

**1996**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**BOOKMAKERS ACT 1985**

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

**DETERMINATION OF DIRECTIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF A SPORTS  
BETTING VENUE**

**NO. 213 OF 1996**

**Circulated by the Authority of BILL STEFANIAK MLA**

**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 a place to be a sports betting venue.

Section 39B (2) of the Act provides that the Minister may determine directions for the operation of a determined sports betting venue.

This instrument sets the operational framework for the conduct of the sports betting service within the sports betting venue located on the grass area behind the public viewing lawn and adjacent to the Acton Stand of the Canberra Racecourse.

The instrument sets out the:-

- operating times that licensed sports betting bookmakers may accept face-to-face bets on 29 September 1996;
- requirements that a licensed sports bookmaker or a licensed agent must be in attendance during the operating hours;
- restrictions on betting; and
- operational aspects including ticketing and reporting arrangements

In particular, the instrument sets the operating hours from 11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. and requires that between the approved operating hours, a licensed sports bookmaker or licensed agent, must be in attendance. The instrument restricts the method of betting to face-to-face transactions only. In accordance with the established restrictions when a local race meeting is being conducted, the instrument prohibits sports bookmakers from accepting bets on racing events.

Furthermore, the instrument details the ticketing requirements, security guarantee and administrative arrangements for the sports betting bookmakers operating at the venue for the day.

## **Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications from this instrument. This instrument sets the overall operating framework for the sports betting service at the Canberra Racecourse for Sunday 29 September 1996. The provision of which is expected to enhance the range of entertainment and services available to patrons at the 1996 Canberra Cup race meeting.

The provision of a sports betting service by bookmakers at live sporting events has provided a valuable opportunity for sports betting bookmakers to promote their services to clients.