

NORTHERN TERRITORY RACING COMMISSION

Reasons for Decision

Applicant:	Sportbet Pty Limited (revised determination)
Licensee:	Northern Territory Racing Commission
Proceedings:	Pursuant to Section 80(1) D of the <i>Racing and Betting Act</i> – and breaches of the NT Code of Practice for Responsible Online Gambling 2016 – Remediation of Verification Issue
Heard Before: (on papers)	John Boneham (Presiding Member)
Date of Decision:	31 January 2018

BACKGROUND

1. On 15 November 2017, a Determination was made in this matter by the Northern Territory Racing Commission (the Commission).
2. That Determination directed that a fine of 85 Penalty Units be imposed on Sportsbet for breaches under sections 12 and 16 of their licence conditions.
3. The Penalty also took into account a breach of Sections 6 and 6.1 of the NT Code of Practice for Responsible Online Gambling 2016, given that this breakdown in verification resulted in a minor being able to access their gambling services.
4. The earlier Determination made reference to a telephone call to Sportsbet on 16 December 2016 directing them to immediately suspend all unverified accounts.
5. Subsequent to the Determination being issued, Sportsbet contacted the Commission to dispute that this call had taken place.
6. Further investigation has revealed that Sportsbet were indeed correct and that the only call directing them to immediately suspend all unverified accounts was made on 28 September 2016.

CONSIDERATION OF THE ISSUES

7. Whilst the Commission apologises for its error in referring to a phone call on 16 December 2016, it nonetheless remains very concerned that the unverified accounts remained on Sportsbet's books between the period April/August 2015 until the initial advice from Sportsbet on 9 September 2016, which is in clear breach of sections 12 and 16 of their licence conditions.
8. The Commission has also taken into account that some 603 accounts still remained unverified for the period 9 September 2016 until 28 September 2016 when the

Commission again contacted Sportsbet ordering that they immediately move to suspend all remaining unverified accounts.

9. The matter of a minor being able to access wagering services also remains a matter of extreme concern, being in clear breach of Sections 6 and 6.1 of the NT Code of Practice for Responsible Online Gambling 2016.

DECISION

10. Taking into account the foregoing breaches, the Commission stands by its earlier Determination and directs that Sportsbet Pty Ltd be levied a fine of 85 Penalty Units. The Unit value being currently set at \$154.00, making the total fine of \$13,090.00.
11. This amount is to be paid in full by 9 February 2018.
12. A copy of the Commissions original Determination is attached (Attachment A) for reference.



John Boneham
Presiding Member
NT Racing Commission

31 January 2018