

Media Release

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Be a good sport on Grand Final weekend

Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) inspectors will hit the streets of Melbourne this Grand Final weekend to ensure liquor licensees are complying with the law.

Celebrations can turn sour if a liquor licensee lets patrons become intoxicated, and there are hefty fines for breaking the rules.

VCGLR inspectors will be out in force checking licensees are doing the right thing, with a focus on venues and bottle shops in Melbourne's inner city - before and after the Grand Final.

The best way for a licensee to avoid a fine is to stick by the rules.

Tips for licensees include:

- You must not supply alcohol to a person who is intoxicated.
- You must not allow a drunken or disorderly person to be on your premises.
- Your current licence must be displayed in an obvious place where anybody can read it.
- There are certain posters that must be displayed as specified by the type of licence you hold.
- Free drinking water must be made available for patrons.
- Your venue must not cause problems with the amenity of the surrounding area, such as excessive noise when people are arriving and leaving.

A venue may be visited at any time by a VCGLR inspector or Victoria Police.

If the licensee is found to be in breach of the liquor laws, an infringement notice can be issued or court proceedings can be initiated.

A severe breach can result in the VCGLR seeking suspension or cancellation of the licence, along with a financial penalty.

For example, one of the highest penalties is for selling liquor without a licence, where the maximum fine exceeds \$28,000 or 24 months in prison.

Other breaches include:

- Supplying liquor to an intoxicated person - \$14,657 maximum penalty
- Permitting a drunken or disorderly person on licensed premises - \$14,657 maximum penalty
- Supplying liquor to an underage person - \$ 7,328 maximum penalty.

For information on liquor licence conditions and responsible service of alcohol please visit www.vcglr.vic.gov.au

Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation

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