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Our ref: AA1000444 Contact officer: Alex Reed Contact phone: 02 6243 1364

14/08/2019

Interested Party

By email

Dear Sir/Madam

# Clubs Australia - application for authorisation AA1000444 – draft determination & interim authorisation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the **ACCC**) has issued a draft determination in respect of the application for authorisation lodged by Clubs Australia on 4 June 2019.

The ACCC proposes to grant authorisation for 10 years to Clubs Australia to collectively bargain on behalf of its current and future members, being registered clubs across Australia, with various suppliers from industries including wagering services, gaming machines, food and beverage, and professional services. Negotiations would be on price and non-price terms, including data-related terms for suppliers that can access the personal or purchasing information of club patrons.

The ACCC has also decided to grant interim authorisation to enable Clubs Australia to collectively negotiate on behalf of its member clubs on the same terms and with the same suppliers as previously authorised under A91381.

A copy of the ACCC's draft determination and summary of its reasons is available on the ACCC's authorisations public register.

#### Next steps

Once the ACCC issues a draft determination, the Applicant or any interested party may make a written submission and/or request that the ACCC convene a 'pre-decision conference'.

### Making a submission

If you wish to make a submission in response to the ACCC's draft determination, please lodge your submission by **28 August 2019**. Submissions should be emailed to <a href="mailto:adjudication@accc.gov.au">adjudication@accc.gov.au</a> with the subject "AA1000444 – Clubs Australia – submission". If you prefer to make an oral submission, please contact Alex Reed via the details at the end of this letter.

The ACCC will consider any submissions it receives, including any oral submissions made should a pre-decision conference be called (see below), and will then release a final determination in relation to this application.

Submissions will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion. Please see the ACCC's publication <u>Guidelines for excluding information from the public register</u>.

## Optional pre-decision conference

In some cases the applicant or an interested party requests that the ACCC convene a predecision conference in relation to the draft determination. If a conference is called in this matter it will be open to the applicant and interested parties to attend and make oral submissions in relation to the draft determination. Conferences are conducted informally and while legal or professional advisers are able to attend they are not entitled to participate in the discussion.

If you wish the ACCC to hold a pre-decision conference in relation to the draft determination you must notify the ACCC in writing by **28 August 2019**.

#### **Timetable**

The ACCC will continue to progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An updated indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

Indicative date	Stage in assessment process
4 June 2019	Lodgement of application
12 June 2019	Public consultation process begins.
14 August 2019	Draft determination and decision regarding interim authorisation.
28 August 2019	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
September/October	Final Determination

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter please do not hesitate to contact Alex Reed on 02 6243 1364.

Yours sincerely

Susie Black Director (A/g)

Adjudication