



19 February 2009

Gambling Inquiry Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428
Canberra City ACT 2601

Dear Commissioners

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission...

Crescent Head Country Club is a Registered Club situated on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales and was established in 1956. The Club is the focal point of the pretty seaside village which has a population of 1800. The Club's membership of 3000 is due to the many holidaymakers who enjoy the relaxed coastal qualities that the area has to offer.

Crescent Head is tucked into the lee side of Big Nobby, a volcanic remnant which slopes towards the sea in a tumble of basalt boulders. Between its summit and the sea lies a golf course with magnificent views over the town, beach, headlands and ocean. This golf course is one of the main attractions the region has on offer and it is maintained by Crescent Head Country Club.

Crescent Head is famous in surfing circles and the place evokes memories of great surfing adventures for many people. Crescent Head Malibu Club host an annual Malibu Longboard Surfing Competition in May of each year, it is the largest amateur surfing tournament in the world. This year (2009) marks the 20th Annual Malibu Longboard Tournament and Crescent Head Country Club will again be the major sponsor (as it has been for 20 years now).

Crescent Head Country Club is the only Registered Club in the area and is the heart and soul of the local community. Crescent Head would be one of the very few areas of its kind which has not become over commercialised. All businesses in the village are owned and operated by local people

Crescent Head is surrounded by National Parks, there is little or no development and many properties that do go on the market are purchased by investors (used as holiday houses/letting). This has resulted in a diminishing local population and means that it is very difficult to increase your income, although costs continue to rise. Therefore Crescent Head Country Club is reliant on all current income streams with little or no opportunity to create new ones.

Crescent Head Country Club is located on Crown Land and has restrictive use of the land. Crescent Head Country Club cannot try to diversify into new income streams because of this. The NSW Department of Lands have recently increased the rental of this land by some 180% for the bowling green and clubhouse area and by over 500% for the golf course.

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Key Facts

Crescent Head Country Club has *3000 members* and the main facilities provided for members and guests include:

- Keno;
- Bistro;
- Restaurant;
- Bowling green;
- 6 Hole Golf course;
- 2 Tennis Courts;
- Poker machines;
- TAB
- Library (the only one in Crescent Head)
- 2 x ATM's (the only one's in Crescent Head, there are no Banks)
- Functions, Meetings
- Bingo
- Movies (no local picture theatre)
- Children's Disco's
- Children's Christmas Party
- Live Entertainment
- Disabled Toilet (the only one in Crescent Head)
- Pool Tables
- Dart Boards
- Fox Sports
- Sky Channel

Economic contribution

Crescent Head Country Club's economic contribution to the local community is extensive; number of people employed by the club, number of contractors and sub-contractors enlisted, support of local businesses and the level of taxation paid.

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For example:

Crescent Head Country Club is the largest employer in Crescent Head and currently employs 27 staff (10 full time, 7 part time and 10 casuals).

This does not include the following Contractors:

- Bistro;
- Restaurant;
- Cleaners;
- Sports Shop;
- Musicians;

Poker machines and gambling services accounted for 38.94% of Crescent Head Country Club's revenue during 2008. Other forms of revenue generated from bar and restaurant services accounted for 61.06%. In our last financial year the level of taxation paid was...

GST \$114,212.00

PAYG(Paid by our employees) \$167,724.00

Poker Machine Taxation \$86,641.56

Rent for Golf Course \$1,200.95

Rates \$10,261.60

Rent for Clubhouse/Bowling Greens \$20,581.12

Social contribution

Crescent Head Country Club supports the local community through development and maintenance of sporting facilities, sporting contributions, donations and sponsorship.

For example, benefiting organisations include:

- CH Anzac Committee;
- CH Lions Club;
- CH Malibu Club;
- CH Mens Golf Club;
- CH Veterans Golf Club;
- CH Swimming Club;
- CH Tennis Club;
- CH Bluewater Fishing Club
- CH NSW Rural Bushfire Brigade
- CH Junior Soccer Club
- CH Surf Club
- CH Mens Bowling Club
- CH Womens Golf Club
- CH Primary School
- CH Womens Bowling Club
- CH Netball Club

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For over fifty years Crescent Head Country Club has played an integral role in the sponsorship of many local juniors and sporting teams. Crescent Head's entire community also benefit greatly from Crescent Head Country Club's development and maintenance of the local Golf Course, Tennis Courts and Bowling Green; without such support these vital community assets would struggle to exist.

In the last financial year, the club provided financial support to the following organisations...

Donations/Sponsorship

2007/2008 Financial Year (1/4/2007 to 31/3/2008)

Anzac Day	\$1,578.10
CDSE	\$1,200.00
Classic Surf Art Exhibition	\$ 200.00
Crescent Head Junior Soccer Club	\$1,600.00
Crescent Head Lions Club	\$2,650.00
Crescent Head Surf Club	\$1,000.00
Crescent Head Rugby Sevens	\$1,500.00
Hockey Club	\$ 500.00
Kempsey Police Social Club	\$ 200.00
Legacy	\$ 250.00
Macleay Valley Mustangs	\$ 660.00
Malibu Club	\$5,000.00
Mens Bowling Club	\$2,500.00
Mens Golf Club	\$2,500.00
NSW Rural Bushfire Brigade	\$ 200.00
PCYC	\$2,250.00
Remembrance Day	\$ 119.70
Senior Citizens	\$ 760.70
Veterans Golf Club	\$2,000.00
Vietnam Vets	\$ 424.00
TOTAL	<u>\$29,542.50</u>

Responsible Gambling commitment

Crescent Head Country Club has an ongoing commitment to providing a responsible gambling environment. Crescent Head Country Club subscribes to the Club Safe program, all employees have undergone certified training in the provision of gambling services (no matter what area they work in).

Crescent Head Country Club takes our commitment to the responsible provision of gambling services seriously. It is club policy that all staff that assisting in the delivery of gaming services complete the Responsible Conduct of Gaming Certificate and the Secretary Manager is a qualified Trainer and Assessor of RCG.

Poker machine revenue is an important revenue stream that has allowed Crescent Head Country Club to provide facilities to the local community for over 50 years.

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