



Katherine Club Inc Liquor Review Submission

My name is Alison Jean Vincent, I have been employed at the Katherine Club since January 2006, excepting an absence of 12 months ending in September 2011. I have been the General Manager since September 2011.

The Katherine Club has a sales mix of Bistro 52.47% and Bar (including non-alcoholic and other bar sales) of 47.53%.

Takeaway alcohol sales amount to 6.97 % of all bar sales with the average purchase being in the order of \$20.00. Such sales are restricted to financial members only, visitors are not allowed to purchase take away alcohol. All sales of alcohol take place in accordance with our Responsible Serving of Alcohol Program (RSA). This is an effective program designed to reduce the harm associated with the excessive consumption of alcohol.

With only 6.97 % of alcohol sales being consumed "off site", it equates to 93.03% of our alcohol sales being consumed under our RSA regime. The Katherine Club Inc has been supporting our members, visitors, local sporting clubs, local schools and a variety of not for profit community organisations for many years since its inception back in 1967.

The Katherine Club Inc would like to offer our formal support of the submissions of both the AHA (NT) and Clubs NT, with further comments specific to our operating environment, regarding the following:

Risk based licensing – The Katherine Club Inc does not support the introduction of risk based licensing fees. We feel this will be an unnecessary financial and administrative burden that does not warrant the increase in government revenue.

Public transport – It is our view that the public transport options (or lack thereof) in Katherine is severely inadequate. There is no public bus service and the taxi service in Katherine is unreliable. We are regularly unable to get through to the taxi service, and if successful there is often an hour waiting time, if they decide to turn up at all, leaving our patrons stranded.

We do provide a free courtesy bus service for all our patrons. We find it very difficult to offer this service due to high turnover of staff (as drivers) and the licensing requirements associated with obtaining a courtesy bus drivers licence. A concession in relation to registration costs, removing the fee and draconian endorsement requirements to drive a courtesy vehicle would be well received.

Venue barring – We believe that there should be a Territory wide, standard trespass arrangements with clear instruction on how it is to be implemented and maintained. We also believe that there should be substantial mandatory fines on patrons that do not abide by the rules and regulations and that these fines should be strictly enforced. The offender should be held accountable for, and penalised for their transgressions.

Sale of Alcohol – It is our view that the mandatory alcohol restrictions, on the sale of alcohol, specific to our, and other regions be removed. This would standardise the regulations pertaining to the sale of alcohol across the Territory. This would alleviate the confusing and inequalities that currently exist in relation to the sale of alcohol across the Territory.