

NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Our ref: DF25/062288

Mr Dion Manca
LAS Lawyers

12 November 2025

Dear Mr Manca

Application No.	1-9543540340 1-9543540395 1-9557791442 1-9557162065 1-9547889987 1-9547889982
Applicant	Wedge House Pty Ltd
Application for	Gaming machine threshold increase with poker machine permit and gaming machine entitlement transfers
Application date	15 August 2025
Decision date	15 October 2025
Licence name	The Meadowbank Hotel
Licence number	LIQH440019094
Trading hours	Monday to Saturday 10:00 AM –12:00 AM Sunday 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM
Premises	27 Railway Road Meadowbank NSW 2114
Legislation	Sections 3, 19, 20, 34 and 35 of the <i>Gaming Machines Act 2001</i>

Decision of the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Application for a gaming machine threshold increase with poker machine permit and gaming machine entitlement transfers – The Meadowbank Hotel

We first considered the applications at the meeting of 17 September 2025 and, following consideration of further information, decided on 15 October 2025 to **approve** the applications under sections 19 and 34 of the *Gaming Machines Act 2001* (**the Act**).

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Impact of *ILGA v Whitebull & Ors [2023] NSWCA 224*

The court in *ILGA v Whitebull & Ors [2023] NSWCA 224* (the **Whitebull decision**) confirmed that the NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority (the **Authority**) may take into account harm minimisation considerations when making a decision under sections 19 and 34 of the Act.

The principles in the *Whitebull* decision underpin the Authority's decision-making under sections 19 and 34 of the Act.

Statement of reasons

We are satisfied that approving the application will be consistent with the objects of the Act.

Our main findings

The local community for the purposes of this decision is the Statistical Area 2 (**SA2**) of West Ryde - Meadowbank. The broader community is the Local Government Area (**LGA**) of Ryde.

The suite of applications proposes to introduce gaming at the venue (licence granted April 2025) by establishing a gaming machine threshold of 6 and the transfer of 6 gaming machine entitlements (with forfeiture of 2) from Rydges Sydney Central and the Websters Bar, along with the transfer of 2 poker machine permits from Jacksons on George.

The venue's trading hours are limited to midnight on Monday to Saturday and 10pm on Sunday.

Social impacts

We accept that the proposal could contribute to an increase in gaming-related harm in the local and broader communities because of the:

- gaming intensity – the average profit per gaming machine in the venue's SA2 and LGA is higher than all 3 source venues at the SA2 and LGA levels
- location factors – the SA2 has higher than average levels of culturally and linguistically diverse people
- increase in gaming – although it is a low range increase of 6 gaming machines, approval of the application will introduce gaming at the venue

However, we note that the below factors weighed in favour of approval of the application, and may also partially or fully mitigate some of the risks identified above:

- banding – the venue is in a Band 1 SA2
- post-midnight gaming – the venue has no post-midnight gaming
- gambling prevalence – the percentage of moderate and high-risk gamblers for the local health district is below the NSW rate
- gambling participation – gambling participation for gaming machines in the local health district is below the NSW rate
- forfeiture – grant of the application will see two gaming machine entitlements permanently forfeited
- the applicant proposes to implement the measures contained in the Gaming Plan of Management to prevent gambling harm.

The material we considered

We considered the following material when making our decision:

- the application material — including evidence that stakeholders and the community were notified about the application
- the legislation
- liquor licence documents
- applicant response to assessment and submissions
- Gaming Plan of Management
- location factors
- venue maps and images
- daily net meter for source and destination venues.

This decision will be published.

If you have any questions

Please contact Liquor & Gaming NSW at: new.applications@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Caroline Lamb

Chairperson

NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority