



24th March 2009

Gambling Inquiry Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for your invitation to submit. I have enclosed some documents that I believe demonstrate the value of community clubs, moreover, the Redcliffe Leagues Club.

After observing these facts against the backdrop of the current problem gambling rate of 0.47% of the Queensland adult population (Source: Queensland Household Gambling Survey), a compelling case can be made that the benefits of community clubs far outweigh the negatives.

I might also add that the aforementioned survey is one of the largest of its kind in the world, and reflects a figure on the decline from 0.83% in 2001, to 0.55% in 2003/4, to its current level. This to me is indicative of our commitment as an industry to the Code of Practice and responsible serving of gaming in general.

I wish you well with your inquiry, and look forward to your findings.

Kind regards,

Tony Murphy ACCM
General Manager
Redcliffe Leagues Club



A Club Committed to its Community

Redcliffe Dolphins Make Junior Sport Affordable

The Redcliffe Leagues Club financially supports Queensland's **largest** junior rugby league club.

What does this financial support involve? The Dolphins' juniors' annual sign-on fee, which includes insurance, polo shirt and playing jersey, is currently just **\$45**, payable within 4 weeks of the initial sign-on day.

All players are then expected to pay \$10 each week, which is divided between match fees and the remainder of the annual sign-on fee. NOTE: At any time during the season, parents are given 4 weeks grace if payment has not been received before their child is officially not permitted to participate.

These generous conditions ensure the game is affordable and available to all families regardless of background or circumstance, and they are part of a much broader 'community commitment' as ratified by the Dolphins Board of Directors.

The Dolphins 'community commitment' consists of 3 main aims:

- I. To make all junior sport on the Peninsula, particularly rugby league, affordable for families.**
- II. To improve the health and well-being of our community, thereby easing the stress on our health system.**
- III. To trade responsibly and in an environmentally-friendly manner.**

Under the first aim, i.e. making junior sport affordable for families, and aside from the commitment to rugby league which is outlined in detail later in this release, the Redcliffe Leagues Club makes the following **annual donations**:

Redcliffe Leagues Hockey Club Inc	\$10,000
Redcliffe Leagues Lawnton Swimming Club	\$10,000
Redcliffe Leagues Netball Association	\$11,000
Peninsula Padres Baseball Club	\$11,000
Peninsula Power Soccer Club	\$13,750
Little Athletics Association	\$ 6,000
Redcliffe Leagues Softball Club	\$11,000
Redcliffe PCYC	\$11,000
Redcliffe Tennis Association	\$10,000
Redcliffe Touch Football Association	\$ 2,200
Redcliffe City Junior Cricket Club	\$ 2,000

Specifically in relation to rugby league...

Redcliffe Leagues Club documents in its charter the need to foster and develop the game of rugby league. For the junior program, this results in an annual grant of \$36,000 to fund the administration of the juniors, and a further \$72,000 each year for the junior development program.

Despite these grants, an annual loss of approximately \$150,000 is reflected in the Dolphins junior rugby league annual report. The 'real' costs therefore associated with running a 'user pays' system for Dolphins junior rugby league is approximately \$400 per child, and this would not be sustainable if

it wasn't for the Redcliffe Leagues Club operating surpluses and the dispersment of same back to the Redcliffe community via this must do initiative.

Recent examples over and above the outlined support from the Redcliffe Leagues Club to junior sport and development include an upgrade of the Club's canteen facility (\$80,000) and field upgrades to the value of \$100,000. It is also worth acknowledging the Dolphins maintain eight (8) football fields of a playing/training standard at considerable ongoing expense. At the very least this requires the employment of 3 full time groundskeepers.

Further to the 3 groundskeepers, the football club also employ: a general manager; football club manager; junior development officer; school liaison officer; junior coordinator; marketing and sponsorships coordinator; and junior administrator. The football club also have at their disposal the management and administration team of the Redcliffe Leagues Club, whose resources are often drawn upon.

An article appearing on page 1 of The Sunday Mail (February 1, 2009) reporting the impact the global economic crisis is having on the affordability of junior sport reflects a serious community concern. Decision makers and influencers should observe and acknowledge the positive impact licensed not-for-profit community clubs have on the affordability of junior sport in Queensland, and the significant contribution they make to their local community by way of facilities, cash and in-kind support.

The licensed not-for-profit community club industry is a united, responsible industry of like-minded organisations dedicated to their communities. The reality is junior sports in Queensland would be considerably less affordable and appealing without the facilities, mentoring, and financial support provided.

At Redcliffe Leagues Club we do make all junior sport on the Peninsula, particularly rugby league, affordable for families and we're proud of our ongoing contribution because it does make a real difference.



Part 2 of the Dolphins Community Commitment, **‘To improve the health and well-being of our community, thereby easing the stress on our health system’** has evolved from the positive impact the Club’s junior sport has on childhood obesity all the way through to engaging our seniors in preventative health programs, offering injury rehabilitation solutions and general health and well-being advice and programs.

The realisation of the \$8m Dolphins Aquatic Centre in 2008 has the Club well placed in achieving part two of its Community Commitment. The state of the art indoor heated pool can cater to a variety of user groups and works closely with the health industry in the areas of hydrotherapy and rehabilitation, particularly for the aged, injured or disabled. The centre also provides a strong water safety and survival message, with a healthy learn to swim enrolment.



Part 3 of the Community Commitment, to trade responsibly and in an environmentally friendly manner is an on-going focus of the Dolphins executive. By trading responsibly the Club secures the employment of 200 personnel from a variety of backgrounds. The vast majority of employees live locally and inject some \$5m annually into the local economy in wages alone.

The Club also has a vested interest in their career development and to this end invest \$125,000 each year on training and development. A portion of this amount is specifically dedicated to ensuring all staff are trained in the responsible service of both alcohol and our gaming products.

Whilst we acknowledge that the vast majority of our community can consume our products responsibly there is a very small percentage of people who need to be easily identified and assisted by our professional staff, and a diligent training schedule allows us to achieve this.

As the Club expands its facility by pushing into the areas of preventative health and well-being centres it remains dedicated to minimising its carbon footprint, working closely with the Environmental Protective Agency and other key stakeholders to ensure projects remain environmentally friendly.

Tony Murphy
General Manager
Redcliffe District Rugby League Football Club
Redcliffe Leagues Club

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Community Commitment Summary

for the financial year ended 30th September 2008

The Redcliffe Leagues Club is a community-minded organisation who, on the back of a loyal and supportive membership of 30,000 people, is in a position to make a significant community commitment.

Our community commitment consists of 3 main aims:

- I. We aim to make all junior sport on the Peninsula, particularly rugby league, affordable for families.
- II. We aim to improve the health and well-being of our community, thereby easing the stress on our health system.
- III. We aim to trade responsibly and in an environmentally-friendly manner.

Focus on Football

The Redcliffe Dolphins have a 60 year history of organised rugby league on the Peninsula. Dolphins' teams traditionally possess the same blue-collar qualities of the community at large, which has led to the Dolphins brand being one of Redcliffe's most recognisable.

This distinction brings enormous intangible benefits to the Redcliffe community. It is difficult to put a price on junior sport, but we know it impacts on juvenile crime, the larger crime and legal community, the health department and the education department. We know it can bind families together. We also know a coach can represent a father figure to a young boy in a broken home, which in itself provides numerous intangible benefits.

Of course managing and maintaining a football club of this size in today's environment is only possible due to the success of the Redcliffe Leagues Club. Specifically, from the proceeds of our community gaming room.



The Redcliffe Leagues Club's community commitment directly delivered **\$1,378,272.10** back to the local community in grants, sponsorships and donations during their financial year ending September 30, 2008.





Improving the Health and Wellbeing of our Community

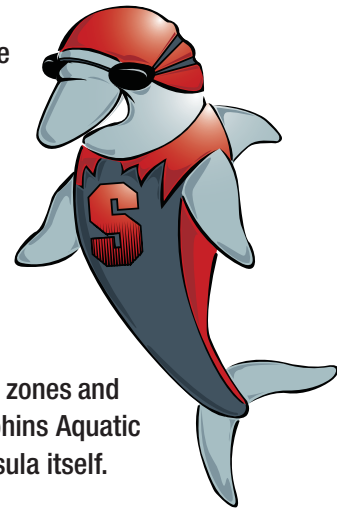
By far and away the largest project completed in 2008 by the Dolphins and partnered with the Moreton Bay Regional Council and Sport and Recreation Queensland was the state of the art Dolphins Aquatic Centre.

This \$8m project is proving itself to be a wonderful community asset, and will undoubtedly ease the stress on our health system in line with our overall community commitment strategy.



The facility has the ability to cater to a number of user groups and offer services and programs in hydrotherapy, rehabilitation, water safety, learn to swim, aqua fitness, lap walking, lap swimming, adult learn to swim and general recreation.

The unique nature of the pool, having dual temperature zones and a variety of entry and exit points, has meant the Dolphins Aquatic Centre is drawing visitors from well beyond the Peninsula itself.



Community Beneficiaries...

Anne Shearer Kindergarten & Preschool
 Australian Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndrome
 Bayview Kindergarten
 Beachmere Junior Rugby League
 Breakaway Inc
 Brighton State School
 Burpengary Junior Rugby League
 Caboolture Basketball
 Caboolture Golf Club Inc
 Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland
 Chinchilla Rugby League
 CHIP (Children of High Intellectual Potential)
 Clontarf Beach Scout Group
 Clubs Queensland
 Clubs Smile for a Child Foundation
 Community Radio 99FM
 Deception Bay Junior Rugby League
 Deception Bay Raiders Rugby League
 Dolphins Bingo Incorporated
 Dolphin Darts Association
 Dolphin Social Lawn Bowls
 Holistic Charity Workshop
 Industry Training Services
 Kallangur Men's Bowls Club

Keystar Motors
 Kidney Support Network
 Lawnton Tae Kwon Do Club
 Leukaemia Foundation
 Lions Club International Inc.
 Lions Club of Redcliffe/Kippa-Ring
 Margate Combined Bingo Association
 McDonalds Redcliffe
 Meals on Wheels Redcliffe
 Men of League
 Mereki Community Association
 Mindbenders
 Moreton Bay Road Runners
 Movember Foundation
 Mueller College
 Narangba Rangers Rugby League Football Club Inc.
 Newport Waterways Property Owners Association
 Peninsula & Districts Soccer & Sporting Club Inc.
 Peninsula Bowls Club
 Peninsula Camera Club
 Peninsula Developmental Riding Centre
 Peninsula Social Golf Club
 Pine Rivers Shire Junior Rugby League
 Police Citizens Youth Club
 Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation

Probus Association of Qld
 Qld Bookmakers Club
 Queensland Rugby Referees Association Inc.
 Redcliffe & District Wildlife Rescue
 Redcliffe AH & I Society
 Redcliffe Area Youth Service
 Redcliffe Caboolture & Stroke Support Group
 Lioness Club of Redcliffe Central
 Redcliffe City Council
 Redcliffe City Junior Cricket Club Inc.
 Redcliffe Disabled Tenpin Bowlers
 Redcliffe District Rugby League Football Club Inc.
 Redcliffe Harness & Racing Club
 Redcliffe Hospital Foundation
 Redcliffe Leagues Golf Club
 Redcliffe Leagues Hockey Club Inc.
 Redcliffe Leagues Lawnton Swimming Club Inc.
 Redcliffe Leagues Netball Association Inc.
 Peninsula Padres Baseball Club Inc.
 Redcliffe Leagues Club Softball Association Inc.
 Redcliffe Leagues Touch
 Redcliffe Little Athletics
 Redcliffe Neighborhood Centre
 Redcliffe Peninsula View Club
 Redcliffe Police

Redcliffe Primary School
 Redcliffe Seniors and Veterans Golf Club
 Redcliffe State High School
 Redcliffe Taxi Service
 Redcliffe Tennis Association
 Redcliffe Travel
 Relay for Life
 Retired Police Association
 Rotary Club of Redcliffe City
 RSPCA Qld
 Scarborough Bowls Club
 Scarborough State School
 Shave for a Cure
 Southern Cross Catholic College
 St Kieran's School Brighton
 St Michaels College
 State Emergency Service
 The Cancer Council
 The Redcliffe National Exhibition of Photography
 Tuesday Club Inc.
 Variety Club of Queensland
 Volunteer Coast Guard Association
 Way of the Sea Pty Ltd
 Zonta Club of Redcliffe





Real facts on club profits

COMMUNITY gaming has recently come under fire from two Federal Government senators who both come from the south, one a Victorian and the other a South Australian.

Both states have a hotel culture rather than that of a "community club" culture which Queensland and New South Wales currently enjoy.

Community gaming in Queensland clubs is just one part of the entertainment and hospitality offer clubs provide to millions of Queenslanders and their guests annually.

It is also a given that this group consists of responsible, level-headed people who can make a commonsense decision, by themselves, about what they enjoy and what they should and shouldn't do!

The last Queensland household survey 2003-04 was specifically commissioned by the State Government to identify gaming issues state-wide.

It surveyed over 30,000 people throughout Queensland and identified that 99.45% of the Queensland population **did not** have a problem with their gambling activities, which means that they enjoy themselves and live within their means.

The above survey further identified that only .55% (**less than 1%**) have various gambling problems.

In addition, the 2001 Queensland household survey showed problem gambling at .83%, therefore statistically this shows problem gambling is on the decline.

We at Redcliffe Leagues Club have a very thorough, professional and responsible approach to problem gambling with staff selection and education topping the list to address this issue.

Now here's the important information: **ALL** operating profits inclusive of gaming profits go back into our Redcliffe community by way of donations, sponsorship, subsidies and maintaining facilities of which our members are very proud.

Recently Redcliffe Leagues Club helped our community by purchasing two quad bikes for rescue searches for the State Emergency Service and we continue each year to be their major supporter.

This also applies to the Volunteer Coast Guard which now makes use of a vessel named the Redcliffe Leagues II after Redcliffe Leagues I was decommissioned.

Ask the people who have been rescued by the State Emergency Service or Volunteer Coast Guard if our community gaming is good for our City.

The sponsorship of the Police Citizens Youth Club at Redcliffe delivers immeasurable benefits to children who need guidance, mentoring and structure in a non-judgmental environment.

Our junior league program consisted of approximately 200 players before the introduction of community gaming.

This year we will register 750 due to the fact community gaming subsidises the family expenses of players.

The list of community contributions, as a direct result of community gaming, that makes a difference is immense and ongoing. This fact, however, is not common knowledge or broadcast to the general population via the media.

For example, say a young boy from a single-parent family chooses to play junior rugby league for the Redcliffe Dolphins because his mother found the club to be inexpensive and well-organised.

This young male then continues each season until he is 18. As part of this interaction and development he enjoys the benefits of the club culture, mate-ship, leadership, a positive male influence, a father figure in the coach



and discipline only a sport can teach.

That young man and thousands like him throughout Queensland learn the values needed to become a better person. He is not in a gang, but in a team.

His talent is not graffiti but defence. The benefits from this are immense and difficult to measure statistically, however they are real!

We are major sponsors of 16 other clubs, boys and girls, ladies and men. We are major contributors to Men of League, a charity that helps ex-players, officials and their families.

We bring joy to severely handicapped children by continued support of PENDER, an organisation that supplies gentle ponies for the children to ride.

We supply funds to the Redcliffe Disabled Tenpin Bowling Club and receive heart-warming feedback.

The elderly are supported through major sponsorship of Meals on Wheels, who now have adopted red and white dolphin logo embroidered shirts as uniforms without a request from us. The Redcliffe Hospital Foundation will receive substantial injections of funds over the next four years to fulfil its charter.

We are building, in partnership with the State Government and our local

council, a heated pool for hydrotherapy, fitness and learn to swim which will either keep people fit, safe or help in recovery from injury or illness.

Our reason for doing this is to assist with keeping people out of our health system.

The daily running and upkeep of this facility will be financed from Redcliffe Leagues Club cash flow. We supply discounted buses to service organisations that bring very elderly people in to enjoy our entertainment for the day.

Unlike some misinformed general comment that is currently being touted regarding Queensland clubs and problem gambling, at the Redcliffe Leagues Club all our community gaming staff are trained in RSG (responsible service of gaming).

As part of the club's design master planning, we intentionally placed our gaming at the rear of the club, which is contrary to impulse retail design criteria. This means as a member or guest, you need to make the choice to gamble and decide to walk an extra 50 metres through our club to reach the gaming machines.

The ATM facility is not in the gaming room but well towards the front of the club facility and no credit can be sourced from the ATM facility.

Members and guests also must pass through the coffee lounge or entertainment area which provides \$40,000 a month worth of free entertainment.

As you can see, there is plenty to tempt any guest to stop and be entertained before reaching the gaming area. You're probably thinking we're passionate and proud of what we do here at Redcliffe Leagues Club. Well, you're right!

We all have different upbringings and life stories. What may offend one person brings pleasure to another. We judge things differently.

Does the government Minister who

cuts the ribbon to the Winter Racing Carnival in Brisbane bring joy and fun to many? Yes. Does the carnival bring economical windfall to others? Yes.

The benefits are enormous and they outweigh the negatives that are thrown up by a few. Do the advertisements from Lotto with the man fishing from a helicopter after his win bring you a smile or a frown? It all comes down to how we judge other people's behaviour.

I'd suggest that those of us here in Queensland are mature and level-headed enough to make an informed decision as to what is right for us or not.

What I find offensive is two Senators from pub culture states deciding what they think is good for us Queenslanders.

I say to these Senators, please hop down from your moral high horse and open your eyes and remember the saying "the worst is done with the best of intentions".

It's apparently a fact that "good news" doesn't sell newspapers or make for good television, however "conflict and drama" does.

Redcliffe Leagues Club and the majority of Queensland's clubs are good news stories and do not get the recognition or the credit deserved.

The next time the media or an out-of-touch politician pulls out the black flag and starts waving it when community gaming in Queensland clubs is mentioned, at least you'll be able to smile because you now know a little more of some of the facts and benefits community gaming brings to your community and many others throughout Queensland.

The positives far outweigh the negatives.

Thanks for your support. Keep smiling and laugh a lot!

*Tony Murphy ACCM
General Manager*