

## Media Release

Thursday 1 August 2013

### VCGLR takes action on alleged bingo fraud

The Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) has taken action to prevent Dualware Mooroopna Parents and Friends Inc (DWMPF) from conducting bingo.

The VCGLR has issued DWMPF with a notice to show cause why its declared status should not be revoked and a notice of suspension.

The action follows an investigation over several weeks by VCGLR and a joint operation with Victoria Police, which culminated in a nominee of the DWMPF being charged with 21 counts of obtaining property by deception in relation to bingo played on behalf of DWMPF at the Sir Ian McLennan Sports Centre, Echuca Road, Mooroopna.

VCGLR inspectors are authorised to investigate any alleged breaches of the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* (the Act), which includes the conduct of bingo.

A community or charitable organisation can nominate a person to conduct bingo sessions on its behalf. The nominee is responsible for the running of bingo sessions on behalf of the organisation and is liable under the Act.

The VCGLR is responsible for ensuring registered bingo operators and their nominees comply with the Act.

The VCGLR takes breaches of the Act seriously and is actively engaged in ongoing monitoring of the minor gaming industry across the state as part of its risk-based approach to compliance.

The VCGLR believes there may be grounds to revoke the body's status as a declared community or charitable organisation, and therefore has suspended its permission to conduct bingo or other minor gaming activities under the Act.

The DWMPF now has 28 days to show cause as to why its status should not be revoked under the Act.

The Shepparton Bingo is not connected to the DWMPF in any way.

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**Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation**

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