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## About this republication

#### The republished law

This is a republication of the *Interactive Gambling Act 1998* effective from 9 June 2000 to 11 September 2001.

#### Kinds of republications

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office prepares 2 kinds of republications of ACT laws (see the ACT legislation register at www.legislation.act.gov.au):

- authorised republications to which the Legislation Act 2001 applies
- unauthorised republications.

The status of this republication appears on the bottom of each page.

#### **Editorial changes**

The Legislation (Republication) Act 1996, part 3, division 2 authorised the Parliamentary Counsel to make editorial amendments and other changes of a formal nature when preparing a law for republication. Editorial changes do not change the effect of the law, but have effect as if they had been made by an Act commencing on the republication date (see Legislation (Republication) Act 1996, s 14 and s 16). The changes are made if the Parliamentary Counsel considers they are desirable to bring the law into line, or more closely into line, with current legislative drafting practice.



# Australian Capital Territory

# **Interactive Gambling Act 1998**

#### **CONTENTS**

#### PART 1—PRELIMINARY

1	Short title
2	Commencement
3	Definitions
4	Meaning of business associate and executive associate
5	Meaning of key person and key relationship
6	Meaning of agent
	Incorporation of the Control Act
8	Extraterritorial application of Act
	PART 2—CONTROL OF INTERACTIVE GAMBLING
	Division 1—The cooperative scheme
9	Declaration of participating jurisdictions and corresponding laws
	Division 2—Authorised providers and authorised games
10	Authorised games
11	Authorisation to conduct interactive games
12	Change to conditions of authorisation
13	Revocation of authorisation
14	Conducting, or participating in, unauthorised interactive gambling
	Division 3—Registration of players
15	Only players may participate in authorised games
16	Wagers must be covered by amount in the player's account
17	Provisional registration of players
18	Registration
18A	Players' accounts

# CONTENTS—continued

18B	Lists of excluded persons and disqualified persons
18C	Players names
19	Player bound by rules of a game
	Division 4—Restriction of gambling venues
20	Use of premises for interactive gambling
	Division 5—Exemption schemes
21	Meaning of exempted provider and exemption scheme
22	Approval of exemption schemes
23	Cancellation of approval
24	Termination of approved exemption scheme
25	Gazette notice
	PART 3—INTERACTIVE GAMBLING LICENCES
	Division 1—Applications for, and issue of, interactive gambling licences
26	Application for interactive gambling licence
27	Consideration of application
28	Criteria for granting application
29	Suitability of applicant to hold interactive gambling licence
30	Suitability of business and executive associates
31	Procedure on decision
	1A Licensed provider must comply with code of practice
32	Conditions of licence
33	Changing or adding conditions
34	Return of licence for endorsement of changed conditions
35	Form of licence
	Division 2—General provisions about interactive gambling licences
36	Interactive gambling licence not to be transferable
37	Mortgage and assignment of interactive gambling licence
38	Surrender of interactive gambling licence
	Division 3—Suspension and cancellation of interactive gambling licences
39	Grounds for suspension or cancellation
40	Direction to rectify
41	Immediate suspension
42	Suspension after notice
43	Cancellation of licence
44	Appointment of administrator
45	Cancellation or reduction of period of suspension
	Division 4—Security certificates
46	Security related decisions

## ${\color{red}\textbf{CONTENTS}} \color{red} \color{red} \color{blue} \color{$

#### PART 4—KEY PERSONS

	Division 1—Requirement for key persons to be licensed
47	Obligation to hold licence
48	Requirement that unlicensed key person end role
49	Requirement to end key person's role
	Division 2—Issue of key person licences
50	Application for key person licence
51	Consideration of application
52	Decision on application
53	Form of key person licence
54	Conditions
55	Changing conditions
56	Term of key person licence
57	Lapsing of key person licence
58	Replacement of key person licence
59	Surrender of key person licence
	Division 3—Disciplinary action
60	Grounds for suspension or cancellation
61	Commission's belief as to suitability
62	Suspension of licence
63	Directions to rectify
64	Cancellation or reduction of period of suspension
65	Cancellation of key person licence
	Division 4—Notification of key person licensees
66	Notice of commencement of key person licensee
	7 Returns about licensees
	Division 5—Requirements about key relationships
68	Notice of end of key relationship
69	Requirement to end key relationship
	PART 5—AGENTS
	Division $1$ —Agency agreements
70	Conditions for entering into agency agreement
71	Notice of agency agreement
72	Amendment of agency agreement
	3 Returns about agents
	Division 2—Disciplinary action
74	Grounds for disciplinary action
75	Formation of commission's beliefs

# CONTENTS—continued

76	Commission's notice to terminate agreement
77	Suspension of agent's operations
78	Direction to rectify
79	Termination of agreement
80	Notice of termination of agreement
	PART 6—LICENCE FEES AND TAX
	Division 1—Preliminary
81	Meaning of interactive gambling tax
	Division 2—Licence fees
	2 Liability to licence fee
	Division 3—Interactive gambling tax
83	Liability to tax
84	Returns for calculation of tax
	PART 7—COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS
	Division 1—Rules and directions
85	Rules
86	Directions
87	General responsibilities of licensed provider
88	Responsibility of licensed provider to ensure compliance by agent
89	Responsibility of agent
	Division 2—Place of operation
90	Licensed provider's place of operation
91	Agent's place of operation
	Division 3—Control systems
92	Authorised games to be conducted under an approved control system
93	Control system submission
94	Changes to control systems
95	Consideration of, and decisions about, submissions
96	Direction to change approved control system
	6A Players' funds must be kept in a trust account
	Division 4—Dealings involving players' accounts
97	Funds in player's accounts to be remitted on demand
98	Licensed provider or agent not to act as credit provider
99	Licensed providers' limited recourse to players' accounts
100	Inactive players' accounts
	Division 5—Responsible gambling
101	Limitation on amount wagered
102	Prohibition of interactive gambling

# CONTENTS—continued

# Division 6—Gambling records

103	Definitions for div 6
104	Notices about keeping gambling records
105	Gambling records to be kept at certain place
	Division 7—Financial accounts, statements and reports
106	Keeping of accounts
107	Preparation of financial statements and accounts
108	Submission of reports
	Division 8—Audit
109	Audit of licensed provider's operations
110	Audit reports
111	Further information following audit
	Division 9—Ancillary and related agreements
112	Meaning of ancillary gambling agreement and related agreement
113	Ancillary gambling agreement
114	Approval of ancillary gambling agreements
115	Review of related agreements
116	Direction to terminate related agreement
	Division 10—Official supervision
117	Monitoring operations
118	Presence of authorised officers at certain operations
	Division 11—Prizes
119	Payment or collection of prizes
120	Disposal of unclaimed non-monetary prizes
121	Claim for prize
122	Entitlement to prize lapses if not claimed within 1 year
	Division 12—Aborted games
123	Aborted games
124	Power to withhold prize in certain cases
	Division 13—Approval and use of regulated interactive gambling equipment
125	Approval of regulated interactive gambling equipment
126	Use of regulated interactive gambling equipment
	Division 14—Advertising
127	Advertising interactive gambling
128	Directions about advertising
	Division 15—Complaints and improper behaviour
129	Inquiries about complaints
130	Reporting improper behaviour

## **CONTENTS**—continued

## Division 16—Gambling offences

131	Cheating
132	Impersonating certain persons
133	Participation in authorised games by employees of licensed providers
134	Participation by minors in conduct of approved games prohibited
135	Participation by minors as players prohibited
136	Offensive names prohibited
137	Interference with conduct of authorised games
138	Offences by certain persons
139	Licensed providers not to publish identity of players in certain cases
	PART 8—ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW
140	Meaning of primary decision and reviewable decision
141	Review of Minister's decisions
142	Review of commission's decisions
	PART 9—MISCELLANEOUS
143	Destruction of prints and photographs
144	Conduct of directors, servants and agents
145	Power of Minister to determine fees
146	Register of interactive gambling licences
147	Approval of forms
148	Regulation-making power
	ENDNOTES
	1 About this republication
	2 Abbreviation key

- 3 Table of legislation
- 4 Table of amendments
- 5 Table of earlier republications
- Penalties in this republication



## Australian Capital Territory

# **Interactive Gambling Act 1998**

An Act to regulate interactive gambling and for related purposes

#### **PART 1—PRELIMINARY**

#### 1 Short title

This Act may be cited as the Interactive Gambling Act 1998.

#### 2 Commencement

- (1) Section 1 and this section commence on the day on which this Act is notified in the Gazette.
- (2) The remaining provisions commence on a day, or respective days, fixed by the Minister by notice in the Gazette.
- (3) If a provision referred to in subsection (2) has not commenced before the end of the period of 6 months commencing on the day on which this Act is notified in the Gazette, that provision, by force of this subsection, commences on the first day after the end of that period.

#### 3 Definitions

In this Act:

Note A definition applies except so far as the contrary intention appears (see *Interpretation Act 1967*, s 11G)

- agency agreement means an agreement between a licensed provider and another person—
  - (a) appointing the other person as an agent of the licensed provider; and
  - (b) dealing with the agent's authority; and
  - (c) stating the conditions under which the agent acts as, and remains, an agent of the licensed provider.
- **agent**, in relation to a person, means a person who, for the purposes of this Act, is an agent for that person by virtue of section 6.
- approved control system means a control system approved by the commission under section 95, and includes an approved control system changed with the approval, or under a direction, of the commission.
- *approved form* means a form approved under section 147 for the purposes of the provision where the expression occurs.
- *authorised game* means a game that is an authorised game for the purposes of this Act under section 10.
- authorised provider means a licensed provider or an external provider.
- **business associate**, in relation to a person, means a person who is, for the purposes of this Act, a business associate of that person by virtue of section 4.
- Control Act means the Gambling and Racing Control Act 1999.
- **control system** means a system of internal controls and administrative and accounting procedures for the conduct of interactive games by a licensed provider.
- corresponding law means a law declared to be a corresponding law under paragraph 9 (1) (b).
- determined fee means a fee determined pursuant to section 145, or in accordance with a manner determined pursuant to section 145, for the purposes of the provision in which the expression occurs.

disqualified person—see section 18B.

excluded person—see section 18B.

*executive associate*, in relation to a person, means a person who is, for the purposes of this Act, an executive associate of that person by virtue of section 4.

*external provider* means a person who is licensed under a corresponding law to conduct interactive games.

#### financial institution means—

- (a) a bank; or
- (b) a building society; or
- (c) a credit union; or
- (d) a friendly society; or
- (e) another entity prescribed by the regulations.

game includes a scheme or arrangement.

### interactive gambling means gambling that is—

- (a) conducted by means of interactive games in which a person participates by means of the internet or any other telecommunication medium; and
- (b) is not regulated by another gambling law.

#### interactive game means a game in which—

- (a) a prize consisting of money or anything else of value is offered or can be won under the rules of the game; and
- (b) a person—
  - (i) enters the game or takes any step in the game by means of a telecommunication device; and
  - (ii) gives, or undertakes to give, a monetary payment or other valuable consideration to enter, in the course of, or for, the game; and
- (c) the winner of the prize is decided—
  - (i) wholly or partly by chance; or
  - (ii) by a competition or other activity in which the outcome is wholly or partly dependent on the skill of the person or another person.

*intergovernmental agreement* means an agreement referred to in subsection 9 (2).

key person licence means a licence issued under section 52.

key person licensee means a person who holds a key person licence.

*licensed provider* means a person who is licensed under this Act to conduct interactive games.

*participating jurisdiction* means a State or another Territory declared to be a participating jurisdiction under paragraph 9 (1) (a).

*participating regulator* means the Minister of State in the government of a participating jurisdiction who is responsible for the administration of a corresponding law.

*player*, for a licensed provider, means a person who is—

- (a) registered under section 18; or
- (b) provisionally registered under section 17;

with the provider.

*player's account*—see section 18A.

regulated interactive gambling equipment means gambling equipment declared by the regulations to be regulated interactive gambling equipment.

#### 4 Meaning of business associate and executive associate

- (1) A person is, for the purposes of this Act, a *business associate* of a specified person if the Minister believes on reasonable grounds that—
  - (a) the firstmentioned person is associated with the ownership or management of the specified person's operations; or
  - (b) where the specified person is not a licensed provider—the firstmentioned person will, if an interactive gambling licence is granted to the specified person, be associated with the ownership or management of the specified person's operations.
- (2) A person is, for the purposes of this Act, an *executive associate* of a specified person if—
  - (a) he or she is an executive officer of a corporation, a partner, trustee or person named in writing by the Minister; and

- (b) the Minister believes on reasonable grounds that—
  - (i) the firstmentioned person is associated with the ownership or management of the specified person's operations; or
  - (ii) where the specified person is not a licensed provider—the firstmentioned person will, if an interactive gambling licence is granted to the specified person, be associated with the ownership or management of the specified person's operations.

#### (3) In this section:

#### specified person means—

- (a) an applicant for an interactive gambling licence; or
- (b) a proposed transferee of an interactive gambling licence; or
- (c) a licensed provider; or
- (d) an agent.

## 5 Meaning of key person and key relationship

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, a *key person* is a person who—
  - (a) occupies or acts in a managerial position, or carries out managerial functions, in relation to operations carried out under an interactive gambling licence or the business of the licensed provider; or
  - (b) is in a position to control or exercise significant influence over the operations conducted under an interactive gambling licence; or
  - (c) occupies or acts in a position designated in the licensed provider's approved control system as a key position; or
  - (d) occupies a position with, or carries out functions for, a licensed provider that makes the person a key person under criteria prescribed under the regulations; or
  - (e) is a business or executive associate of a licensed provider designated by the commission, by written notice given to the licensed provider, as a key person.
- (2) Paragraphs (1) (a) and (b) apply in relation to a position only if the position is designated by the commission by written notice given to the licensed provider as a key position.
- (3) Paragraph (1) (a) applies in relation to functions only if the functions are designated by the commission by written notice given to the licensed provider as key functions.

(4) For the purposes of this Act, a *key relationship* is a relationship, other than a familial relationship, between a licensed provider and another person as a result of which the other person is a key person.

#### 6 Meaning of agent

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, a person is an *agent* for a licensed provider if he or she carries out, whether within or outside the Territory, any specified function on behalf of the licensed provider.
- (2) For the purposes of this Act, a person is an *agent* for an external provider if he or she carries out, within the Territory, any specified function on behalf of the external provider.
- (3) In this section:

#### specified function means—

- (a) registering a player; or
- (b) establishing a player's account; or
- (c) accepting a deposit for, or authorising a withdrawal from, a player's account; or
- (d) carrying out any other function that is classified as an agency function by the regulations.

#### 7 Incorporation of the Control Act

The Control Act is incorporated and shall be read as one with this Act.

#### 8 Extraterritorial application of Act

In so far as the legislative power of the Assembly permits, this Act applies according to its tenor to—

- (a) persons; and
- (b) acts done, transactions entered into, events occurring and matters arising;

within or outside the Territory.

#### PART 2—CONTROL OF INTERACTIVE GAMBLING

#### Division 1—The cooperative scheme

#### 9 Declaration of participating jurisdictions and corresponding laws

- (1) If the Minister is satisfied a law of a State or another Territory is compatible with this Act, he or she may by instrument declare that—
  - (a) that State or Territory is a participating jurisdiction; and
  - (b) the relevant law of that State or Territory (including the law as amended or substituted from time to time) is a corresponding law.
- (2) A declaration is not to be made under this section unless the Territory has entered into an agreement with the prospective participating regulator that makes, in the Minister's opinion, adequate provision for the following matters:
  - (a) the taxation of authorised games on a uniform or consistent basis;
  - (b) collaboration between the commission and gaming officers of the Territory and authorities and gaming officers of the other jurisdiction engaged in the administration of the relevant law of the other jurisdiction;
  - (c) mutual recognition of licences and administrative acts between jurisdictions;
  - (d) sharing of tax revenue derived from interactive gambling on an equitable basis.
- (3) A declaration under subsection (1) and any instrument amending or revoking such a declaration are disallowable instruments.

#### Division 2—Authorised providers and authorised games

#### 10 Authorised games

- (1) Subject to this section, an interactive game is, for the purposes of this Act, an *authorised game* if—
  - (a) a licensed provider is authorised to conduct it under this Division; or
  - (b) subject to this section, an external provider is authorised to conduct it under the corresponding law of the participating jurisdiction in which the provider is licensed.

- (2) A game that an external provider is authorised to conduct under a corresponding law (an *externally authorised game*) is not an authorised game if the external provider is prohibited from conducting the game in the Territory by a prohibition under subsection (3).
- (3) The Minister, if satisfied that the conduct of an externally authorised game in the Territory is contrary to the public interest, he or she may, by written notice given to the external provider authorised under the corresponding law to conduct the game, prohibit the conduct of the game in the Territory.
- (4) The Minister shall not give a notice under subsection (3) unless he or she has—
  - (a) given to the external provider and the relevant participating regulator written notice of the proposed prohibition and the reasons for it; and
  - (b) allowed each of them a reasonable opportunity to make representations; and
  - (c) considered any representation made.
- (5) The Minister shall give to the relevant participating regulator a copy of a notice under subsection (3).
- (6) Where a notice under subsection (3) has been given in respect of an interactive game, the game ceases to be an authorised game.

#### 11 Authorisation to conduct interactive games

- (1) The Minister may, on written application by a licensed provider, authorise the provider to conduct an interactive game on conditions stated in the instrument of approval.
- (3) If the Minister refuses an application, he or she shall cause the applicant to be given written notice of the decision and the reasons for it.

## 12 Change to conditions of authorisation

- (1) The Minister may, by written notice given to a licensed provider, change a condition on which an interactive game is authorised if the Minister is satisfied on reasonable grounds that—
  - (a) the conditions are not stringent enough to prevent a contravention of this Act; or
  - (b) compliance with the conditions cannot be effectively monitored or enforced; or
  - (c) it is in the public interest that the conditions be changed.

- (2) The Minister shall not give a notice under subsection (1) unless he or she has—
  - (a) given to the licensed provider written notice of the proposed change of condition and the reasons for it; and
  - (b) allowed the licensed provider a reasonable opportunity to make representations; and
  - (c) considered any representation made.

#### 13 Revocation of authorisation

- (1) The Minister may, by written notice given to a licensed provider, revoke the authorisation to provide a particular interactive game if the Minister is satisfied on reasonable grounds that—
  - (a) the conditions are not stringent enough to prevent a contravention of this Act; or
  - (b) compliance with the conditions cannot be effectively monitored or enforced; or
  - (c) it is in the public interest that the authorisation be revoked.
- (2) The Minister shall not give a notice under subsection (1) unless he or she has—
  - (a) given to the licensed provider written notice of the proposed revocation and the reasons for it; and
  - (b) allowed the licensed provider a reasonable opportunity to make representations; and
  - (c) considered any representation made.

#### 14 Conducting, or participating in, unauthorised interactive gambling

- (1) A person other than an authorised provider shall not—
  - (a) conduct an interactive game wholly or partly in the Territory; or
  - (b) knowingly allow another person who is in the Territory to participate in an interactive game;

unless the game is an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 months or both.

- (2) A person in the Territory shall not—
  - (a) participate in an interactive game; or
  - (b) aid or abet the participation by another person in an interactive game;

knowing that the game is not an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

(3) In this section:

*authorised game* includes a game authorised under a scheme approved under Division 5.

#### Division 3—Registration of players

## 15 Only players may participate in authorised games

(1) A licensed provider must not permit a person other than a player to participate in an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

(2) A person must not participate in an authorised game with a licensed provider unless the person is a player.

Maximum penalty: 4 penalty units.

#### Wagers must be covered by amount in the player's account

A licensed provider must not accept a wager from a player in an authorised game unless a player's account has been established in the name of the player with the provider and there are adequate funds in the account to cover the amount of the wager.

#### 17 Provisional registration of players

- (1) A person who applies to a licensed provider to be provisionally registered as a player must provide (by electronic or other means)—
  - (a) the person's name and address; and
  - (b) details of the person's account with an approved credit provider; and
  - (c) a statement that the person is at least 18 years old; and
  - (d) a statement that the law of the place where the person is does not prevent or disqualify the person from playing authorised games with the provider.

(2) A person must not provide false or misleading information in an application under this section.

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

- (3) The licensed provider must not provisionally register the person as a player if—
  - (a) the person is an excluded person or a disqualified person; or
- (b) the person is not in good standing with the approved credit provider. Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.
- (4) The licensed provider must cease to provisionally register a person—
  - (a) after 30 days; or
  - (b) if the provider registers the person under section 18; or
  - (c) if it comes to the notice of the provider that—
    - (i) the person is an excluded person; or
    - (ii) the person is not in good standing with the approved credit provider;

whichever occurs first.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

(5) In this section:

*approved credit provider* means a provider of credit approved in writing by the commission for the purposes of this section.

#### 18 Registration

- (1) A person who applies to a licensed provider to be registered as a player must do so in the approved form, providing—
  - (a) the information required by the form; and
  - (b) evidence of a kind prescribed in the regulations—
    - (i) of the person's identity; and
    - (ii) of the person's place of residence; and
    - (iii) that the person is more than 18 years old; and
  - (c) a statement that the law of the place where the person is does not prevent or disqualify the person from playing authorised games with the provider.

(2) A person must not provide false or misleading information in an application under this section.

Maximum penalty: 30 penalty units.

- (3) A licensed provider must not register the person unless—
  - (a) the person's identity has been verified in accordance with the provider's approved control system; and
  - (b) the other statements made by the applicant have been verified in a way approved by the commission; and
  - (c) the person is not a disqualified person.

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

#### 18A Players' accounts

- (1) If a licensed provider has registered or provisionally registered a player, the provider must establish an account in the name of the player (the *player's account*).
- (2) The provider has a right to debit the amount of a wager from the player's account.
- (3) The player may have direct recourse to the account only—
  - (a) in order to ascertain the balance of funds in the account or to close the account; or
  - (b) in order to obtain the whole or part of an amount paid into the account as a prize in an authorised game; or
  - (c) as authorised by the licensed provider or the commission.
- (4) The provider must not accept more than \$100 in total deposits to the player's account of a provisionally registered player.

#### 18B Lists of excluded persons and disqualified persons

- (1) A person is a *disqualified person* if he or she—
  - (a) is subject to a notice under section 102; or
  - (b) has been convicted of an offence against this Division within the previous 5 years.
- (2) A person is an *excluded person* if he or she—
  - (a) has been provisionally registered as a player with a licensed provider within the previous 12 months; and

- (b) has not been registered as a player with that or another licensed provider within the previous 12 months.
- (3) The commission must maintain current lists of disqualified and excluded persons and must provide the lists from time to time to each licensed provider.

  Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.
- (4) A person must not disclose information on a list under this section except as required for the operation of this Act or as otherwise required by law.

  Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units, imprisonment for 6 months or both.

## 18C Players names

For the purposes of playing an authorised game, a licensed provider may allow a registered or provisionally registered person to be identified by a nickname approved by the provider.

## 19 Player bound by rules of a game

A player who participates in an authorised game must comply with rules of the game as notified to the player under the conditions on which the game is authorised.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

### Division 4—Restriction of gambling venues

#### 20 Use of premises for interactive gambling

A person shall not—

- (a) advertise that premises are available for playing interactive games; or
- (b) knowingly seek to obtain a commercial advantage from the use of premises for playing interactive games.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

#### Division 5—Exemption schemes

#### 21 Meaning of exempted provider and exemption scheme

In this Division:

exempted provider means a licensed provider in relation to whom an exemption scheme has been approved.

exemption scheme means a scheme that, if approved by the Minister, will exempt a licensed provider authorised to conduct games under the scheme from the application of provisions of this Act specified in the scheme to the extent specified in the scheme.

#### 22 Approval of exemption schemes

- (1) The Minister may, in writing, approve an exemption scheme if the Minister is satisfied, on the written application by a licensed provider or an applicant for an interactive gambling licence, that—
  - (a) the exemption scheme complies with the criteria for approval of exemption schemes; and
  - (b) the approval of the exemption scheme is warranted in the circumstances of the case.
- (2) An exemption scheme complies with the criteria for approval of exemption schemes if, and only if, the Minister is satisfied that—
  - (a) the standards of probity required under this Act for providers of interactive games and those involved in the conduct of interactive games will not be compromised by the approval of the scheme; and
  - (b) adequate and appropriate safeguards will exist to ensure the fairness of the interactive games to be conducted under the scheme and to protect the interests of players; and
  - (c) adequate and appropriate safeguards will exist to prevent participation in the interactive games to be conducted under the scheme by persons under the age of 18; and
  - (d) the scheme provides for other adequate and appropriate safeguards to ensure that the public interest is not affected in an adverse and material way by the conduct of interactive games under the scheme.

#### 23 Cancellation of approval

- (1) The Minister may, by written notice to an exempted provider, cancel the approval of an exemption scheme if the Minister is of the opinion that the scheme no longer complies with the criteria for approval of exemption schemes.
- (2) The Minister shall not cancel the approval of an approved exemption scheme unless he or she has—
  - (a) given to the exempted provider written notice of the proposed cancellation and the reasons for it; and

- (b) allowed the exempted provider a reasonable opportunity to make representations; and
- (c) considered any representation made.

## 24 Termination of approved exemption scheme

An approved exemption scheme terminates—

- (a) when the Minister cancels the approval under this Division; or
- (b) where the approval was given for a specified period and has not been cancelled before the expiry of that period—on the expiry of that period.

#### 25 Gazette notice

- (1) The Minister shall cause to be published in the Gazette notice of—
  - (a) the approval of an exemption scheme; and
  - (b) the cancellation of the approval of an exemption scheme.
- (2) A notice under paragraph (1) (a) shall state an address at which the public may inspect, or obtain a copy of, the exemption scheme.

#### PART 3—INTERACTIVE GAMBLING LICENCES

#### Division 1—Applications for, and issue of, interactive gambling licences

#### **26** Application for interactive gambling licence

- (1) A person may apply for an interactive gambling licence.
- (2) An application shall be in an approved form and accompanied by the determined fee and, in the case of an application by a natural person, shall also be accompanied by—
  - (a) a written police report about the applicant's character and criminal history; and
  - (b) the imprints of the fingers and palms of both hands of the applicant; and
  - (c) a recent photograph of the face of the applicant.

#### 27 Consideration of application

- (1) Subject to this section, the Minister shall consider an application that complies with section 26 and either grant or refuse it.
- (2) The Minister may, by notice in writing given to the applicant, require the applicant to supply to the Minister such further information or documentation as the Minister may reasonably require in order to give proper consideration to the application.
- (3) Where a notice under subsection (2) has been given, the Minister is not required to determine the application until the notice has been complied with.
- (4) The Minister is not required to consider an application for an interactive gambling licence by a natural person until the applicant satisfies the requirements of the regulations relating to satisfactory evidence of his or her identity.

## 28 Criteria for granting application

- (1) The Minister shall not grant an application for an interactive gambling licence unless satisfied—
  - (a) the applicant is a suitable person to hold an interactive gambling licence; and
  - (b) each business or executive associate of the applicant is a suitable person to be associated with a licensed provider's operations.
- (2) The Minister may refuse to grant an application even if satisfied of the matters mentioned in subsection (1).

## 29 Suitability of applicant to hold interactive gambling licence

- (1) For the purpose of deciding whether an applicant is a suitable person to hold an interactive gambling licence, the Minister shall have regard to the following matters:
  - (a) the applicant's character and business reputation;
  - (b) the applicant's current financial position and financial background;
  - (c) if the applicant is not an individual—whether the applicant has, or has arranged, a satisfactory ownership, trust or corporate structure;
  - (d) whether the applicant has, or is able to obtain, appropriate resources and appropriate services;
  - (e) whether the applicant has the appropriate business ability to conduct interactive games successfully under an interactive gambling licence;
  - (f) if the applicant has a business association with another entity—
    - (i) the entity's character or business reputation; and
    - (ii) the entity's current financial position and financial background;
  - (g) any other prescribed matter.

#### (2) In this section:

#### appropriate resources means financial resources that—

- (a) are adequate, in the Minister's opinion, to ensure the financial viability of operations conducted under an interactive gambling licence; and
- (b) are available from a source that is not, in the Minister's opinion, tainted with illegality.

*appropriate services* means the services of persons who have appropriate experience to ensure the proper and successful conduct of interactive games.

entity includes a person.

#### 30 Suitability of business and executive associates

- (1) In deciding whether a business or executive associate of an applicant for an interactive gambling licence is a suitable person to be associated with a licensed provider's operations, the Minister shall have regard to the following matters:
  - (a) the person's character and business reputation;
  - (b) the person's current financial position and financial background;

- (c) if the person has a business association with another entity—
  - (i) the entity's character or business reputation; and
  - (ii) the entity's current financial position and financial background;
- (d) any other prescribed matter.
- (2) In this section:

entity includes a person.

#### 31 Procedure on decision

- (1) If the Minister grants an application for an interactive gambling licence, he or she shall promptly issue an interactive gambling licence to the applicant.
- (2) If the Minister refuses to grant an application for an interactive gambling licence, the Minister shall, subject to section 141, give the applicant written notice of the decision and of the reasons for the refusal.

#### 31A Licensed provider must comply with code of practice

A licensed provider must comply with the relevant code of practice (if any) prescribed under the Control Act.

#### 32 Conditions of licence

An interactive gambling licence may be issued subject to such conditions as the Minister considers necessary or desirable—

- (a) for the proper conduct of interactive games; or
- (b) in the public interest.

## 33 Changing or adding conditions

- (1) Where the Minister considers it necessary or desirable to do so—
  - (a) for the proper conduct of interactive games; or
  - (b) in the public interest;

he or she may, subject to subsection (2), by notice in writing to the licensed provider, change or delete a condition to which an interactive gambling licence is subject, or add a condition.

(2) If a condition of an interactive gambling licence is designated in the licence as a condition that may be changed only by agreement between the Minister and the licensed provider, the condition may be changed or deleted only by agreement between those persons.

- (3) A change of conditions takes effect on a day agreed between the Minister and the licensed provider or, in the absence of an agreement, the later of the following:
  - (a) the day the notice under subsection (1) is given to the licensed provider;
  - (b) if a later day is stated in the notice—the later day.

## 34 Return of licence for endorsement of changed conditions

(1) A licensed provider shall not fail, without reasonable excuse, to return the licence to the Minister within 7 days of receiving a notice under subsection 33 (1).

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

- (2) On receiving a licence under subsection (1), the Minister shall—
  - (a) amend the licence appropriately and return it to the licensed provider; or
  - (b) if the Minister does not consider it is practicable to amend the licence—issue a replacement licence, incorporating the changes to the conditions, to the licensed provider.
- (3) A change of conditions does not depend on the interactive gambling licence being amended to record the change or a replacement licence being issued.

#### 35 Form of licence

- (1) An interactive gambling licence shall be in the approved form.
- (2) A form shall not be approved for the purposes of subsection (1) unless it provides for the inclusion of the following particulars:
  - (a) the licensed provider's name;
  - (b) the date of issue of the licence;
  - (c) the term for which the licence is, subject to this Act, to remain in force;
  - (d) the conditions that the licence is subject to;
  - (e) any other prescribed particulars.

## Division 2—General provisions about interactive gambling licences

#### **36** Interactive gambling licence not to be transferable

Subject to section 37, an interactive gambling licence may not be transferred.

#### 37 Mortgage and assignment of interactive gambling licence

- (1) The Minister may, in writing, approve a mortgage, charge or other encumbrance over an interactive gambling licence.
- (2) A right to sell or transfer an interactive gambling licence that arises from a mortgage, charge or encumbrance approved under subsection (1) may only be exercised in favour of a person approved in writing by the Minister.
- (3) The Minister shall not approve a person under subsection (2) unless satisfied that—
  - (a) the proposed transferee is a suitable person to hold an interactive gambling licence; and
  - (b) each business or executive associate of the proposed transferee is a suitable person to be associated with a licensed provider's operations.
- (4) For the purpose of making a decision under subsection (3), the Minister may require the proposed transferee of an interactive gambling licence to submit an application for the licence and may deal with the application, and investigate the suitability of the proposed transferee and the proposed transferee's business and executive associates, in the same way as if the application were an application for a new interactive gambling licence.
- (5) If a person has, under or because of, a mortgage, charge or encumbrance, a power to appoint a receiver or manager of the business conducted under an interactive gambling licence, the power may not be exercised unless the Minister has approved the proposed receiver or manager in writing.

#### 38 Surrender of interactive gambling licence

- (1) A licensed provider may surrender the licence by written notice given to the Minister.
- (2) The surrender takes effect—
  - (a) if paragraph (b) does not apply—
    - (i) 3 months after the notice is given; or
    - (ii) if a later day of effect is stated in the notice—on the later day; or
  - (b) if the Minister, by written notice, approves a day of effect that is earlier than 3 months after the notice is given—on the day of effect approved by the Minister.

(3) A person who has surrendered a licence under this section shall not fail, without reasonable excuse, to return the licence to the Minister within 7 days after the day on which the surrender takes effect.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

#### Division 3—Suspension and cancellation of interactive gambling licences

## 39 Grounds for suspension or cancellation

- (1) For the purposes of this Division, a ground for suspending or cancelling an interactive gambling licence exists if—
  - (a) the licensed provider is not, or is no longer, a suitable person to hold an interactive gambling licence; or
  - (b) a business or executive associate of the licensed provider is not, or is no longer, a suitable person to be associated with the licensed provider's operations; or
  - (c) the licensed provider has been convicted of an offence against this Act, a tax law or a corresponding law; or
  - (d) the licensed provider has been convicted, in Australia or elsewhere, of an offence that is punishable on conviction by imprisonment for not less than 12 months; or
  - (e) the licensed provider has contravened a condition of the licence; or
  - (f) the licensed provider has contravened a provision of this Act or a corresponding law, being a provision the contravention of which does not constitute an offence; or
  - (g) the licensed provider has failed to discharge a financial commitment for the licensed provider's operations; or
  - (h) the licensed provider is bankrupt, has compounded with creditors or otherwise taken, or applied to take, advantage of any law relating to bankruptcy; or
  - (i) the licensed provider is affected by control action under the Corporations Law; or
  - (j) the interactive gambling licence was obtained by a materially false or misleading representation or in some other improper way.
- (2) When considering whether the ground referred to in paragraph (1) (a) exists, the Minister may have regard to the matters to which the Minister may have regard in deciding whether an applicant is a suitable person to hold an interactive gambling licence.

- (3) When considering whether the ground referred to in paragraph (1) (b) exists, the Minister may have regard to the matters to which the Minister may have regard in deciding whether a business or executive associate of an applicant is a suitable person to be associated with a licensed provider's operations.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph (1) (i), a licensed provider is affected by control action under the Corporations Law if the licensed provider—
  - (a) has executed a deed of company arrangement under the Law; or
  - (b) is the subject of a winding-up, whether voluntary or under a court order, under the Law; or
  - (c) is the subject of an appointment of an administrator, liquidator, receiver or receiver and manager under the Law.

#### 40 Direction to rectify

- (1) This section applies where—
  - (a) the Minister is satisfied on reasonable grounds that—
    - (i) a ground referred to in subsection 39 (1) exists; and
    - (ii) it is appropriate to give to the licensed provider an opportunity to rectify the matter or matters that give rise to the Minister's belief; and
  - (b) the licensed provider has been given—
    - (i) written notice that the Minister proposes to give a direction under this section; and
    - (ii) a reasonable opportunity to make representations about the proposed direction under subsection (2).
- (2) The Minister may, by written notice given to the licensed provider, direct the licensed provider to rectify the matter or matters specified in the notice in a manner specified in the notice within the period of time specified in the notice, being a period of time that is reasonable having regard to the nature of the matter or matters to be rectified.
- (3) A notice under this section shall state the reasons for the decision to give the direction.
- (4) A licensed provider shall comply with a direction under this section. Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

## 41 Immediate suspension

- (1) The Minister may suspend an interactive gambling licence under this section if the Minister is satisfied on reasonable grounds that—
  - (a) a ground referred to in subsection 39 (1) exists; and
  - (b) the urgency of the matter does not permit the taking of action under section 40; and
  - (c) the circumstances require that the licence be suspended to ensure that—
    - (i) the public interest is not affected in an adverse and material way; or
    - (ii) the integrity of the conduct of interactive games by the licensed provider is not jeopardised in any way.
- (2) A suspension under this section—
  - (a) shall be effected by written notice given to the licensed provider; and
  - (b) takes effect when the notice is given; and
  - (c) is for such period of time as is specified in the notice.

#### 42 Suspension after notice

- (1) The Minister may suspend an interactive gambling licence under this section if a direction under section 40 has not been complied with.
- (2) A suspension under this section—
  - (a) shall be effected by written notice given to the licensed provider; and
  - (b) takes effect when the notice is given; and
  - (c) is for such period of time as is specified in the notice.

#### 43 Cancellation of licence

- (1) Subject to this section, the Minister may, by notice in writing to the holder of an interactive gambling licence, cancel the licence if—
  - (a) the Minister is satisfied on reasonable grounds that—
    - (i) a ground referred to in subsection 39 (1) exists; and
    - (ii) the circumstances on which the ground is based are of a serious and fundamental nature; or
  - (b) a direction under section 40 has not been complied with, being a direction given on grounds based on circumstances of a serious and fundamental nature.

- (2) The Minister shall not cancel a licence under paragraph (1) (a) unless he or she is satisfied that, unless the licence is cancelled—
  - (a) the integrity of the conduct of interactive games by the licensed provider may be jeopardised in a material way; or
  - (b) the public interest may be affected in an adverse or material way.
- (3) Cancellation of a licence takes effect when the notice is given or, if the notice specifies a later day, on the later day.
- (4) A person whose licence has been cancelled shall not fail, without reasonable excuse, to return the licence to the commission within 7 days after the day on which the surrender takes effect.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

#### 44 Appointment of administrator

- (1) Where the Minister is satisfied on reasonable grounds that—
  - (a) a ground referred to in subsection 39 (1) exists; and
  - (b) it is appropriate in the public interest to appoint an administrator to conduct operations under an interactive gambling licence;

he or she may, by notice given to the licensed provider, appoint an administrator.

- (2) An appointment under subsection (1) takes effect when the notice is given to the licensed provider or, if a later date is specified in the notice, on the later date.
- (3) An administrator—
  - (a) has full control of, and responsibility for, the operations of the licensed provider conducted under the interactive gambling licence, including authorised games that had been commenced, but not completed, at the time of the administrator's appointment; and
  - (b) subject to any directions by the Minister, shall conduct the operations as required by this Act as if the administrator were the licensed provider.

#### 45 Cancellation or reduction of period of suspension

The Minister may, by written notice to a licensed provider whose license is, or is to be, under suspension—

(a) cancel the suspension; or

(b) reduce the remaining period of the suspension by a period of time specified in the notice.

## Division 4—Security certificates

## 46 Security related decisions

Where—

- (a) the Minister makes a decision under this Part; and
- (b) that decision is based wholly or in part on a matter relating to the security of interactive gambling operations or of an authorised game;

the Minister shall sign a certificate to that effect.

#### PART 4—KEY PERSONS

#### Division 1—Requirement for key persons to be licensed

## 47 Obligation to hold licence

- (1) A person shall not, without reasonable excuse—
  - (a) accept employment as a key person; or
  - (b) agree to carry out as an employee the duties of a key person;

unless the person is a key person licensee.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

(2) A licensed provider shall not employ a person to carry out the functions of a key person, unless the person is a key person licensee.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

#### 48 Requirement that unlicensed key person end role

- (1) This section applies where—
  - (a) a person has applied for a key person licence; and
  - (b) the application has been refused.
- (2) Where this section applies, the commission may, by written notice given to the person referred to in subsection (1), require him or her to terminate the relevant key relationship within the time stated in the notice.
- (3) A person shall not, without reasonable excuse, fail to comply with a requirement under subsection (2) within the time stated in the notice.

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units, imprisonment for 1 year or both.

(4) A person does not incur any liability as a result of action taken to comply with a notice under this section.

#### 49 Requirement to end key person's role

- (1) This section applies where a requirement is made of a person under section 48 and—
  - (a) the person fails to comply with the requirement; or
  - (b) the commission refuses to approve an application for a key person licence made by the person.

- (2) Where this section applies, the commission may, by written notice given to the licensed provider with whom the key relationship is believed to exist, require the licensed provider to take any necessary action to terminate the key relationship within the time stated in the notice.
- (3) The licensed provider shall comply with a requirement under subsection (2).
- (4) A licensed provider does not incur any liability because of action taken to comply with a requirement under this section.
- (5) This section applies in relation to a licensed provider despite any other Act or law.

## Division 2—Issue of key person licences

### 50 Application for key person licence

- (1) An application for a key person licence may be made to the commission in the approved form.
- (2) An application shall be accompanied by—
  - (a) a written police report about the applicant's character and criminal history; and
  - (b) the imprints of the fingers and palms of both hands of the applicant; and
  - (c) a recent photograph of the face of the applicant; and
  - (d) any other document that is prescribed; and
  - (e) the determined fee.

#### 51 Consideration of application

- (1) On receipt of an application for a key person licence the commission shall, subject to this section—
  - (a) grant the application; or
  - (b) refuse to grant it.
- (2) The commission may grant an application only if—
  - (a) where the application discloses that a key relationship exists or is proposed to exist with a licensed provider—the commission is satisfied of the existence or the proposed existence of the relationship; and
  - (b) the commission is satisfied that the applicant is a suitable person to hold a key person licence.

- (3) In deciding whether an applicant is a suitable person to hold a key person licence, the commission may require the applicant to supply a written police report about his or her criminal history and may have regard to—
  - (a) the application and the documents submitted with it; and
  - (b) the applicant's character; and
  - (c) the applicant's current financial position and financial background; and
  - (d) the applicant's general suitability to carry out functions for a licensed provider as a key person.
- (4) The commission is not required to consider an application for a key person licence until the applicant satisfies the requirements of the regulations relating to satisfactory evidence of his or her identity.

#### 52 Decision on application

- (1) If the commission decides to grant an application for a key person licence, the commission shall, as soon as practicable—
  - (a) issue a key person licence to the applicant; and
  - (b) give written notice of the issue of the licence to any relevant licensed provider.
- (2) If the commission decides to refuse to grant an application for a key person licence, the commission shall, as soon as practicable—
  - (a) notify the applicant in writing of the decision and the reasons for the decision; and
  - (b) if the commission believes that a key relationship is in existence between the applicant and a licensed provider—give a copy of the notice to the licensed provider.

## 53 Form of key person licence

- (1) A key person licence shall be in the approved form.
- (2) The approved form shall provide for the inclusion of the following particulars:
  - (a) the key person licensee's name;
  - (b) a recent photograph of the licensee;
  - (c) the date of issue of the licence;
  - (d) any conditions that the licence is subject to;
  - (e) any other prescribed particulars.

#### 54 Conditions

- (1) A key person licence may be issued subject to such conditions as the commission considers necessary or desirable—
  - (a) for the proper conduct of interactive games; or
  - (b) in the public interest.
- (2) Where a licence has been issued subject to a condition, the commission shall, as soon as practicable, notify in writing any relevant licensed provider of the condition.

# 55 Changing conditions

- (1) Where the commission considers it necessary or desirable—
  - (a) for the proper conduct of interactive games; or
  - (b) in the public interest;

the commission may, by notice in writing to the key person licensee—

- (c) alter a condition of the licence; or
- (d) omit a condition; or
- (e) add a condition to the licence.
- (2) Where—
  - (a) a notice under subsection (1) has been given; and
  - (b) the commission believes that there is in existence a key relationship between the licensee and a licensed provider;

the commission shall give a copy of the notice to the licensed provider.

(3) A key person licensee who has received a notice under subsection (1) is guilty of an offence if the commission fails, without reasonable excuse, to return the licence to the commission within 7 days of receiving the notice.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

- (4) On receiving a licence under subsection (3), the commission shall—
  - (a) amend the licence in an appropriate way and return the amended licence to the key person licensee; or
  - (b) if the commission does not consider it practicable to amend the licence—issue another key person licence, incorporating the changes to the conditions, to the key person licensee to replace the licence returned to the commission;

as soon as practicable.

- (5) An alteration, omission or addition of a condition takes effect—
  - (a) subject to paragraph (b)—on the day the notice under subsection (1) is given to the key person licensee; or
  - (b) if a later day of effect is stated in the notice—on the later day.

### 56 Term of key person licence

A key person licence remains in force until it lapses or is cancelled or surrendered or a replacement licence is issued in its lieu.

# 57 Lapsing of key person licence

A key person licence lapses if there has been no key relationship between the key person licensee and a licensed provider for a continuous period of 1 year.

# 58 Replacement of key person licence

- (1) Where—
  - (a) written application is made to the commission for the replacement of a key person licence; and
  - (b) the determined fee has been paid; and
  - (c) the commission is satisfied that the licence has been lost, stolen, destroyed or damaged in such way as to warrant replacement;

the commission may issue a replacement licence to the key person licensee.

- (2) A replacement licence shall be on the same terms, and be subject to the same conditions, as the licence it replaces.
- (3) Where—
  - (a) the commission has refused an application for the replacement of a key person licence; and
  - (b) the commission believes that a key relationship exists between the key person licensee and a licensed provider;

the commission shall, as soon as practicable, give a copy of the notice whereby the decision has been notified to the applicant to the licensed provider.

# 59 Surrender of key person licence

(1) A key person licensee may surrender the licence by written notice given to the commission.

- (2) The surrender takes effect on—
  - (a) the day the notice is given to the commission; or
  - (b) if a later day of effect is stated in the notice—the later day.
- (3) If the commission believes that a key relationship existed between the key person licensee and a licensed provider at the time of the surrender, the commission shall promptly give notice of the surrender to the licensed provider.
- (4) A person who has surrendered a licence under this section shall not fail, without reasonable excuse, to return the licence to the commission within 7 days after the day on which the surrender takes effect.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

# Division 3—Disciplinary action

# 60 Grounds for suspension or cancellation

Each of the following is a ground for suspending or cancelling a key person licence:

- (a) that the licensee is not, or is no longer, a suitable person to hold a key person licence;
- (b) the licensee has been convicted of an offence against this Act, a tax law or a corresponding law;
- (c) the licensee has been convicted of an indictable offence;
- (d) the licensee has contravened a condition of the licence;
- (e) the licensee has contravened a provision of this Act or a corresponding law, being a provision a contravention of which does not constitute an offence;
- (f) the licence was obtained by a materially false or misleading representation or declaration or in any other improper way.

## 61 Commission's belief as to suitability

For the purpose of forming a belief that the ground referred to in paragraph 60(1) (a) exists, the commission may have regard to the same matters as those to which the commission may have regard to when deciding whether an applicant for a key person licence is a suitable person to hold a key person licence.

# **Suspension of licence**

- (1) The commission may, by notice in writing to the holder of a key person licence, suspend the licence if satisfied on reasonable grounds that—
  - (a) a ground referred to in section 60 exists; and
  - (b) it is necessary to suspend the licence in the public interest or in order to ensure that the integrity of the conduct of interactive games is not jeopardised.
- (2) A notice under subsection (1) shall state the date until which the licence is suspended.
- (3) The suspension takes effect when the notice under this section is given.
- (4) If the commission believes that a key relationship exists between the key person licensee and a licensed provider at the time of the giving of a notice under this section, the commission shall promptly give notice of the suspension to the licensed provider.

#### 63 Directions to rectify

- (1) This section applies where the commission believes on reasonable grounds that—
  - (a) a ground referred to in section 60 exists; and
  - (b) it is appropriate to give to the key person licensee an opportunity to rectify a matter on which the ground is based.
- (2) Where this section applies, the commission may, by notice to the key person licensee in accordance with this section, direct the licensee to take such action as is specified in the notice in order to rectify the matter.
- (3) A notice under subsection (2) shall—
  - (a) be in writing; and
  - (b) state the basis for the formation of the commission's belief; and
  - (c) specify a period of time that is reasonable in the circumstances within which the licensee must comply with the notice.

- (4) The commission shall not give a notice under subsection (2) unless, before doing so, the commission has—
  - (a) notified the key person licensee in writing of the grounds which may cause the commission to issue a direction to rectify a specified matter and that the key person licensee may show cause, within a specified period after the date of the notice, (being a period that is reasonable in the circumstances) why the direction should not be issued; and
  - (b) considered any representation made within that period.
- (5) If the commission believes that a key relationship exists between the key person licensee and a licensed provider at the time of the giving of a notice under subsection (2), the commission shall promptly give a copy of the notice to the licensed provider.
- (6) A key person licensee shall comply with a direction under this section. Maximum penalty (subsection (6)): 20 penalty units.

# 64 Cancellation or reduction of period of suspension

- (1) The commission may at any time, by notice in writing to a key person licensee whose licence is under suspension—
  - (a) cancel the remaining period of the suspension; or
  - (b) reduce the remaining period of suspension by a period specified in the notice.
- (2) The commission shall give a copy of a notice under subsection (1) to any licensed provider to whom a notice under subsection 62 (4) was given when the relevant licence was suspended.

#### 65 Cancellation of key person licence

- (1) The commission may, by notice in writing to the holder of a key person licence, cancel the licence if—
  - (a) the commission is satisfied on reasonable grounds that—
    - (i) a ground referred to in section 60 exists; and
    - (ii) it is necessary to cancel the licence in the public interest or in order to ensure that the conduct of interactive games is not jeopardised; or
  - (b) a direction under section 63 has not been complied with.
- (2) A cancellation under this section takes effect on the day when the notice is given or, if the notice specifies a later day, on the later day.

- (3) If the commission believes that a key relationship exists between the key person licensee and a licensed provider at the time of the giving of a notice under subsection (1), the commission shall promptly give a copy of the notice to the licensed provider.
- (4) A person whose licence has been cancelled under this section shall not fail, without reasonable excuse, to return the licence to the commission within 7 days after the day on which the surrender takes effect.

Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

# Division 4—Notification of key person licensees

# Notice of commencement of key person licensee

Within 7 days after a key person licensee commences to perform functions for a licensed provider, the licensed provider shall notify the commission of the commencement by notice in the approved form.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

#### 67 Returns about licensees

(1) A licensed provider must, within 14 days after each return day, give a return to the commission in the approved form that describes the functions being performed on the return day by each key person licensee.

Maximum penalty: 10 penalty units.

- (2) In this section, each of the following is a *return day* for a licensed provider:
  - (a) the day 6 months after the day of issue of the licence;
  - (b) a day that is a multiple of 6 months after the day mentioned in paragraph (a);
  - (c) a day specified in a written notice given by the commission to the provider.

### Division 5—Requirements about key relationships

### Notice of end of key relationship

Within 7 days after a key relationship between a licensed provider and another person terminates, the licensed provider shall notify the commission of the end of the relationship by notice in the approved form.

# 69 Requirement to end key relationship

- (1) This section applies where—
  - (a) a key relationship exists between a licensed provider and a key person licensee; and
  - (b) the key person licence is suspended or the key person licensee ceases to hold a key person licence because of cancellation or for any other reason.
- (2) Where this section applies, the commission may, by written notice given to the licensed provider, require the licensed provider to terminate the key relationship within the time stated in the notice.
- (3) A licensed provider shall comply with a requirement under subsection (2).
- (4) This section has effect despite another Act or law or any industrial award or agreement.
- (5) A licensed provider does not incur any liability under another Act or law or any industrial award or agreement by complying with a requirement of the commission under this section.

#### PART 5—AGENTS

# Division 1—Agency agreements

# 70 Conditions for entering into agency agreement

- (1) A licensed provider shall not appoint a person as his or her agent unless—
  - (a) the person is—
    - (i) in the case of a natural person—at least 18 years of age; and
    - (ii) eligible to be an agent under criteria prescribed by the regulations; and
  - (b) the appointment is made under an agency agreement that—
    - (i) is in a form approved by the commission; and
    - (ii) includes any provision required by the commission; and
  - (c) the provider—
    - (i) has made enquiries about the person and each associated person; and
    - (ii) is satisfied on reasonable grounds—
      - (A) that the person is of good business reputation; and
      - (B) that each associated person is of good character and is in a sound financial position; and
      - (C) as to any other prescribed matters.
- (2) The commission shall not require the inclusion of a provision in an agency agreement unless the commission believes on reasonable grounds that the inclusion of the provision is reasonably necessary to ensure—
  - (a) that the integrity of the conduct of interactive games is not jeopardised in a material way; or
  - (b) that the public interest is not affected in an adverse and material way.
- (3) A licensed provider shall not—
  - (a) appoint; or
  - (b) purport to appoint;

a person as an agent otherwise than in accordance with this section.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

(4) In this section:

associated person, in relation to a proposed agent, means—

(a) if the proposed agent is an individual—the person; and

- (b) if the proposed agent is a body corporate—each director; and
- (c) each business associate of the proposed agent.

# 71 Notice of agency agreement

Within 7 days after entering into an agency agreement, a licensed provider shall give to the commission a copy of the agreement.

# 72 Amendment of agency agreement

- (1) An agency agreement may only be amended if the commission has given written approval to the amendment.
- (2) The commission may withhold approval of a proposed amendment only if it is necessary to do so in the public interest or to protect proper standards of integrity in the conduct of interactive games.

# 73 Returns about agents

- (1) A licensed provider must, within 14 days after each return day, give a return to the commission that lists the provider's agents on the return day.

  Maximum penalty: 10 penalty units.
- (2) In this section, each of the following is a *return day* of a licensee:
  - (a) the day 6 months after the commencement of this section;
  - (b) a day that is a multiple of 6 months after the day mentioned in paragraph (a).

### Division 2—Disciplinary action

### 74 Grounds for disciplinary action

Each of the following is a ground for disciplinary action in relation to an agent for the purposes of this Division:

- (a) that the agent is not, or is no longer, eligible to be an agent for a licensed provider;
- (b) that the agent is not, or is no longer, a suitable person to be an agent;
- (c) that a business or executive associate of the agent is not, or is no longer, a suitable person to be associated with an agent's operations;
- (d) that the agent has been convicted of an offence against this Act, a tax law or a corresponding law;

- (e) that the agent has been convicted, in Australia or elsewhere, of any other offence punishable on conviction by imprisonment for not less than 12 months;
- (f) that the agent has contravened a provision of this Act or a corresponding law, being a provision a contravention of which does not constitute an offence.

#### 75 Formation of commission's beliefs

- (1) For the purpose of forming a belief that the ground mentioned in paragraph 74 (1) (b) exists, the commission may have regard to—
  - (a) the agent's character or business reputation; and
  - (b) the agent's current financial position and financial background; and
  - (c) the agent's general suitability to act as an agent for a licensed provider.
- (2) For forming a belief that the ground mentioned in paragraph 74 (1) (c) exists, the commission may have regard to the business or executive associate's character or business reputation, current financial position and financial background.

### 76 Commission's notice to terminate agreement

Where the commission is satisfied on reasonable grounds—

- (a) that a ground for disciplinary action exists in relation to an agent; and
- (b) that the ground is based on serious and fundamental circumstances; and
- (c) that—
  - (i) the integrity of the conduct of interactive games by the relevant licensed provider may be jeopardised; or
  - (ii) the public interest may be affected adversely;

the commission may, by notice in writing given to the agent and the licensed provider, direct the licensed provider to terminate the agency agreement between them within a period of time specified in the notice.

#### 77 Suspension of agent's operations

- (1) Where the commission is satisfied on reasonable grounds—
  - (a) that a ground for disciplinary action exists in relation to an agent; and
  - (b) that it is necessary to suspend an agent's operations—
    - (i) to ensure that the integrity of the conduct of interactive games by the relevant licensed provider is not jeopardised; or

# (ii) in the public interest;

the commission may, by notice in writing given to the agent and the licensed provider, direct the agent to perform no functions under the agency agreement between them for such period of time as is specified in the notice.

(2) An agent to whom a notice under this section has been given shall not carry out any functions in contravention of the notice.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

# 78 Direction to rectify

- (1) Where the commission is satisfied on reasonable grounds that—
  - (a) a ground for disciplinary action exists in relation to an agent; and
  - (b) it is appropriate to give to the agent an opportunity to rectify the matter on which the disciplinary ground is founded;

the commission may, by notice in writing given to the agent and the relevant licensed provider, direct the agent to rectify a matter specified in the notice within such period of time as is specified in the notice.

(2) An agent to whom a notice under this section has been given shall comply with the notice.

Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units.

# 79 Termination of agreement

- (1) A licensed provider who has been given a notice under section 76 to terminate an agency agreement shall—
  - (a) terminate the agreement within the time stated in the notice; and
  - (b) notify the commission in writing of the termination in the approved form within 7 days after terminating the agreement.
- (2) If the licensed provider does not terminate the agency agreement as required by subsection (1), the agreement is terminated, by virtue of this subsection, at the expiry of the period of time stated in the notice.
- (3) The Territory does not incur any liability if an agency agreement is terminated by a licensed provider under subsection (1) or by virtue of subsection (2).
- (4) A licensed provider does not incur any liability because the licensed provider terminates an agency agreement under subsection (1).

# 80 Notice of termination of agreement

- (1) This section applies where an agency agreement is terminated otherwise than because of a direction to terminate the agreement given to the licensed provider by the commission.
- (2) Where this section applies, the licensed provider shall notify the commission in writing of the termination within 7 days after the agreement is terminated.

#### PART 6—LICENCE FEES AND TAX

# Division 1—Preliminary

### 81 Meaning of *interactive gambling tax*

In this Part:

interactive gambling tax means the tax payable under section 83.

# Division 2—Licence fees

# **82** Liability to licence fee

- (1) A licensed provider must pay the determined fee to the commission as a *licence fee*.
- (2) The licence fee is payable and due—
  - (a) on the day on which the provider is granted the licence; and
  - (b) on each anniversary of that day.
- (3) The licence is suspended if a licence fee that is due has not been paid.

# Division 3—Interactive gambling tax

### 83 Liability to tax

- (1) A licensed provider shall pay to the Territory a tax for each authorised game conducted by the licensed provider.
- (2) Interactive gambling tax is to be calculated and paid in accordance with the regulations.

#### 84 Returns for calculation of tax

Within 7 days after the end of each month, a licensed provider shall give the commission a return in the approved form containing—

- (a) such information for calculating interactive gambling tax on games conducted by the licensed provider during the relevant month as is prescribed; and
- (b) such other information as is prescribed for the purposes of this paragraph.

# PART 7—COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

#### Division 1—Rules and directions

#### 85 Rules

- (1) The Minister may, by instrument, determine or vary rules relating to—
  - (a) the conduct of authorised games by licensed providers; or
  - (b) prizes in authorised games conducted by licensed providers; or
  - (c) such other matters relating to interactive gambling as the Minister deems necessary.
- (2) An instrument under subsection (1) is a disallowable instrument.

#### 86 Directions

The commission may, by written notice given to—

- (a) a licensed provider; or
- (b) licensed providers specified in the notice; or
- (c) all licensed providers;

give directions about the conduct of authorised games by that provider, the specified providers or all providers, as the case requires.

#### 87 General responsibilities of licensed provider

A licensed provider shall comply with—

- (a) the rules determined by the Minister under this Division; and
- (b) any direction given by the commission under this Division.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

# 88 Responsibility of licensed provider to ensure compliance by agent

A licensed provider shall ensure that every person who is an agent for the provider—

- (a) is aware of the requirements of the rules, and any directions, under this Division; and
- (b) complies with those rules and directions.

# 89 Responsibility of agent

- (1) An agent shall comply with—
  - (a) rules determined by the Minister under this Division; and
  - (b) any direction given by the commission under this Division.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

(2) It is a defence to a prosecution for a breach of paragraph (1) (b) if the agent satisfies the court that he or she did not know, and could not reasonably be expected to have known, of the requirements of the direction.

# Division 2—Place of operation

# 90 Licensed provider's place of operation

- (1) A licensed provider shall not conduct an authorised game unless the place or places of operation from which the game is conducted—
  - (a) is or are approved in writing by the commission; and
  - (b) the approval has not been revoked.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

(2) A licensed provider shall ensure that any regulated interactive gambling equipment used by the licensed provider for the conduct of authorised games is situated at a place approved under subsection (1).

Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.

### 91 Agent's place of operation

An agent shall not carry on operations in the Territory at a place other than a place that—

- (a) is approved in writing by the commission; and
- (b) if the agent is an agent for a licensed provider—is stated in the agency agreement as the agent's place of operation.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

# Division 3—Control systems

# 92 Authorised games to be conducted under an approved control system

- (1) A licensed provider may conduct an authorised game only if—
  - (a) the licensed provider has obtained approval of a control system by the commission; and
  - (b) the game is conducted under the system.
- (2) A licensed provider may change the approved control system only—
  - (a) with the approval of, or as directed by, the commission; and
  - (b) in the way directed or approved by the commission.

# 93 Control system submission

- (1) A licensed provider may make a submission in accordance with this section to the commission for approval of a proposed control system.
- (2) A submission under this section shall be made in writing.
- (3) A control system submission shall describe and explain the licensed provider's proposed control system.
- (4) Without derogating from the generality of subsection (3), a control system submission shall include information about—
  - (a) the following things to be used for the conduct of interactive games:
    - (i) accounting systems and procedures and chart of accounts;
    - (ii) administrative systems and procedures;
    - (iii) computer software;
    - (iv) standard forms and terms; and
  - (b) the general procedures to be followed for the conduct of interactive games; and
  - (c) the procedures and standards for the maintenance, security, storage and transportation of equipment to be used for the conduct of interactive games; and
  - (d) the procedures for recording and paying prizes won in interactive games; and
  - (e) the procedures for using and maintaining security facilities; and
  - (f) the positions to be designated as key positions.

# 94 Changes to control systems

- (1) A licensed provider may make a submission to the commission for approval to change the licensed provider's approved control system.
- (2) A control system submission under this section shall be made in writing—
  - (a) at least 90 days before the licensed provider proposes to start conducting interactive games under the approved control system as proposed to be changed; or
  - (b) if the commission considers it appropriate to allow a submission to be made at a later time—within the time allowed by the commission.
- (3) A submission under this section shall contain particulars of the proposed changes of the licensed provider's approved control system.

# 95 Consideration of, and decisions about, submissions

- (1) The commission shall consider a submission and either approve it or refuse to approve it.
- (2) In considering a submission, the commission may, by written notice given to the licensed provider, require the licensed provider—
  - (a) to give the commission such further information about the submission as is specified in the notice and is necessary and reasonable to help the commission to make a decision about the submission; or
  - (b) to allow the commission to submit the proposed control system, or the approved control system as proposed to be changed, to tests.
- (3) In considering whether to give an approval, the commission shall have regard to—
  - (a) whether the submission satisfies the requirements under this Division; and
  - (b) whether the licensed provider's proposed control system, or approved control system as proposed to be changed, is capable of providing satisfactory and effective control over the conduct of interactive games.
- (4) The commission may refuse to give an approval if the licensed provider fails to comply with a requirement under subsection (2) without a reasonable excuse.
- (5) The commission shall promptly give to the licensed provider a written notice of the commission's decision.

- (6) If the commission refuses to give an approval, the notice under subsection (5) shall state the reasons for the decision and, if the commission believes that the submission is capable of being easily rectified to enable the commission to approve it, the notice shall also—
  - (a) explain how the submission may be changed; and
  - (b) invite the licensed provider to resubmit the submission after making the appropriate changes.
- (7) In this section:

submission means a submission under section 93 or 94.

# 96 Direction to change approved control system

- (1) The commission may, by written notice given to a licensed provider, direct the provider to change the provider's approved control system within the time, and in the way, stated in the notice.
- (2) A licensed provider shall comply with a direction under subsection (1). Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.
- (3) If a licensed provider does not comply with a direction under subsection (1), the approval for the licensed provider's control system is, by virtue of this subsection, cancelled.

# 96A Players' funds must be kept in a trust account

- (1) A licensed provider must establish 1 or more trust accounts with a financial institution in a way approved in writing by the commission (*approved trust accounts*).
- (2) The provider must keep all funds in a player's account in an approved trust account.
- (3) The provider must not keep any other funds in an approved trust account.
- (4) The provider must distribute interest paid on an approved trust account only in a way approved in writing by the commission.

# Division 4—Dealings involving players' accounts

# 97 Funds in player's accounts to be remitted on demand

(1) A licensed provider shall, at the request of the player in whose name a player's account is established, remit funds standing to the credit of the account as directed by the player no later than the first business day after the request is received.

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.

(2) In this section:

business day means a day on which banks are open for business in the Territory.

# 98 Licensed provider or agent not to act as credit provider

(1) A licensed provider or an agent shall not provide credit to a player.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

(2) A licensed provider or an agent shall not act as agent for a credit provider to facilitate the provision of credit to a player.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

### 99 Licensed providers' limited recourse to players' accounts

A licensed provider shall not have recourse to funds in a player's account except—

- (a) to debit to the account a wager made by the player or an amount the player indicates the player wants to wager in the course of an authorised game the player is playing or about to play; or
- (b) to remit funds standing to the credit of the account to the player at the player's request; or
- (c) as otherwise authorised under this Act.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

### 100 Inactive players' accounts

(1) Subject to subsection (2), if no transaction has been recorded on a player's account for the prescribed period of time, the licensed provider shall remit any remaining balance to the player or, if the player cannot be found, deal with it in accordance with the regulations.

(2) This section does not apply where the player has requested the licensed provider in writing to keep the account open.

# Division 5—Responsible gambling

### 101 Limitation on amount wagered

- (1) A player may, by written notice to a licensed provider, set a limit on the amount the player may wager.
- (2) A limit may be set under subsection (1)—
  - (a) in relation to a game or any number of single games; or
  - (b) by way of a maximum limit that may be wagered over a number of games specified in the notice or played during a period of time specified in the notice; or
  - (c) at zero.
- (3) A licensed provider who has received a notice under subsection (1) shall not debit a wager to a player's account in excess of a limit set out in the notice.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

- (4) A player who has set a limit under this section may change or revoke the limit by written notice given to the licensed provider.
- (5) A notice increasing or revoking a limit does not have effect unless—
  - (a) 7 days have passed since the provider received the notice; and
  - (b) the player has not notified the provider of an intention to withdraw the notice.
- (6) A notice reducing the limit has effect on its receipt by the licensed provider.

#### 102 Prohibition of interactive gambling

- (1) Application may be made to the commission in the approved form for an order—
  - (a) prohibiting a person who is resident in the Territory from participating in authorised games; or
  - (b) revoking an order under paragraph (a).
- (2) An application under this section may only be made by—
  - (a) a person who seeks a prohibition, or the revocation of a prohibition, against himself or herself; or

- (b) a person who satisfies the commission of a close personal interest in the welfare of the person against whom a prohibition is sought.
- (2A) An application must be made in the approved form and accompanied by either the determined fee or an application for the fee to be waived.
- (3) If the application is made by a person other than the person against whom the prohibition is sought or has been imposed (the *affected person*), the commission shall—
  - (a) give to the affected person written notice of the application and the reasons for it; and
  - (b) invite the affected person to make representations to the commission about the application within a reasonable time stated in the notice.
- (4) The commission shall, after considering any representations from the applicant, and if the applicant is not the affected person, the affected person—
  - (a) if satisfied that the order sought in the application should be made in the interest of the affected person and the public interest—make the order; or
  - (b) if not so satisfied—refuse to make the order.
- (5) Subject to section 142, the commission shall, as soon as practicable after making a decision under subsection (4), give written notice of the decision and the reasons for the decision to the applicant and, if the affected person is not the applicant, the affected person.
- (6) If an order is made on the application, the commission shall give copies of the order to—
  - (a) all authorised providers; and
  - (b) all participating regulators.
- (7) An authorised provider to whom a copy of an order imposing a prohibition has been given shall not accept a wager from a person, or allow a person to participate in any other way in an authorised game, contrary to the prohibition.

- (8) It is a defence to a prosecution for an offence against subsection (7) if the defendant believed on reasonable grounds that the person who participated in the authorised game was not the person subject to the prohibition.
- (9) The commission may waive the determined fee.

(10) If the commission has not waived the determined fee, the commission must not issue or revoke the prohibition until the fee has been paid.

# Division 6—Gambling records

#### 103 Definitions for div 6

In this Division:

approved place means a place approved under paragraph 104 (1) (a).

### exempt gambling record means—

- (a) a record specified under paragraph 104 (1) (b); or
- (b) a record specified under paragraph 104 (1) (c)—
  - (i) during the period of time specified under that paragraph; or
  - (ii) while the circumstances specified under that paragraph exist.

*public office*, in relation to a licensed provider, means the licensed provider's principal place of business in the Territory or, if the licensed provider is a corporation and has its registered office in the Territory, the registered office.

### 104 Notices about keeping gambling records

- (1) The commission may, by written notice given to a licensed provider—
  - (a) approve a place nominated in writing by the licensed provider (other than the licensed provider's public office) as a place for keeping the licensed provider's gambling records; or
  - (b) specify a gambling record of the licensed provider that is not required to be kept at the licensed provider's public office or an approved place; or
  - (c) specify a gambling record of the licensed provider that may be kept temporarily at a place other than the licensed provider's public office or an approved place, and the period of time during which, or the circumstances in which, the record may be kept at the other place; or
  - (d) approve the keeping of information contained in a gambling record that is no longer being used in a way different from the way the information was kept when the record was being used by the licensed provider; or
  - (e) approve the destruction of a gambling record the commission considers need not be kept.

(2) The commission may specify a gambling record for the purposes of paragraph (1) (b) only if the commission considers that there is sufficient reason for the record to be kept at a place other than the licensed provider's public office or an approved place.

# 105 Gambling records to be kept at certain place

- (1) A licensed provider shall keep the licensed provider's gambling records at—
  - (a) the licensed provider's public office; or
  - (b) at an approved place for the records.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply in relation to an exempt gambling record.

### Division 7—Financial accounts, statements and reports

# 106 Keeping of accounts

A licensed provider shall—

- (a) keep accounting records that correctly record and explain the transactions and financial position for the licensed provider's operations conducted under the interactive gambling licence; and
- (b) keep the accounting records in a way that allows—
  - (i) true and fair financial statements and accounts to be prepared from time to time; and
  - (ii) the financial statements and accounts to be conveniently and properly audited.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

# 107 Preparation of financial statements and accounts

(1) A licensed provider shall prepare financial statements and accounts as required by this section giving a true and fair view of the licensed provider's financial operations conducted under the interactive gambling licence.

- (2) The financial statements and accounts must include the following:
  - (a) trading accounts, if applicable, for each financial year;
  - (b) profit and loss accounts for each financial year;
  - (c) a balance sheet as at the end of each financial year.

# 108 Submission of reports

(1) A licensed provider shall give reports to the commission as required by this section about the licensed provider's operations under the interactive gambling licence.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

- (2) The reports shall be given at the times stated in a written notice given to the licensed provider by the commission.
- (3) A report shall be in the approved form.
- (4) The commission may, by written notice given to a licensed provider, require the provider to give to the commission further information specified in the notice within the time stated in the notice, being information that the commission reasonably requires in order to acquire a proper appreciation of the licensed provider's operations.
- (5) A licensed provider shall not fail, without reasonable excuse, to comply with a notice under subsection (4).

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

(6) A licensed provider shall not give to the commission in a report under this section information that the licensed provider knows to be false, misleading or incomplete in a material particular.

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.

#### Division 8—Audit

# 109 Audit of licensed provider's operations

As soon as practicable after the end of a financial year, a licensed provider shall, at his or her own expense, cause the books, accounts and financial statements for the operations conducted under the interactive gambling licence for the financial year to be audited by a registered company auditor.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

### 110 Audit reports

(1) A licensed provider shall give a copy of the report on an audit conducted under this Division to the commission within 3 months after the end of the financial year to which the audit relates.

(2) A licensed provider shall not, without reasonable excuse, fail to comply with subsection (1).

Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units.

# 111 Further information following audit

- (1) On receiving a copy of an audit report, the commission may, by written notice given to the licensed provider, require the licensed provider to give the commission such further information as is specified in the notice about any matter relating to the licensed provider's operations that is mentioned in the audit report.
- (2) A notice under subsection (1) shall specify a period time within which the notice is to be complied with.
- (3) A licensed provider shall not fail, without reasonable excuse, to comply with a notice under this section.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

# Division 9—Ancillary and related agreements

# 112 Meaning of ancillary gambling agreement and related agreement In this Division:

- ancillary gambling agreement means an agreement, contract, lease or arrangement, whether written or unwritten, under which a person agrees to provide to a licensed provider a thing or service in return for a direct or indirect interest in, or percentage or share of—
  - (a) amounts received by the licensed provider in the course of the licensed provider's business; or
  - (b) the revenue, profit or earnings derived by the licensed provider from the licensed provider's business;

but does not include an agency agreement.

#### related agreement means—

- (a) an agreement, contract, lease or arrangement, whether written or unwritten, that—
  - (i) is entered into between a licensed provider and another person; and
  - (ii) relates to the operations of the licensed provider under the interactive gambling licence; or

(b) an ancillary gambling agreement.

# 113 Ancillary gambling agreement

(1) Subject to subsection (2), a licensed provider shall not enter into, or be a party to, an ancillary gambling agreement without the written approval of the commission.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply where—
  - (a) the commission considers the agreement to be an agreement of minor importance; or
  - (b) the agreement is of a class excluded from the application of this section under the regulations.

# 114 Approval of ancillary gambling agreements

- (1) A licensed provider may apply to the commission for approval to enter into an ancillary gambling agreement.
- (2) The commission may give the approval if the commission considers it appropriate or desirable in all the circumstances for the licensed provider to enter into the agreement.
- (3) An approval shall be in writing.

#### 115 Review of related agreements

- (1) The commission may, by written notice given to a licensed provider, require the licensed provider to give to the commission, within the time stated in the notice—
  - (a) the information stated in the notice about a related agreement to which the licensed provider is a party; and
  - (b) if the agreement is in writing—a copy of the agreement.
- (2) Without limiting subsection (1), the information that the commission may require to be given about a related agreement includes the following:
  - (a) the names of the parties;
  - (b) a description of any property, goods or other things, or any services, supplied or to be supplied;
  - (c) the value or nature of the consideration;
  - (d) the term of the agreement.

(3) A licensed provider to whom a notice under this section has been given shall comply with the requirement within the time stated in the notice, unless the licensed provider has a reasonable excuse.

#### 116 Direction to terminate related agreement

- (1) The commission may direct the termination of a related agreement if the commission believes on reasonable grounds that the continuance of the agreement—
  - (a) may jeopardise the integrity of the conduct of interactive games by the licensed provider who is a party to the agreement; or
  - (b) may affect the public interest adversely.
- (2) A direction under this section shall be given by written notice to each of the parties to the agreement.
- (3) A notice shall state—
  - (a) the reasons for the decision to direct the termination of the related agreement; and
  - (b) the time within which the agreement is required to be terminated.
- (4) If an agreement referred to in a notice under this section is not terminated within the time stated in the notice, it is terminated at the end of that time by virtue of this subsection.
- (5) The termination of the agreement under a direction under this section or by virtue of subsection (4) does not affect any rights or liabilities acquired or incurred by a party to the agreement before the termination.
- (6) The Territory does not incur any liability by reason of the termination of an agreement under a direction under this section or by virtue of subsection (4).
- (7) A party to the agreement does not incur any liability for breach of the agreement by reason of the termination of an agreement under a direction under this section or by virtue of subsection (4).

# Division 10—Official supervision

#### 117 Monitoring operations

A licensed provider shall, at the request of the commission, do anything reasonably necessary to allow an authorised officer to monitor the licensed provider's operations.

#### 118 Presence of authorised officers at certain operations

- (1) The commission may take action under this section to ensure the integrity of the conduct of an authorised game.
- (2) The commission may, by written notice given to a licensed provider, direct the licensed provider—
  - (a) to refrain from carrying out any activity specified in the notice; or
  - (b) to refrain from doing a thing specified in the notice;

in the conduct of an authorised game unless an authorised officer is present.

(3) A licensed provider shall comply with a direction under this section. Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

#### Division 11—Prizes

# 119 Payment or collection of prizes

- (1) If a player in an authorised game conducted by a licensed provider wins a monetary prize, the licensed provider shall immediately credit the amount of the prize to the player's account.
- (2) If a player in an authorised game conducted by a licensed provider wins a non-monetary prize the provider shall—
  - (a) have the prize delivered personally or by post to the player; or
  - (b) give the player written notice of an address in the Territory at which the prize may be collected.

### 120 Disposal of unclaimed non-monetary prizes

- (1) This section applies where a non-monetary prize in an authorised game conducted by a licensed provider has not been collected within 3 months after notification to the winner of the place at which it may be collected.
- (2) Where this section applies, the licensed provider—
  - (a) may dispose of the prize by public auction or tender or in some other way approved by the commission; and
  - (b) may pay for the disposal from the proceeds of sale; and
  - (c) shall—
    - (i) pay the remainder of the proceeds into the relevant player's account; or

- (ii) if there is no current player's account—remit the remainder of the proceeds to the former player; or
- (iii) if there is no current player's account and the licensed provider is unaware of the whereabouts of the former player—deal with it in accordance with the regulations.

# 121 Claim for prize

- (1) If a claim for a prize in an authorised game is made to a licensed provider within 1 year after the end of the game, the licensed provider shall—
  - (a) immediately try to resolve the claim; and
  - (b) if the licensed provider is not able to resolve the claim—by written notice (a *claim result notice*) given to the claimant, promptly inform the claimant—
    - (i) of the licensed provider's decision on the claim; and
    - (ii) that the person may, within 10 days of receiving the notice, ask the commission to review the decision.
- (2) If the claim is not resolved, the claimant may ask the commission to review the licensed provider's decision on the claim.
- (3) A request to the commission under subsection (2)—
  - (a) shall be in the approved form; and
  - (b) if the claimant has received a claim result notice—shall be made within 10 days after receipt of the notice.

### 122 Entitlement to prize lapses if not claimed within 1 year

If an unpaid or undelivered prize is not claimed within 1 year after the end of the authorised game in which the prize was won, the entitlement to the prize is extinguished and the prize is forfeited to the Territory.

### Division 12—Aborted games

# 123 Aborted games

- (2) If an authorised game conducted by a licensed provider is started but miscarries because of human error, or a failure of an operating or telecommunication system, the licensed provider—
  - (a) shall immediately inform the commission of the circumstances of the incident; and

- (b) shall not conduct a further game if the game is likely to be affected by the same error or fault.
- (3) After investigating the incident, the commission may, by written notice to the licensed provider—
  - (a) direct the licensed provider to—
    - (i) refund the amounts wagered in the game to the players; and
    - (ii) if a player has an accrued credit at the time the game miscarries—pay to the player the monetary value of the credit; or
  - (b) give to the licensed provider such other directions as the commission considers appropriate in the circumstances.
- (4) A licensed provider shall comply with a direction under subsection (3).
- (5) If a person entitled to a refund or other payment under this section has a player's account, the amount of the refund or other payment is to be paid into the account.

# 124 Power to withhold prize in certain cases

- (1) A licensed provider who has reason to believe that the result of an authorised game has been affected by an illegal activity or malfunction of equipment may withhold a prize in the game.
- (2) If a licensed provider withholds a prize under subsection (1), he or she—
  - (a) shall immediately inform the commission of the circumstances of the incident; and
  - (b) shall not conduct a further game if a recurrence of the illegality or malfunction is likely.
- (3) After investigating the incident, the commission may, by written notice to the licensed provider—
  - (a) direct the licensed provider to pay the prize; or
  - (b) confirm the licensed provider's decision to withhold the prize.
- (4) A licensed provider who is directed to withhold a prize under paragraph (3) (b) shall refund the amounts wagered in the game.
- (5) A licensed provider shall comply with a direction under paragraph (3) (a).

#### Division 13—Approval and use of regulated interactive gambling equipment

# 125 Approval of regulated interactive gambling equipment

- (1) A licensed provider may, by application in writing accompanied by the determined fee, apply to the commission—
  - (a) for approval of regulated interactive gambling equipment proposed to be used in the conduct of authorised games by the licensed provider; or
  - (b) for approval to modify regulated interactive gambling equipment used in the conduct of authorised games by the licensed provider.
- (2) If the commission believes that, in order to give proper consideration to the application, it is necessary for the commission to evaluate the equipment, or the equipment as proposed to be modified, the commission shall, as soon as practicable—
  - (a) require the applicant to pay the determined fee; and
  - (b) on payment of that fee, carry out the evaluation.
- (3) The commission shall approve, or refuse to approve, the equipment or modification and give to the applicant written notice of the commission's decision.
- (4) Where the commission decides to refuse an application under this section, the notice under subsection (3) shall state the reasons for the decision.

### 126 Use of regulated interactive gambling equipment

(1) A licensed provider shall not use regulated interactive gambling equipment in conducting an authorised game unless the equipment is approved interactive gambling equipment.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

(2) An agent of a licensed provider shall not use regulated interactive gambling equipment for the conduct of an authorised game by the licensed provider unless the equipment is approved interactive gambling equipment.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

(3) A licensed provider or agent shall not modify interactive gambling equipment that has been approved under section 125 in a manner that has not been approved by the commission in writing.

# Division 14—Advertising

# 127 Advertising interactive gambling

(1) A person shall not advertise an interactive game unless the game is an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

(2) A person shall not advertise an authorised game without the approval of the relevant authorised provider.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

# 128 Directions about advertising

- (1) Where the commission reasonably believes that an advertisement about an authorised game—
  - (a) is indecent or offensive; or
  - (b) is not based on fact; or
  - (c) is false, deceptive or misleading in a material particular;

he of she may direct the person appearing to be responsible for authorising the advertisement to take appropriate steps—

- (d) to stop the advertisement being shown; or
- (e) to change the advertisement.
- (2) A direction under this section—
  - (a) shall be in writing; and
  - (b) shall state the grounds for the direction; and
  - (c) if it is a direction to change the advertisement—shall state how the advertisement is to be changed.
- (3) A person to whom a direction under this section is given shall not fail, without reasonable excuse, to comply with the direction.

# Division 15—Complaints and improper behaviour

# 129 Inquiries about complaints

- (1) A licensed provider shall inquire into—
  - (a) a complaint made to the licensed provider by a person about—
    - (i) the conduct of an authorised game by the licensed provider; or
    - (ii) the conduct of an agent of the licensed provider in operations related to an authorised game; or
  - (b) a complaint referred to the licensed provider by the commission under subsection (3).
- (2) Within 21 days after a complaint is received by, or referred to, the licensed provider, the licensed provider shall give written notice of the result of the inquiry to—
  - (a) the complainant; and
  - (b) if the complaint was referred to the licensed provider by the commission—the commission.
- (3) If a complaint is made to the commission about the conduct of an authorised game, or the conduct of an agent in operations related to an authorised game, the commission shall promptly—
  - (a) inquire into the complaint; or
  - (b) if the commission considers it appropriate—
    - (i) refer the complaint to the licensed provider who conducted the game; or
    - (ii) if the authorised game is conducted by an external provider—refer the complaint to the relevant participating regulator.
- (4) The commission shall promptly advise the complainant of—
  - (a) the result of the commission's inquiry; or
  - (b) the commission's decision to refer the complaint to the licensed provider or a participating regulator;

as the case requires.

- (5) This section does not apply in relation to a complaint unless the complaint—
  - (a) is in writing; and
  - (b) states the complainant's name and address; and

(c) gives appropriate details of the complaint.

# 130 Reporting improper behaviour

- (1) An authorised provider, within 3 days of becoming aware, or suspecting on reasonable grounds, that—
  - (a) a person, by a dishonest or unlawful act affecting the conduct or playing of an authorised game in the Territory, has obtained a benefit for the person or another person; or
  - (b) there has been an unlawful act affecting the conduct or playing of an authorised game in the Territory;

shall give to the commission a written notice advising the commission of all facts known to the authorised provider about the matter.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

- (2) An agent, within 3 days of becoming aware, or suspecting on reasonable grounds, that—
  - (a) a person, by a dishonest or unlawful act affecting the conduct or playing of an authorised game in the Territory, has obtained a benefit for the person or another person; or
  - (b) there has been an unlawful act affecting the conduct or playing of an authorised game in the Territory;

shall give to the commission a written notice advising the commission of all facts known to the agent about the matter.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

- (3) A person shall not—
  - (a) refuse to employ; or
  - (b) dismiss from employment; or
  - (c) in the course of employment, penalise; or
  - (d) in any way prejudice the career of;

another person because the other person has given, or may give, a notice under this section.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

- (4) It is a defence to a prosecution for a breach of subsection (3) that—
  - (a) the defendant had another ground for engaging in the conduct alleged; and
  - (b) that ground is a reasonable one.

#### (5) In this section:

dishonest act means fraud, misrepresentation or theft.

#### Division 16—Gambling offences

### 131 Cheating

- (1) A person shall not, in relation to an authorised game, dishonestly obtain a benefit by—
  - (a) an act, practice or scheme; or
  - (b) the use of a thing.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a person *obtains a benefit* if the person—
  - (a) obtains for himself or herself or another person; or
  - (b) induces a person to deliver, give or credit to the firstmentioned person or another person;

any money, benefit, advantage, valuable consideration or security.

### 132 Impersonating certain persons

A person shall not pretend to be a licensed provider, an agent or a key person licensee.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units, imprisonment for 2 years or both.

# Participation in authorised games by employees of licensed providers

(1) An employee (whether a key person licensee or not) of a licensed provider shall not take part in an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

(2) In addition to any penalty imposed under subsection (1), a court that convicts a person of an offence against that subsection shall order that the convicted person pay to the Territory a penalty equal to any amount that he or she may have won by way of prize in any game in relation to the participation in which he or she has been convicted.

# 134 Participation by minors in conduct of approved games prohibited

(1) A licensed provider or an agent shall not allow a person who is under 18 years of age to participate in the conduct of an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

- (2) It is a defence to a prosecution for an offence against subsection (1) if the defendant believed on reasonable grounds that the person in relation to whom the alleged offence relates was over 18 years of age.
- (3) A person who is under 18 years of age shall not, without reasonable excuse, participate in the conduct of an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

# 135 Participation by minors as players prohibited

(1) A person involved in the conduct of an authorised game shall not allow a person who is under 18 years of age to participate as a player in an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

- (2) It is a defence to a prosecution for an offence against subsection (1) if the defendant believed on reasonable grounds that the person in relation to whom the alleged offence relates was over 18 years of age.
- (3) A person who is under 18 years of age shall not, without reasonable excuse, participate as a player in an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 40 penalty units.

(4) In addition to any penalty imposed under subsection (1), a court that convicts a person of an offence against that subsection shall order that the convicted person pay to the Territory a penalty equal to any amount that he or she may have won by way of prize in any game in relation to the participation in which he or she has been convicted.

### 136 Offensive names prohibited

A person shall not participate in an authorised game under a name or designation that is obscene, indecent or offensive.

#### 137 Interference with conduct of authorised games

A person shall not, without the commission's written authorisation, interfere in the conduct of an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

# 138 Offences by certain persons

- (1) A person, other than an authorised person, shall not, for his or her gain or reward—
  - (a) induce anyone else to take part in an authorised game; or
  - (b) offer to anyone else an opportunity to take part in an authorised game; or
  - (c) distribute or supply forms for registration as a player in an authorised game (a *player registration form*); or
  - (d) cause player registration forms to be distributed or supplied to persons other than authorised providers or agents.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

- (2) A person, other than an authorised person, shall not—
  - (a) advertise; or
  - (b) publicly promote subscription to, or taking part in;

an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

- (3) A person shall not charge an amount for—
  - (a) filling in a player registration form; or
  - (b) depositing a player registration form, directly or indirectly, with a licensed provider or an agent; or
  - (c) submitting, or arranging for the submission of, a player registration form to a licensed provider or an agent; or
  - (d) collecting or distributing prizes in an authorised game.

Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units.

(4) A person shall not hold himself or herself out to be available to perform a service mentioned in subsection (2).

# (5) In this section:

### authorised person means—

- (a) a licensed provider; or
- (b) an agent of a licensed provider, acting within the scope of the agent's authority; or
- (c) a party to an ancillary gambling agreement acting under the agreement.

# 139 Licensed providers not to publish identity of players in certain cases

- (1) A licensed provider, an employee of a licensed provider or any other person engaged in duties related to the conduct of an authorised game shall not—
  - (a) disclose information about the name, or other identifying particulars, of a player; or
  - (b) use information about a player for a purpose other than the purpose for which the information was given.

- (2) It is a defence to a prosecution for an offence against subsection (1) if the defendant proves that the disclosure or use (as the case requires) was—
  - (a) authorised by the relevant player; or
  - (b) required for the administration or enforcement of this Act, the *Taxation Administration Act 1999* or a corresponding law; or
  - (c) otherwise required by law.

#### PART 8—ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

# 140 Meaning of primary decision and reviewable decision

In this Part:

*primary decision* means a decision of the Minister—

- (a) refusing an application for an interactive gambling licence under subsection 27 (1); or
- (b) imposing a condition on an interactive gambling licence under section 32; or
- (c) changing a condition on an interactive gambling licence under subsection 33 (1); or
- (d) adding a condition to an interactive gambling licence under subsection 33 (1); or
- (e) failing to approve a mortgage, charge or other encumbrance over an interactive gambling licence under subsection 37 (1); or
- (f) failing to approve a transfer of an interactive gambling licence under subsection 37 (2); or
- (g) directing the notification of a specified matter under subsection 40 (2); or
- (h) suspending an interactive gambling licence under subsection 41 (1); or
- (i) suspending an interactive gambling licence under subsection 42 (1); or
- (j) cancelling an interactive gambling licence under subsection 43 (1); or
- (k) appointing an administrator under subsection 44 (1); or
- (l) failing to cancel the suspension of an interactive gambling licence under paragraph 45 (a); or
- (m) failing to reduce the remaining period of the suspension of an interactive gambling licence under paragraph 45 (b).

*reviewable decision* means a primary decision in respect of which a certificate under section 46 has not been signed.

#### 141 Review of Minister's decisions

(1) Application may be made to the administrative appeals tribunal for review of a reviewable decision.

- (2) Where a primary decision is made, the Minister shall cause notice in writing of the decision to be given to the person affected by the decision.
- (3) A notice under subsection (2) shall be in accordance with the requirements of the code of practice in force under subsection 25B (1) of the *Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1989*.

#### 142 Review of commission's decisions

- (1) Application may be made to the administrative appeals tribunal for review of a decision of the commission—
  - (a) imposing a condition on a key person licence under subsection 54 (1); or
  - (b) altering a condition of a licence under paragraph 55 (1) (c); or
  - (c) omitting a condition from a licence under paragraph 55 (1) (d); or
  - (d) adding a condition to a licence under paragraph 55 (1) (e); or
  - (e) refusing to issue a replacement licence under subsection 58 (1); or
  - (f) suspending a key person licence under subsection 62 (1); or
  - (g) cancelling a key person licence under subsection 65 (1); or
  - (h) directing that an agency agreement be amended under subsection 72 (1); or
  - (i) prohibiting a person from participating in authorised games under paragraph 102 (1) (a).
- (2) Where a decision referred to in subsection (1) is made, the commission shall give notice in writing of the decision to the person affected by the decision.
- (3) A notice under subsection (2) shall be in accordance with the requirements of the code of practice in force under subsection 25B (1) of the *Administrative Appeals Tribunal Act 1989*.

#### PART 9—MISCELLANEOUS

# 143 Destruction of prints and photographs

Where—

- (a) an application by a person to the Minister or the commission for a licence under this Act is refused; or
- (b) a licence held by a person is surrendered or cancelled;

and the person had lodged with the Minister or the commission, in connection with the application referred to in paragraph (a) or the application for the licence referred to in paragraph (b), the imprint of his or her finger or palm prints or a photograph of the applicant, the Minister or commission, as the case requires, shall cause to be destroyed—

- (c) the imprint of the finger prints and palm prints, and the photograph, of that person, that accompanied that application or the application for that licence, as the case may be; and
- (d) any copy of that imprint, or those imprints, and of that photograph, that is in the possession or control of the Minister or commission for a purpose connected with that application, or the application for that licence, as the case requires.

# 144 Conduct of directors, servants and agents

- (1) Where, for the purposes of this Act, it is necessary to establish the state of mind of a body corporate or a natural person in relation to particular conduct, it is sufficient to show—
  - (a) that a director, servant or agent of the body, or a servant or agent of the person, had that state of mind; and
  - (b) that the conduct was engaged in by that director, servant or agent within the scope of his or her actual or apparent authority.
- (2) A reference in subsection (1) to the state of mind of a body or person shall be read as including a reference to—
  - (a) the knowledge, intention, opinion, belief or purpose of the body or person; and
  - (b) the body's or person's reasons for the intention, opinion, belief or purpose.

- (3) Any conduct engaged in on behalf of a body corporate or a natural person by a director, servant or agent of the body, or a servant or agent of the person, within the scope of his or her actual or apparent authority is to be taken, for the purposes of this Act, to have been engaged in also by the body or person unless the body or person establishes that reasonable precautions were taken and due diligence was exercised to avoid the conduct.
- (4) Where—
  - (a) a natural person is convicted of an offence against this Act; and
  - (b) the person would not have been convicted of the offence if subsections (1) and (3) had not been enacted;

the person is not liable to be punished by imprisonment for that offence.

- (5) A reference in this section to a *director* of a body corporate is to be read as including a reference to a member of a body corporate incorporated for a public purpose by a law of the Territory, the Commonwealth, a State or another Territory.
- (6) A reference in this section to *engaging in conduct* shall be read as including a reference to failing or refusing to engage in conduct.

#### 145 Power of Minister to determine fees

The Minister may, by notice in writing published in the Gazette, determine fees, or methods of calculating fees, for the purposes of this Act.

# 146 Register of interactive gambling licences

- (1) The commission shall establish and maintain, in such form as the commission deems fit, a register of interactive gambling licences issued under this Act on which there shall be entered—
  - (a) particulars of the person to whom the licence has been issued; and
  - (b) particulars of the issue and any suspension, cancellation or surrender of the licence; and
  - (c) particulars of any conditions to which the licence is subject; and
  - (d) any other particulars that the commission considers appropriate.
- (2) A person may peruse and make copies of the register under this section at the office of the commission during ordinary business hours.

# 147 Approval of forms

The commission may approve forms for the purposes of this Act.

# 148 Regulation-making power

The Executive may make regulations for this Act.

#### **ENDNOTES**

#### 1 About this republication

This is a republication of the *Interactive Gambling Act 1998* as in force on 9 June 2000. It includes all amendments made to the Act up to Act 1999 No 56.

Amending laws are annotated in the table of legislation and table of amendments.

The Parliamentary Counsel's Office currently prepares 2 kinds of republications of ACT laws: authorised printed republications to which the *Legislation (Republication) Act 1996* applies and unauthorised electronic republications. The status of this republication appears on the cover.

Section 13 of the *Legislation (Republication) Act 1996* authorises the Parliamentary Counsel, in preparing a law for republication, to make textual amendments of a formal nature which the Parliamentary Counsel considers desirable in accordance with current legislative drafting practice. The amendments do not effect a substantive change in the law.

In preparing this republication, amendments have been made under section 13.

Not all amendments made under section 13 are annotated in the table of amendments. Full details of any amendments can be obtained from the Parliamentary Counsel's Office.

#### 2 Abbreviation key

am = amended

amdt = amendment

#### Key to abbreviations in tables

par = paragraph

pres = present

ch = chapter	prev = previous
cl = clause	(prev) = previously
def = definition	prov = provision
dict = dictionary	pt = part
div = division	r = rule/subrule
exp = expires/expired	reg = regulation/subregulation
Gaz = Gazette	renum = renumbered
hdg = heading	reloc = relocated
ins = inserted/added	R[X] = Republication No
LR = Legislation (Republication) Act 1996	s = section/subsection
mod = modified	sch = schedule
No = number	sdiv = subdivision
notfd = notified	sub = substituted
o = order	SL = Subordinate Law
om = omitted/repealed	sp = spent
orig = original	<ul><li>* = SL unless otherwise stated</li></ul>
p = page	† = Act or Ordinance unless otherwise stated

# 3 Table of legislation

Act†	Year and number†	Gazette notification	Commencement	Transitional provisions
Interactive Gambling Act 1998	1998 No 24	10 July 1998	ss 1 and 2: 10 July 1998 remainder: 24 Sept 1998 (see Gaz 1998 No 38 p 866)	
Taxation Administration (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Act 1999	1999 No 5	1 Mar 1999	1 Mar 1999	_
Gambling and Racing Control (Consequential Provisions) Act 1999	1999 No 47	17 Sept 1999	ss 1 and 2: 17 Sept 1999 remainder: 1 Dec 1999 (see Gaz 1999 No S63 p 2)	_
Gambling Legislation Amendment Act 1999	1999 No 56	10 Nov 1999	ss 1 and 2: 10 Nov 1999 remainder: 1 Dec 1999 (see Gaz 1999 No S63 p 2)	_

### 4 Table of amendments

Provision	How affected†
s 3	am 1999 No 5; 1999 No 47 s 5 sch; 1999 No 56 s 71
	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch
	sub 1999 No 5; 1999 No 47 s 5 sch
s 9	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch
s 11	am 1999 No 56 s 72
s 16	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch
div 3 of pt 2 (ss 15-19)	om 1999 No 56 s 73
div 3 of pt 2 (ss 15-18,	ins 1999 No 56 s 73
18A-18C, 19)	
ss 15-18	sub 1999 No 56 s 73
ss 18A-18C	ins 1999 No 56 s 73
s 19	sub 1999 No 56 s 73
s 31A	ins 1999 No 56 s 74
s 43	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch
ss 48-52	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch
ss 54, 55	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch
ss 58, 59	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch
ss 61-66	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch
s 67	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch
	sub 1999 No 56 s 75
ss 68, 69	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch
s 70	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch; 1999 No 56 s 76
ss 71, 72	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch

# 4 Table of amendments—continued

Provision	How affected†	
s 73	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
	sub 1999 No 56 s 77	
ss 75-80	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
s 82	sub 1999 No 56 s 78	
s 84	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
ss 86, 87	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
ss 89, 90	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
s 91	am 1999 No 56 s 79	
s 92	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
s 93	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch; 1999 No 56 s 80	
ss 94-96	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
s 96A	ins 1999 No 56 s 81	
s 97	am 1999 No 56 s 82	
s 101	am 1999 No 56 s 83	
s 102	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch; 1999 No 56 s 84	
s 104	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
s 108	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
ss 110, 111	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
ss 113-118	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
s 119	am 1999 No 56 s 85	
s 120	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
s 121	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch; 1999 No 56 s 86	
s 122	am 1999 No 56 s 87	
s 123	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch; 1999 No 56 s 88	
ss 124-126	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
ss 128-130	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
s 137	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
s 138	am 1999 No 56 s 89	
s 139	am 1999 No 5	
ss 142, 143	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
ss 146, 147	am 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	
s 149	om 1999 No 47 s 5 sch	

### 6 Penalties in this republication

The penalties in this republication have been revised in accordance with the *Interpretation Act* 1967, s 63. The value of a penalty unit for an offence against this Act at the date of publication is, therefore—

- (a) if the person charged is an individual—\$100; or
- (b) if the person charged is a corporation—\$500.

See Interpretation Act 1967, s 33AA for additional information.

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