



MEDIA RELEASE

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TABCORP CONVICTED AND FINED \$16,500 FOR ILLEGAL GAMBLING INDUCEMENTS

Tabcorp Holdings has been convicted and fined \$16,500 and ordered to pay legal costs of \$100,000 for publishing illegal advertising that offered NSW residents inducements to participate in gambling or to open a betting account.

The company was sentenced today in Downing Centre Local Court after being found guilty of the offences in December 2016 as a result of an investigation by Liquor & Gaming NSW.

The offences related to advertisements which appeared in *The Daily Telegraph* on 28 August 2015 called *Ignite Friday Night* and *Luck of the Draw*, as well as advertisements on Tabcorp's website published on 27 August 2015.

The promotions could be accessed by NSW residents and offered bonus bets and other rewards as an inducement to participate in gambling activity or to open a betting account.

The advertising breached the former Racing Administration Regulation, which has since been strengthened within NSW's [Betting and Racing Regulation 2012](#). This prohibits licensed wagering operators from publishing any advertising that offers NSW residents any inducement to participate in gambling activity or open a betting account.

In today's sentencing hearing, Magistrate McIntyre imposed the maximum penalty of \$5,500 for each of the three offences.

She said a strong message needs to be sent to other gambling corporations to make them understand that the gambling advertisements link the community to gambling, and that the community and vulnerable people have to be protected.

She said while Tabcorp had contended that the offences were a one-off or aberration, she needed to consider the sheer number of advertisements and the fact they were published to wide audiences in *The Daily Telegraph* and unfiltered online.

She said it was "crystal clear" that each of the ads was in breach of the regulation, which is aimed at protecting problem gamblers and would-be problem gamblers from engaging in further gambling activity.

The prosecution of Tabcorp follows other recent Liquor & Gaming NSW prosecutions and convictions of corporate wagering operators for publishing gambling inducements accessible to NSW residents including Ubet, Unibet, Crownbet, Topbetta, Bet365, Ladbrokes, Sportsbetting.com.au and ClassicBet Pty Ltd.

Suspect gambling advertising can be reported to Liquor & Gaming NSW for investigation on 02 9995 0837 or email gambling.advertising@justice.nsw.gov.au

Decisions made in local courts are appealable.

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