

Club Journal

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The magazine for all CIU members

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CIU submits evidence to House of Lords Committee examining Licensing laws



The CIU has submitted evidence to a House of Lords Committee which is examining the Licensing Act 2003

The CIU has supplied a response to the House of Lords Committee which is currently examining the Licensing Act 2003.

The House of Lords Committee is investigating the effectiveness of the Act and will publish its report early in 2017 after receiving evidence from a number of organisations.

The CIU's written submission concerned three specific areas covered by the Licensing Act 2003 – Temporary Event Notices (TENs), Licensing Fees and Minimum Unit Pricing.

On the subject of TENs, the CIU statement said: "A frequently voiced concern of Club Secretaries and CIU officers and officials is the inconsistent and arbitrary application of some provisions of the Act by local licensing officers.

"Some clubs complain of licensing officers applying arbitrary constraints in regard to TENs contrary to the provision of the Act and Home Office statutory guidance under Section 182; for example, locally determined requirements as to who in the club context may sign a TEN, and arbitrary limits on the number of TENs a single individual can sign.

"The Section 182 statutory guidance to licensing authorities purports to be 'a key

medium for promoting best practice (and) ensuring consistent application of licensing powers'. It makes clear to regulators that any individual over age 18 may give a TEN provided, in the case of non-personal licence holders, that no individual does so on more than five occasions in a calendar year.

"Admittedly there are numerous quantitative limits governing TENs in the Act which require to be assimilated.

"However regulators should be cognisant of what the Act says and pay heed to the Section 182 guidance which exists to assist them in applying the law and exercising their functions uniformly."

Regarding Licensing Fees, the CIU set out the case for them to continue to be set at a national level to promote uniformity and consistency across all licensing authorities.

The CIU statement also called for Minimum Unit Pricing to be introduced in England and for regulations regarding irresponsible drinks promotions to be equally applied to off-sales as it currently is to on-sales.

Chaired by Baron McIntosh of Pickering, the Committee also includes Lord Smith of Hindhead CBE, the Chief Executive of the Association of Conservative Clubs and Chairman of CORCA.

INSIDE...

Editor's Letter 2

Club News 3

CIU Racing Club 9

Letters Page 12

HQ 14

Club Outings 18

Crossword 21

Sport on TV 22

CIU Sport 23



National Quiz Heats set for New Year

The schedule for the 2017 Dransfields CIU National Quiz has been drawn up and will see Regional Heats taking place in January/February 2017.

The top three placed teams from each Heat will go through to the Final which will be staged during Conference Weekend in Blackpool in April 2017.

For further information on getting involved in the quiz, turn to page 10