

IAGR NEWSLETTER

International Association of Gaming Regulators
www.iagr.org

March 2009

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Alderney, Channel Islands

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Zukiswa Ntlangula, Gauteng, South Africa

*2009 Conference
Buenos Aires Hilton
October 19-23, 2009
Buenos Aires, Argentina*

Important Dates

**8th European Conference on
Gambling Studies and
Policy Issues
September 14-17, 2010
Vienna, Austria
www.easg.org**

**Global Gaming Expo (G2E)
November 17-19, 2009
Las Vegas Convention Center
Las Vegas, Nevada, USA
www.globalgamingexpo.com**

2009 IAGA/IAGR CONFERENCE

You may already be aware that the 2009 IAGA/ IAGR International Gaming Conference will this year be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina and is scheduled to take place from October 19th through 23rd. We hope to provide you in the near future with a facility on the IAGR website which will allow you to register online for the conference and book your hotel room.

I am pleased to inform you that the Steering Committee held its mid-year meeting in London on January the 26th during which the IAGR part of the conference program was finalised. The draft minutes of the meeting are available on the IAGR website. I wish to thank members for their suggestions on topics to be considered for inclusion in this year's program. I also wish to encourage members who wish to participate in panel discussions to contact any of the eight session coordinators mentioned under item 14 of the minutes.

IAGR WEB PORTAL

One of our objectives for this year is to establish a members-only web portal which will allow registered members of IAGR to communicate and share information. I am pleased to report that we have made significant progress in this regard. We have entered into a contract for the provision of the necessary software and it has undergone testing by the Steering Committee during the past month. I expect that we will soon be in a position to communicate to you the process by which a registered member of IAGR can request a username and password.

REVIEW OF IAGR BYLAWS

I am pleased to inform you that we are making good progress with the review of the IAGR Bylaws. Peter Cohen (Vice-Chairman), who is leading this review, has finalised a revised draft of the Bylaws, taking into account the comments received from members and will be sharing this draft with all members in the online forum. The intention is to submit a final draft to the membership at the business meeting in Buenos Aires.

EGAMBLING WORKING GROUP

The eGambling Working Group recently published a set of eGambling guidelines on the IAGR website. This represented the culmination of several years work by the Working Group to set out good practice in key areas of internet gambling regulation for those jurisdictions who permit or who are considering permitting eGambling. The guidelines draw on the experiences and expertise of a variety of jurisdictions but also recognize that there may be more than one way of achieving the objectives. It is a living document and proposals for additions or amendments are welcome. At the same time, the Working Group appreciates that the guidelines alone are not sufficient to cover all aspects of the regulation of eGambling. Therefore, the main focus of the Working Group is on developing guidelines for approaches to compliance and enforcement. Work began on the compliance and enforcement elements at the last meeting of the Working Group in London in January this year. Over the coming months it will be drawing together the experiences members and then formulating good practice approaches.

The working group meets two or three times a year, generally in January to coincide with the ICE conference in London, in June around the time of the Gaming Regulators European Forum (GREF) conference and also later in the year to coincide with the IAGR annual conference. Members that have not been involved so far but who would like to contribute to this work and/or join the Working Group should contact Paul Morris, the IAGR eGambling Working Group secretariat at P.Morris@gamblingcommission.gov.uk

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Singapore

On the 2nd of April 2008, the Casino Regulatory Authority of Singapore (“CRA”) was formed as a statutory board under the Ministry of Home Affairs, to administer and enforce the Casino Control Act. The objectives of the CRA are to maintain and administer systems for the licensing, supervision and control of casinos.

Mr. Richard Magnus, the former Senior District Judge of the Subordinate Courts, was appointed Chairman of the CRA Board. He is assisted by twelve board members who have rich experience in the areas of policy development; law enforcement; accounting; regulation; media; banking; and in leading established companies and entities.

At the executive level, the CRA is led by Chief Executive Raja Kumar. Prior to this, Raja was the Senior Deputy Director in the Commercial Affairs Department of the Singapore Police Force (SPF). The immediate focus of the CRA is to build its capacity and finalise the legal framework for regulating the various aspects of the casinos, well before Singapore’s casinos are opened in late 2009 and 2010.

Norway

The state owned Norwegian betting company Norsk Tipping now requires all customers who participate in gambling and offered by this company to be registered. Norsk Tipping has a monopoly on legal sports betting and national lotteries in Norway. In future, all customers will need a player card issued by Norsk Tipping if they want to participate in gaming offered by the company. Scratch cards are not part of registered gambling.

The reform has been approved by both the Ministry of Finance in Norway and the National Authority for Investigation and Prosecution of Economic and Environmental Crime. It is believed that registered gambling makes it easier to ensure social responsible gambling, assist in controlling access of minors, facilitate the quick payment of prize money and assist in preventing money laundering. It is estimated that 1.8 million out of 3.6 million Norwegian citizens over the age of 18 years are already registered with Norsk Tipping.

Andre Wilsenach
IAGR Chair

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Fellow Regulators,

**If you have any questions or comments regarding this year’s conference or any other matter pertaining to IAGR, please e-mail them to shenseljar@state.pa.us.
*We hope to see you in Buenos Aires!***