



## HOSPITALITY I | *Liquor and gaming licensing changes commencing midnight tonight!*

June 2016

As all licensees will be aware, there are a number of changes to the liquor and gaming licensing laws that commence from midnight tonight, 30 June 2016.

A snapshot summary of the key changes that will affect licensees is set out below.

### **Liquor trading hours and lockouts**

- If you are not in a Safe Night Precinct, you cannot serve liquor after 2.00am. Even if you previously had approval for extended trading hours, your approval has now been automatically wound back to 2.00am.
  - If you are in a Safe Night Precinct, you cannot serve liquor after 3.00am. As above, if you previously had approval for extended trading hours, your approval has now been automatically wound back to 3.00am.
  - Venues can only trade up to 2.00am or 3.00am if their current approved liquor hours already permit this. If venues are currently only approved to trade until an earlier time (midnight or 1.00am) then this still applies and their trading hours are not automatically extended until 2.00am or 3.00am.
  - Initially there is no lockout period. However, from 1 February 2017 each Safe Night Precinct will need to determine whether they:
    - become a declared Safe Night Precinct which will allow them to sell liquor until 3.00am with a 1.00am lockout; or
    - remain a non-declared Safe Night Precinct which will only allow them to sell liquor until 2.00am but with no lockout.
- The collective decision of each Safe Night Precinct will apply to all venues in the relevant Safe Night Precinct.
- There will be no lockout for venues that are not located in a Safe Night Precinct.

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*“Even if you previously had approval for extended trading hours, your approval has now been automatically wound back...”*

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### **Trading after liquor sales cease**

- The 30 minute grace period for patrons to finish their drinks after approved liquor trading hours cease still applies.
- Venues can continue to trade after their approved liquor trading hours to serve food, non-alcoholic beverages and to provide entertainment including gaming.
- If a lockout is in place after 1 February 2017, this will be lifted after 3.00am when liquor sales cease.

### **Gaming trading hours**

- There will be no change to approved gaming hours, so all venues get to keep their current approved gaming hours.
- Gaming hours are no longer linked to liquor hours. Licensees can apply for approval to operate gaming for up to two hours after their approved liquor trading hours.

### **No rapid intoxication drinks after midnight**

- Venues will not be able to sell any “rapid intoxication drinks” after midnight, these are:
  - Drinks in small glasses or containers that allow patrons to consume the drink quickly eg. shots, shooters, jelly shots, bombs etc.
  - A prepared drink that contains in excess of 45ml of spirits or liqueur (1.5 nips).

- A pre-mixed beverage that contains more than 5% alcohol by volume or more than two standard drinks.
- The penalty for serving a “rapid intoxication drink” after midnight is a fine of \$12,190 (100 units).
- Cocktails are exempt from this restriction after midnight (provided they are listed in a cocktail menu, are not sold at a discount and are not served in shot form for rapid consumption).
- All beer, wine and champagne can continue to be served as normal and spirits can also still be served with up to 45ml of liquor (1.5 nips) per drink.

### **One-off extended trading hours approvals**

- All venues can still apply for one-off extended hours permits to trade beyond 2.00am or 3.00am (up to 12 permits per year).

### **Exceptions**

- These new laws do not apply to airports or casinos, or to room service in accommodation venues.

With these changes being effective from the first minute of Friday, 1 July 2016, venues need to ensure they are compliant by midnight tonight.



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