

**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. 252 OF 1996**

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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 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 on the ground floor of the exhibition hall at the National Convention Centre.

The instrument sets out the -

- operating times that licensed sports betting bookmakers may accept face-to-face bets between 1 and 3 November 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 for the three days of the Sports Expo 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. 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. It is not anticipated that large turnover levels will be achieved as a direct result of this approval. Rather, it is anticipated that potential clients will be made aware of the existence of the sports betting service.

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