

Appendix – VRGF submission to the Review of the Impact of Illegal Offshore Wagering

Comparisons between onshore and offshore wagering providers

The foundation reviewed six Australian and six offshore wagering operators to compare which various common gambling features were offered or made available to customers.

The six Australian wagering operators selected were CrownBet, William Hill, Ladbrokes, Luxbet, Sportsbet and TAB. The six offshore wagering providers were selected from various locations in Europe and Asia to provide a diverse sample. The wagering operators sampled were 188Bet (which could not be accessed from Australia), Dafabet, 10bet, Sbobet, Tonybet and Stan James Sportsbook.

The features compared were:

- notification that gambling by minors is prohibited
- offering live betting
- offering inducements
- offering self-exclusion
- offering pre-commitment
- providing a responsible gambling page

The outcome of the samples undertaken is tabulated below. It will be seen that the differences between the providers is not that great. It will be noted that not all of the offshore providers offer live betting while all the Australian sites do. However, as noted in the foundation submission the Australian providers cannot offer live betting online.

In a larger survey of 66 offshore sites offering betting to Australians in English the foundation did not find they heavily promoted in-play betting, suggesting it was not a major point of competitive difference.

Australian bookmakers

Bookmaker	Prohibits minors	Offers live betting	Offers inducements	Offers self-exclusion	Offers pre-comm limit	Has RG page	Comments
CrownBet	Yes	Yes	Yes – Victorians excluded from sign-up bonus	Yes	Yes	Yes – and provides links to GH services	
William Hill	Yes	Yes	Yes – Victorians excluded from sign-up bonus Yes – including sign-up bonus	Yes	Yes	Yes – and provides links to GH services	
Ladbrokes	Yes	Yes	Yes – Victorians excluded from sign-up bonus	Yes (includes note that account may be closed rather than the person self-excluded)	Yes	Yes – and provides links to GH services	
Luxbet	Yes	Yes	Yes – Victorians excluded from sign-up bonus	Yes	Yes	Yes – and provides links to GH services	
Sportsbet	Yes	Yes	Yes – Victorians excluded from sign-up bonus	Yes	Yes	Yes – and provides links to GH services	
TAB	Yes	Yes	Yes – does not offer sign-up bonus	Yes	Yes	Yes – and provides links to GH services	

Overseas bookmakers

Bookmaker	Prohibits minors	Offers live betting	Offers inducements	Offers self-exclusion	Offers pre-comm limit	Has RG page	Comments
188bet							Entry denied. Message on screen is "It is forbidden to access our website from your location"
Dafabet (licensed in Philippines and serves China and the South Pacific market)	Yes	-	Yes – including sign-up bonus	Yes	No – RG page mentions "managing your playing" but does not offer pre-commitment facility	Yes – and provides links to GH services	
10bet (licensed in Curacao)	Yes	Yes	Yes – including sign-up bonus	Yes – up to 5 years	-	Yes	Website also offers online casino games and gaming machines

Sbobet (European operations licensed in Isle of Man, Asian operations licensed in the Philippines)	Yes	Yes	Yes – including sign-up bonus	Yes	Yes	Yes – and provides links to GH services	Website also offers online casino games and gaming machines
Tonybet (licensed in Estonia)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes – and provides links to GH services	Website also offers online casino games and gaming machines
Stan James Sportsbook (licensed in Gibraltar)	Yes	Yes	Yes – including sign-up bonus	Yes	Yes	Yes – and provides links to GH services	Website also offers online casino games and gaming machines