



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES

13 OCTOBER 2018

I'm absolutely thrilled that the NSW Liberals and Nationals Government has again recognised the importance of the club industry to the state.

This MOU – the fourth signed with the NSW Liberals and Nationals – establishes the club policy agenda of the NSW Liberals and Nationals as they prepare for the March 2019 State election and beyond. It commits the Government to key measures that will help secure the long-term viability of the industry.

Central to this is the commitment to maintain gaming machine tax rates at their existing levels for the next four years – noting that clubs are expected to pay \$3.4 billion in gaming tax over that period.

This means that should the NSW Liberals and Nationals be successful next March, clubs will have received twelve years of benefit from the tax cuts implemented in 2011, worth nearly \$1 billion. This means more money directly into the community.

The MOU will also see ClubsNSW work with the Government to modernise the club sign-in process using digital technology. Many clubs have told us that the current process – with sign-in registers and books – is a barrier to entry. We've listened. Digital technology provides a significant opportunity to modernise this process and it's something we are excited to advance. More on this in the coming months.

The ClubGRANTS Guidelines will be amended to broaden the scope of eligible causes clubs can support, particularly in times of drought and emergency. Expanding ClubGRANTS in this way ensures clubs can better support our farmers and others doing it tough.

The MOU contains several other commitments which provide regulatory stability across all aspects of our operations as well as encouraging ways that clubs and Government can work together for the benefit of the community. I encourage you to read it in more detail.

ClubsNSW has worked hard to secure this agreement for clubs, but there's still a job to do. On this page are some tips for how your club can promote the MOU. Report back to your members about the positive impact the MOU will have on your club. Co-ordinate local signing ceremonies with your Liberal or National MP or candidate and invite local media. It's vital that the benefits of the MOU are recognised and promoted by clubs to the public as a way of saying "thank you" for giving us certainty and new opportunities.

The MOU is an unequivocal statement of support for our industry from the NSW Liberals and Nationals Government. Now it's our responsibility to explain to the public why we deserve that support and thank the Government for its support.

Peter Newell OAM
ClubsNSW Chairman



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The NSW Liberals and Nationals Government is committed to strengthening the State's economy, growing jobs and building strong communities.

The Government recognises clubs are often a key point of connection in communities. Clubs provide a place to socialise as well as a refuge in times of emergency. Clubs in NSW also employ 43,000 people including about 23,000 in regional communities and provide strong levels of community support.

The NSW Liberals and Nationals are committed to policies for the clubs sector that ensure stable operating conditions, benefits for the community and employment.

1. Taxation

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will maintain the current clubs gaming tax regime and recognises the importance of operating certainty for clubs in their provision of services to the community. Clubs are expected to contribute \$3.4 billion over the next four years to state revenue.

2. ClubGRANTS

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will continue to recognise the club industry's contribution to the community through the ClubGRANTS scheme and maintain the ClubGRANTS contribution rebate, which will result in clubs putting more than \$348 million into community projects over the next four years. In addition it will seek to:

- Make it easier for community groups to apply for ClubGRANTS;
- Improve transparency, governance and reporting through mandated use of ClubGRANTS Online;
- Review ClubGRANTS guidelines with a view to reducing red tape and ensure decisions are driven by local priorities.

3. Support in Times of Drought, Disaster and Emergency

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to working with the club industry to:

- Expand Category 1 and 2 ClubGRANTS in Local Government Areas impacted by drought to include drought support measures. Funding guidelines would include but not be limited to purchase and freight of water,

counselling and mental health initiatives and specific funds and appeals nominated by the Government in consultation with ClubsNSW;

- Provide timely and effective advice and assistance in managing the threat of terrorism or other mass-casualty events in their venues.

4. Job Creation

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to working with the club industry to drive regional job creation by:

- Establishing a regional club trainee employment program with ClubsNSW, to support job creation in regional NSW.

5. Skills Delivery

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to formalising the role clubs play in providing spaces for training and education and consider how clubs can be used to improve access to training facilities and provide hands-on experience for trainees in their local communities.

This includes:

- Facilitating a partnership between clubs, TAFE and other educational/training organisations;
- Promoting the use of club facilities by TAFE or other educational/training organisations for the education of students.

6. Responsible Service of Alcohol

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government acknowledges clubs are safe, family-friendly venues. The Government will seek to streamline the principal regulatory arrangements while maintaining a strong focus on compliance obligations and responsible service of alcohol.

7. Modernising Club Membership

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to working with ClubsNSW to modernise the club sign-in and membership process using digital technology.

8. Update of Registered Clubs Act

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to modernising outdated provisions in the *Registered Clubs Act 1976* with a view to reducing red tape and bringing it into line with contemporary legislation.

9. Responsible Gambling

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to a gambling policy environment informed by research and evidence and a strong commitment to harm minimisation. It will work with clubs to:

- Introduce a new range of gambling harm minimisation measures including more effective exclusion schemes including third-party and prize and jackpot forfeitures for excluded gamblers;
- Reducing the cash input limit from \$7500 to \$5000;
- Introduce advanced staff training programs in responsible gambling;
- Continue roll-out of venue-based voluntary pre-commitment.

10. Gaming Policy

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to exploring how changing technologies can be responsibly adopted by club operators in the gaming space using evidence-based research. It will:

- Continue exploring via the technology working group how modern gaming features can be introduced in a responsible manner and how harm minimisation can be enhanced;
- Explore modern payment technologies including how it could be used by players to set pre-commitment limits, while maintaining the existing ban on credit card use;
- Work towards achieving a nationally consistent approach to gaming machine approvals in NSW based on the Gaming Machine National Standards, noting NSW has its own regulatory regime;
- Maintain the existing regulatory regime for gaming with proposed changes subject to rigorous assessment, evaluation and stakeholder consultation.

11. Working Together

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government will commit to working with the club industry to drive regional job creation and broader access for the community to government initiatives. It will:

- Work with clubs to promote, trial and deliver government priorities in all portfolios including community health and safety programs, disability inclusion, multicultural engagement, construction and maintenance of social infrastructure; the Regional Growth Fund, and Jobs for NSW;
- Consider options for Service NSW kiosks in clubs in isolated communities.

12. Supporting New Clubs

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government recognises the important role clubs play in communities particularly through the provision of jobs and local sporting and social infrastructure. The Government supports the establishment of new clubs so that new communities have access to an important social hub.

TERM OF AGREEMENT

The Agreement binds the parties until the end of the term of the NSW Government to be elected in 2019.

A NSW Liberals and Nationals Government and ClubsNSW will jointly undertake a full review of the terms of the Agreement before the end of that term of government, with a view to reaching further understanding in relation to matters concerning clubs which would cover the following term.



Gladys Berejiklian MP
Premier of NSW
Leader of the Liberal Party, NSW



John Barilaro MP
Deputy Premier of NSW
Leader of the Nationals, NSW



Paul Toole MP
Minister for Lands and Forestry,
and Minister for Racing



Peter Newell OAM
Chairman, ClubsNSW



A JOB TO DO

HOW TO PROMOTE THE MoU

THE MoU IS AN UNAMBIGUOUS STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR CLUBS BY THE NSW LIBERALS AND NATIONALS GOVERNMENT. NOW THAT IT'S BEEN SIGNED, OUR RESPONSIBILITY IS TO THANK THEM AND EXPLAIN TO THE PUBLIC WHY WE DESERVE THAT SUPPORT.

Here's what your club should do:

- Say thank you - contact your local NSW Liberal or Nationals MP or candidate to thank them for their support.
- Arrange an MoU signing ceremony at your club. Invite your local MP and other key people, including representatives of local community and sporting groups who will benefit from a stable industry and invite them along too.
- Invite local media along to the signing. Provide them with a media release in advance that includes key facts and how the MoU will benefit the local area, as well as some approved quotes from a club spokesperson. The ClubsNSW Media and Communications team are available to assist with writing and distribution.
- Arrange hi-res photography for the ceremony. Some media outlets may not be able to send a photographer, so these should be sent out afterwards.
- Send letters to the editor of local media outlets to thank the MP or Liberal or Nationals candidate for signing.
- Include the MoU signing and what it means for the local area in member and affiliate communications.
- Display a copy of the MoU prominently in the club where members and guests can see it.
- Let ClubsNSW know when stories on your club and the MoU are published so we can further promote the agreement.

Email ClubsNSW Communications Officer Gioenne Rapisarda at grapisarda@clubsnsw.com.au or tag ClubsNSW on Facebook (@yourlocalclub) or LinkedIn (@ClubsNSW).

Email Anthony Trimarchi, ClubsNSW Manager Policy and Government at atrimarchi@clubsnsw.com.au for assistance in holding a signing ceremony or a general MoU promotion.

