

GAMBLING COMMISSION E-BULLETIN – ISSUE 98

18 December 2009

Welcome to the fortnightly email bulletin from the Gambling Commission (the Commission).

You have registered on our website to receive news and updates from us, and we issue this e-bulletin at fortnightly intervals to keep you up to date.

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1. Updated advice on prize competitions and free draws

The Commission has published updated advice for organisers of prize competitions and free draws.

[Read more...](#)

2. Letter to racecourses on hospitality

There has been considerable industry interest in the subject of corporate hospitality boxes at racecourses. The Commission has therefore written to all racecourse managers to make clear our understanding of this matter.

[Read more...](#)

3. Commission holds open events for operators

As part of a nationwide exercise to develop our relationship with smaller licensed operators - without relying on time consuming compliance visits – we are holding open events throughout the country.

[Read more...](#)

4. Joint statement from HMRC and the Commission

A joint statement from HMRC and the Commission has been issued in relation to amusement machines which offer games designed to look like recognised games of chance.

[Read more...](#)

5. Bingo hall stake and prize limits for prize gaming

Regulations intended to apply to bingo halls stake and prize limits for prize gaming brought into force in June 2009 for Adult Gaming Centres and Family Entertainment Centres were laid in draft in Parliament on 15 December 2009.

The draft Gambling Act 2005 (Operating Licence Conditions)(Amendment) Regulations 2010 can be viewed on the DCMS website from Monday 21 December under '[Publications](#)'.

6. Website user satisfaction survey

The Commission's new improved website was launched in July 2009. To help us continually improve our site we would really like to know what you think about it.

The survey consists of six questions and should take you no longer than a few minutes to complete.

[Take the survey](#)

7. New gambling figures due out in New Year

The Commission plans to publish data from three omnibus surveys in the New Year. We continue to publish quarterly data on remote gambling participation but in addition we will publish quarterly data on participation in all gambling activities.

We also plan to publish data on perceptions of gambling, including attitudes of the general public towards the fairness of gambling and its perceived association with criminal activity.

[Current survey data](#)

8. Interim suspension of operating licence

[Read more](#)

9. Other news

Office of Fair Trading's lottery scams campaign

The Office of Fair Trading has recently launched a lottery scams campaign which aims to increase understanding about lottery scams, and provide consumers with simple, practical advice on how to avoid being conned.

[Read more...](#)

...and finally....Happy Christmas!

We'd like to thank all subscribers for your continued support of the E-bulletin. During the holiday season, the Gambling Commission's contact centre will be open as usual 9am-5pm except on 25 - 28 December 2009 and 1 January 2010. We wish you a happy Christmas and a successful 2010!

Next e-bulletin will be on Friday 8 January 2010

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