

1996

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

BOOKMAKERS ACT 1985

No. 284 of 1996

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

DETERMINATION OF A PLACE TO BE A SPORTS BETTING VENUE

NO. 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 (1) of the Act provides that the Minister may determine a place to be a sports betting venue

This instrument identifies areas at the northern and southern ends of Manuka Oval to be sports betting venues on 10 December 1996.

On that day the Prime Minister's XI plays its annual match against a touring international cricket team. In 1996 the PM's XI will play the West Indies.

Over 1996 the services available at a number of live sports events, particularly Bruce Stadium, have been enhanced by the provision of sports betting facilities. Given the success of these arrangements and a desire to capitalise on the opportunity for national television exposure for Canberra based sports bookmakers, sports betting will be permitted at Manuka Oval for the annual Prime Minister's XI match. Two licensed sports bookmakers have requested to field at Manuka Oval on 10 December 1996.

The arrangements for the provision of sports betting at Manuka Oval have been developed in consultation with the ACT Cricket Association and the Australian Cricket Board.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications from this instrument. The introduction of sports betting has provided increased levels of revenue to the Government and has resulted in an increase in economic activity through the establishment of new business and the creation of a number of new jobs within the Territory

The provision of sports betting by bookmakers at Manuka Oval will represent a valuable opportunity for sports betting bookmakers to promote their services to clients.