

**1996**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**BOOKMAKERS ACT 1985**

**INSTRUMENT**

**NO. 75 OF 1996**

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

**DETERMINATION OF EVENTS TO BE A SPORTS BETTING EVENT**

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**Minister for Sport and Recreation**

## **Outline**

The *Bookmakers Act 1985* (the Act) governs the activities of bookmakers in the Australian Capital Territory.

Part IIIA of the Act provides for the conduct and control of sports betting. In particular, the legislation empowers the Minister to determine events that sports betting may take place on.

Section 39A (1) of the Act provides that the Minister may determine a sporting or other event to be a sports betting event for the purpose of the Act.

This instrument varies the list of approved sports and the events within those sports that are sports betting events. Determination No. 134 of 1995 published in Special Gazette No. 250 of 29 September 1995 determined the approved sports betting events.

In particular, this instrument expands the range of betting contingencies relating to Soccer by adding matches in the European Nations Cup to the list of approved sports betting events.

The Cup is played between European Nations on a four year cycle which alternates with the World Cup (similar to the Olympic and Commonwealth Games relationship). It is expected that significant overseas interest may be generated by providing for these matches in the list of approved sports betting events. Sports bookmakers have sought the inclusion of this event.

## **Financial Implications**

It is expected that turnover may be increased by providing for betting on the European Nations Cup of Soccer, which in turn is expected to result in increased levels of revenue to the Government.