, it would pass through a silt arrestor and into a detention tank which would be transferred into the existing 100,000 litre sub surface storage tank. Stage two would provide a total water saving benefit of 50%. The estimated cost of the tank and associated works is \$250,000.

Mount Lewis Bowling Club is a leader within its community with regard to its Environmental Policy, in particular water usage, as we maintain 3 bowling greens year round. The benefits the community would receive if stage two of our water retention and recycling system was completed would be a significant reduction in our reliance on the community's water supply. The Club would also provide a benefit by demonstrating to the community via this very positive example of water saving that sustainable amenities can be achieved to benefit our community for many years.

### **Development of Junior Football within Local Community**

Mount Lewis Bowling Club through our amalgamation with St John's Bowling and Recreation Club (the dissolved club) inherited two sponsorship/support arrangements with two local junior rugby league Clubs. St John's Eagles JRLFC and Mighty Brothers JRLFC have a combined membership well over 400 juniors. These clubs field 29 teams and compete in the local competition. Mount Lewis Bowling Club would not be able to fund both sporting groups as we have experienced a reduction in the total amount of gaming machines between both clubs since St John's Bowling and Recreation Lakemba was dissolved. If we could not derive additional revenue from an increase to our threshold the Club will experience difficulty in maintaining these historical obligations based on current revenue. Mount Lewis Bowling Club if granted the threshold increase would provide these clubs a more certain future, utilising the additional revenue to ensure both Clubs can provide the community with the ongoing development of children partaking in sports at the grass roots level.

### **Responsible Gambling Measures**

Mount Lewis Bowling Club adheres to all harm minimisation and responsible gambling measures stated in the Gaming Machine Regulation 2002 and the Gaming Machine Act 2001 and is a member of the Clubsafe Responsible Gambling Program while adopting the Clubs NSW Registered Clubs Responsible Conduct of Gaming Code of Practice – Best Practice Guidelines.

- All employees involved in gambling related duties hold a responsible conduct of gambling qualification in an approved course;
- No minors are ever allowed to access gaming areas of the venue;
- Strong links are maintained with established referral systems to problem gambling counselling services;
- Consumer information on the chance of winning maximum prizes and jackpots is made available in the gaming area;
- Gaming machines notices on the dangers of excessive gambling are placed in all gaming areas and ATM;
- Signage on the unavailability of credit facilities displayed;
- No cheques are cashed for more than \$400 for club members, only one cheque cashed per day;
- No inducements are offered to gamble at the Club;
- No cashing of third party cheques is possible;
- Clocks are clearly visible in all areas of the Venue;
- No cash payments over \$2,000 are made;
- All direct advertising of gaming is contained within the Venue premises and is not visible outside the Venue;
- The availability of player activity statements by players upon request is well known

Mount Lewis Bowling Club has also implemented additional measures to ensure compliance with recent amendments to the Gaming Machines Act 2001 and associated Regulation, this includes:

- No ATM in the Venue permits the dispensing of cash withdrawn from a credit account
- Unclaimed Prizes
  - Mount Lewis Bowling Club will place any unclaimed jackpot winning tickets not claimed within 12 months on the notice board for one month;
  - Any unclaimed gaming machine tickets or jackpots not claimed during the 12 month period will be paid into the Community Development Fund;
- All gaming machine prize winning cheques now clearly state prize winning cheque cashing rules apply;
- Link and progressive jackpots;
  - All gaming machines connected to a link clearly indicate which link they are connected too;
  - Correct house numbers are clearly displayed on each gaming machine on the link;
- Club staff conduct daily audit of all Gaming Machine sticker warning notices.

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- Mount Lewis Bowling Club's membership of ClubSafe program enables Club members and guests to access problem gambling counsellors 24 hours a day. Free legal advice is also provided to members and guests through the Clubsafes program.

**Conclusion**

The submitted LIA is necessary to enable the transfer of Gaming Machine Threshold from our dissolved amalgamated Club (St Johns Bowling and Recreation Club). The LIA illustrates the positive contribution Mount Lewis Bowling Club will make toward the Local Community while meeting the relevant legislative requirements.

For and on Behalf of the Board of Directors  
Mount Lewis Bowling Club Co-op Limited  
Christian Vukelic  
General Manager