

Mr Steven Ross Brissett
Former Secretary
Belmore Bowling & Recreation Club

Mr Dimitri Argeres
Director of Compliance & Enforcement Unit
NSW Department of Creative Industries,
Tourism, Hospitality and Sport

Our ref: DOC25/220037

2 September 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

Decision regarding a complaint about Mr Steven Brissett under section 57F of the *Registered Clubs Act 1976*

Our decision

We are satisfied that the ground of complaint is established and have determined to:

- declare that Mr Steven Brissett (**Mr Brissett**) is ineligible to stand for election or to be appointed to, or to hold office in, the position of secretary or member of the governing body of all registered clubs for ten (10) years under section 57H(2)(g) of the *Registered Clubs Act 1976* (**the Act**).

Background

On 11 January 2023, Liquor & Gaming NSW (**L&GNSW**) received a complaint from a member of the public alleging that Mr Brissett had defrauded the Belmore Bowling Club & Recreation Club (**the Club**) of monies through various means.

L&GNSW commenced an investigation, however, upon learning that the matter had been reported to Campsie Police Station, the investigation was suspended pending the outcome of the police criminal investigation.

L&GNSW received notice that Mr Brissett had been served a letter of employment suspension by the Club and had ceased his role as secretary on 15 January 2023. Mr Brissett was the secretary of the Club from 15 October 2018 to 15 January 2023.

On 2 May 2024, Mr Brissett was convicted of the charge 'embezzle as clerk or servant >\$5000 & <\$15,000' for fraudulently embezzling \$11,734 from the Club and was sentenced to a two-year community corrections order. The offence related to Mr Brissett using his position as secretary of the Club to fraudulently embezzle money from the Club.

Mr Brissett also spent \$2,000 of the Club's monies on gambling machines.

On 20 February 2025, Darren Duke (A/Director, Compliance & Enforcement, Liquor & Gaming NSW as a delegate of the Secretary, Department of Creative Industries, Tourism, Hospitality and Sport) made a complaint under section 57F(3)(g) of the Act that Mr Brissett is not a fit and proper person to act as secretary of the Club due to his offending and conviction.

Ground of complaint

The ground of complaint is that:

- the secretary of the club is not a fit and proper person to act as such - section 57F(3)(g) of the *Registered Clubs Act 1976*.

Note: Section 4(1) of the Act defines ‘secretary’ as a person who has ceased to hold office who was appointed by the club as its secretary. This applies to Mr Brissett as the former secretary of the Club.

Submissions and consultation

On 26 May 2025, a show cause notice was issued to Mr Brissett and L&GNSW by the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority (**the Authority**). On 27 June 2025, Mr Brissett advised that he would not be providing a submission. No further submissions were received in response to the show cause notice.

Further notices and submissions

On 21 July 2025, a further notice was issued to Mr Brissett under section 57J(2)(b) of the Act inviting him to show cause why a declaration that he is ineligible to stand for election or to be appointed to, or to hold office in, the position of secretary or member of the governing body of all registered clubs for ten (10) years should not be made.

No submissions were received in response to this notice.

Our findings

As demonstrated by the conviction, Mr Brissett engaged in multiple instances of fraudulent behaviour over a number of years (from 2020 to 2023). The conduct was not an isolated lapse in judgement but appears to be part of a sustained pattern of dishonesty and misconduct. The repeated instances demonstrates a consistent disregard for ethical obligations and a willingness to abuse his position of authority for personal gain.

Mr Brissett’s criminal conviction indicates he lacks the requisite honesty, integrity and ethical standards required to be considered a fit and proper person to hold the role of club secretary. His conviction raises significant concerns about his ability to act in a manner that is consistent with the ethical expectations of the industry, particularly in roles that involve financial management and decision-making.

In consideration of all the circumstances of this complaint, we are of the view that disciplinary action is warranted.

Relevant legislation

Prescribed grounds of complaint

We are satisfied that the complaint was made validly and that the established ground of complaint is a prescribed ground under section 57F of the *Registered Clubs Act 1976*.

The material we considered

In determining the disciplinary complaint, the following material was considered:

- disciplinary complaint from L&GNSW, received 20 February 2025
- email from the former secretary noting he would not be providing a submission, received 27 June 2025.

If you are dissatisfied with this decision

The respondent or complainant may apply to NCAT for a review of this decision under the *Administrative Decisions Review Act 1997*.

For more information, please contact the NCAT Registry at 1300 006 228 or visit the NCAT website.

This decision may be published on the website.

If you have any questions

Please contact the Office of ILGA at office@ilga.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Loy', with a long, sweeping line extending upwards and to the right from the end of the signature.

Jeff Loy
Chair, Disciplinary Matters Committee
NSW Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority