



## HOSPITALITY | Issue No. 12 | *New gaming hours now available for Pubs and Clubs*

**June 2016**

Liquor trading hours in Queensland will be capped for most venues to a maximum of 2.00am from 1 July 2016, except for those venues in designated safe night precincts which may trade until 3.00am (subject to lock out arrangements from 1 February 2017).

Traditionally gaming hours have been linked to approved liquor trading hours and gaming machines were only permitted to be operated up to thirty minutes after the venue's approved liquor hours ended.

From 1 July 2016 this will change and venues will be permitted to continue to trade beyond their liquor trading hours to serve food, non-alcoholic beverages and provide entertainment. These new laws also allow gaming hours to be extended for up to two hours after liquor service ends. Therefore, if a venue has approval to sell liquor until 2.00am it can now apply for approval to operate gaming machines until 4.00am.

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The OLGR is now accepting applications for gaming extended hours. These applications do not need to be publicly advertised if the extension is only up to one hour after liquor service, but where the application is to extend gaming by more than one hour then advertising will be required but the advertising period will be reduced to 14 days rather than the usual 28 days.

Additionally there is no requirement to provide a full Community Impact Statement or to address the impact on the surrounding community, however a submission is required that addresses the nature and type of the facilities, the potential impact on problem gambling from the extended hours and the anticipated level of gaming revenue during the extended hours. Applicants must now also provide evidence of town planning approval from the local council for the additional gaming hours.

It is expected that many strategic pub and club sites with successful gaming operations will seek to take up this opportunity to expand their gaming operations.



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