Hi,

My name is Patrick Hill and I’ve been betting online on and off for the last 4 years. I normally bet between $15-300 per bet on sports occurring all over the world and Australian horse racing.

The main reason that approximately half my betting is done with an offshore bookmaker is because the majority of bets I try to place with Australian online bookmaking agencies are rejected or only a very small fraction of my bet is accepted. I place hundreds of thousands of dollars’ worth of bets each year and half of this betting is with an offshore bookmaker. It is a hobby of mine and over the years I’ve had some big wins and some big losses. A few years ago I never had a problem placing bets with any of the Australian online bookmakers. I was losing more than I won. However over the last 2 years I’ve made a profit of a few thousand dollars and my betting accounts with almost all of the Australian bookmakers are limited/restricted to varying degrees. To give you a quick snap shot of these restrictions: The TAB haven’t accepted a bet of any size from me in months. William Hill owned bookmakers offer me greatly reduced odds compared to what they offer anyone else. Sportsbet and Ladbrokes only let me bet a literally a few dollars on most markets with them and have banned me from all fixed odds on racing.

These same bookmakers who won’t take my bets of a few hundred dollars will let other people bet thousands with them. It certainly appears that they are happy to increase the amount they let their customers bet if the customers are “chasing their losses”. I have a cousin who has lost his house, his car and eventually his marriage due to accumulating very large gambling debts and is allowed to bet thousands with the same online companies who won’t let me bet more than $10 with them.

Let’s face it, the only punters who are betting offshore are those who aren’t allowed to bet with Australian bookmakers. Your average Joe wouldn’t know any names of the online bookmakers operating offshore and if he wants to work out where to place a bet on sports/racing he need only to turn on the TV or radio during any sports program and be bombarded with advertisements from “Australian” online betting companies showing punters backing winners. What they don’t show us is if you back a few more winners than losers, they won’t let you bet with them anymore.

Kind regards,

Patrick Hill