

**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. 285 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 venues located at the northern and southern ends of Manuka Oval.

The instrument sets out the.-

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

In particular, the instrument sets the opening hours from 9.30 a.m. to 7.00 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.

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

The arrangements for the provision of sports betting at Manuka Oval for the 1996 Prime Minister's XI match 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. This instrument sets the overall operating framework for the sports betting service at Manuka Oval.

The provision of sports betting service by bookmakers at live sporting events has proven to be successful. Sports betting will provide a unique feature to the services available at Manuka Oval for the PM's XI game and represent a valuable opportunity for Canberra based sports betting bookmakers to gain national exposure from the television coverage of the game.