



RONALD McDONALD
HOUSE CHARITIES®
AUSTRALIA

26 August 2016

BY EMAIL: [REDACTED]

The Coordinating Officer
Lotteries and Art Unions Act Review
Liquor & Gaming NSW
GPO Box 7060
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Coordinating Officer

Review of the *Lotteries and Art Unions Act 1901 (NSW)*

We thank you for the opportunity to make a submission into this review. This submission is made on behalf of Ronald McDonald House Charities Australia ABN 26 037 589 412 (**RMHC**).

About RMHC

RMHC helps keep families together when their child is ill, which we know from research helps strengthen their coping abilities.

Childhood illness is devastating for families. On top of the fear and uncertainty comes the stress of managing the family when one child is in hospital for an extended period. Since 1981 RMHC has given families with ill children a place to stay, help with education, support within hospitals, time out to recover and so much more.

Fundraising is essential to RMHC being able to deliver these services for families.

Our submission

RMHC recommends the repeal of the following burdensome sections of the *Lotteries and Art Unions Act 1901 (NSW)* (**Act**):

- (a) charitable and non-profit raffle permit requirements under section 5 of the Act; and
- (b) excessive disclosure requirements under rules 23, 34 and similar sections of the *Lotteries and Art Unions Regulations 2014 (NSW)* (**Regulations**).

Grounds for our submission

For RMHC, as with many charities, raffles are an essential part of our fundraising programs. However, the cost of complying with the Act and Regulations uses up money and resources that could otherwise be spent on front-line services to help ill children and their families.

Precious volunteer and employee time is spent navigating the Act and Regulations and applying for permits. With limited staff, it is difficult to find the time to apply for permits in addition to other essential activities, and volunteer time is best spent on our core goal of helping the families of ill children.


Ronald McDonald House Charities Pty Ltd
21-29 Central Avenue | Thornleigh | NSW 2120 | Australia
T: [REDACTED] | F: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] | www.rmhc.org.au

Additionally, the current requirement under the Act and Regulations that we provide a summary of the terms and conditions on our marketing materials for the raffles is not keeping up with the pace of technological advancements. In today's digital age, simply providing direction to our website for the terms and conditions enables entrants to get the necessary information at the click of a button.

Unfortunately this detracts from the more important messages about the cause that this fundraising will support. See below an example.

SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2016 - THE STAR, PYRMONT


RMHC NSW BALL ART UNION RAFFLE



BMW HATCH 118I


Proudly donated by our Exclusive Major Sponsor
BMW dealership group in Sydney

PURCHASE TICKETS



Funds raised will be donated to:
Ronald McDonald House Charities® (RMHC®)

Childhood illness can have a devastating effect on families. RMHC provides help and support through a wide range of programs that stretch across the continuum of care – not only accommodation, but also in-hospital support, education programs, health initiatives and financial grants.



Proudly Sponsored by your
Local BMW Dealer.

Automatic. Valued at \$46,910. Drive Away, Excluding Comprehensive Insurance.

Art Union will be drawn during the RMHC NSW Ball at 12:05am on Sunday 4 September 2016 at The Star, 80 Pyrmont Street, Pyrmont. Winner will be notified by phone and published in the Sydney Morning Herald Public Notices on Saturday 10th September 2016.

PROMOTER:
Carolyn Meadows, President, RMHC NSW Ball, 21-29 Central Avenue, Thornleigh NSW 2120.
ART UNION PERMIT NUMBER: GOCAU/1760
Issued under the provisions of the Lotteries and Art Unions Act 1901.

Conclusion

Reform of the current regulation of raffles and lotteries in New South Wales is required to reduce the compliance burden for charities and keep pace with technology. For the reasons set out above, we strongly recommend that Liquor & Gaming NSW advise the minister to repeal the above regulations.

Thank you again for the opportunity to make these submissions.

Kind regards



Barbara Ryan
Chief Executive Officer
Ronald McDonald House Charities Australia