

revesbyworkersclub

Submission to the Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on Gambling

Revesby Workers' Facilities & Affiliations

- Entertainment area
- Beverage outlets
- Auditorium
- Function space
- Gaming room
- 3x catering facilities
- Fitness centre
- Child care centre
- 42 inter clubs
- Keno
- TAB
- Sports bar
- Travel agency
- Hair dresser

The Revesby Family of Clubs

- Revesby Workers' Club
- Mooney Mooney on the Hawkesbury
- Revesby Bowling Club
- Panania Sports & Recreation Centre

Revesby Workers' - its purpose, number of members, how long it has existed & history

Revesby Workers' Club has existed for nearly 50 years. During the post war era, the Bankstown area expanded rapidly through Housing Commission building programs and industrial expansion. Revesby Workers' Club opened its doors in 1962, the only Club in the area to provide a comfortable setting for people to meet socially and pursue common interests.

Revesby Workers' Club has come a long way since its inception, however the Club is still a community centre that provides services and facilities to people of all ages, as well as significant charitable contributions. Members visit the Club to gather with their friends and family, and to enjoy food & entertainment that is good value and of good quality

When Revesby Workers' Club (the Club) was founded in 1962 it was designed as a community hub, where local people could meet and socialise. The original membership base of 250 recently reached a milestone of 46,000 members, with some 40 inter-clubs. The Club now offers a wide range of facilities in a much larger and more modern venue. The facilities of the venue include a fitness

centre with over 4000 members and a long day childcare centre that caters for 90 children, which is at 100% occupancy) within 12 months of operation.

The Club community service objectives are ultimately determined by the Board of Directors and through Committees made up of a number of Board members. One such Committee is the Bill Bullard Charity, which was founded by the Club to principally raise money for charities. Another one is the local CDSE Committee made up of Council representatives, the Department of Community Services, The Council for Social Service of NSW, and other clubs in the local government area of Bankstown.

The Club has focused its efforts in the last 7 years on a major diversification plan which included the build of the childcare centre and fitness centre. The future development will include a major carpark, increase in catering facilities, larger function space, and a retail centre, for which is essential in our local community as no local competition is available currently.

The Club now caters for over 46,000 members with an annual revenue of \$51,925,086.

How gaming revenue supports the members and community (club buildings for meeting/sports infrastructure/junior sports/local charities/school groups etc);

As previously mentioned the Club now caters for over 46,000 members and has an annual revenue of \$51,925,086 with gaming revenue equating to 65.7% of total revenue.

Revesby Workers' in many ways is the local community club, housing and supporting over 40 sub-clubs including sporting bodies such as swimming, little athletics, cricket and physical culture, Domino and Scrabble groups as well as the Writers and Orchid Club. Many of these sub-clubs request sponsorship in cash contributions as well as in kind, in kind donations can include free room hire, cost price catering and no wage costs which Revesby Workers' incurs. Last year alone there was over **\$1,056,000** in cash and in kind donations for this group. That does not include additional CDSE 1 contributions which exceed **\$255,000** as well.

The club's commitment to amateur sports cost **\$402,838** in the last financial year equating to 0.62% of total revenue, the value of \$7.10 per member

- Many sporting bodies have seen their teams grow and become successful at their passion. Recently the swimming club celebrated one of its finest breaking the 200m multi-disability category, as well as breaking the Australia 100m backstroke record, Michael Auprince with his record breaking feat was featured in the local papers in February 2010, the little athletics group won several tournaments and there have been several success stories with the physical culture team. This will not be made viable or possible without the financial and in kind support given by the Revesby Workers' Club.
- In addition Revesby Workers' supports over 6 bowling greens which belong to the Revesby family. The greens costs in excess of **\$200,000** annually which are only in place to support the community. The greens are only available to provide a form of entertainment for the retired and elderly members, which they enjoy.
- The Club also hold free seniors concerts each month for its members where they receive a meal and great entertainment, this is held every month with each concert housing 750 seniors and costing over \$2,000.

- An example of how the Club supports various organisations is The Bankstown City Aged Care. The Club was approached in regards to their Yallambee Village project for a 60 bed ageing in place unit development, involving major expansions and renovations. The project was deemed worthy because Yallambee Village services the local community and any substantial funding boost would assist them to undertake the major renovations, which would allow them to cope with the changing face of aged care into the future. The Club decided to donate \$500,000 over a 5 year period towards the project which commenced in 2009.

The Club contributes to charities and organisations that can, in turn, fulfil the objectives set by the Local CDSE Committee. The following is a list of the priorities of the Local CDSE Committee and examples of how the Club assisted for 2009/10.

- Access and Equity: information sessions for under-resourced or emerging groups. The Club supports the Bankstown Community Health Centre, the Bankstown Community Resource Group, and the Coolaburoo Neighbourhood Centre.
- Childcare: the promotion of child care services and school preparation programs. The Club built a 90 place early childcare centre to meet the gap in the provision of local child care services of quality in the area. The community based, occasional child care (Revesby 'Now 'n' Then' occasional child care centre) is also supported by the Club, in the last financial year the club donated \$50,000 this organisation, the support was agreed for a 2 year period.
- Community Harmony: cross-cultural and intergenerational activities. The Club partners Padstow Rotary Club with projects and supports the Bankstown Rotary.
- Education, Employment and Training: appropriate training for all members of the community. The Club makes significant contributions to Learning Links, Padstow TAFE, Headway Adult Development Program, as well as an annual \$2,000 grants to 28 schools in the local area totalling **\$56,000.00**.
- Senior Citizens: support programs for carers. The Club is a long-time supporter of Bankstown City Aged Care as mentioned above.
- People with Disabilities: carer support programs, assistance with equipment/aids. The Club supports many carers groups, including Bankstown Dementia Carer's Group, and Variety Car Bash.

Furthermore, on average the Club receives 20 requests for support per week. The Board holds monthly meetings and discusses requests for donations and sponsorship, and updates on the Bill Bullard Charity activities. Every request is given due consideration by the Board and many of the requests are acceded to.

The club's commitments to non-sporting community, including subsidised funds for functions usage, amounted to **\$654,019.76** and was 1.26% of total revenue or \$3.15 value per member

As regular 'entertainment' for our members we hold daily Bingo and raffles twice a week which cost in excess of **\$200,000** a year. These activities are some of which our elderly members look forward to as their day activity. We also hold free entertainment every Friday and Saturday night.

We also hold activities such as Poker, Mahjong and Thirteen, for the last financial year these activities cost in excess of **\$430,000**

Diversification has also been imperative to the Club. The local community currently only shop at Woolworths as there are no other major options, with our retail centre we have negotiated an agreement with Coles so we can provide the community with a choice and competition. In 2009 we launched our new fitness centre and Long Day Care centre with 4000 members, and 90 children, 100% occupancy, respectively. In addition the waiting list for child enrolments exceeds 190 families.

The next stage of the development will include the Retail centre, more function facilities, additional catering options and the club renovations. All of which would be impossible to do should our gaming revenue be effected.

Our total revenue for the last financial year was \$52,284,543, with gaming \$34,353,237 equalling 65.7% of our total revenue.

What the Club does now to promote responsible gaming

RWC appointed a Compliance Manager approximately 12 months ago. His job includes ensuring that all legislative requirements are strictly adhered to with particular emphasis on the provisions of the Gaming Machines Act, Liquor Act and the Registered Clubs Act. The Compliance Manager keeps up to date with all new legislation and ensures that any new requirements are implemented and communicated to relevant personnel. All enquiries regarding legislation are referred to the Compliance Manager for his advice and he also handles enquiries from persons who have self-excluded.

Any self-excluded person wishing to re-join the Club must meet strict requirements before being re-admitted to the Club.

All Duty Managers are trained in the self-exclusion program. There are pre prepared self-exclusion kits, which contain all relevant information on how to self-exclude, a self-exclusion deed and details of counselling services available to patrons when requested.

RWC ensures that all floor, door, reception and security personnel are familiar with photographs of all self-excluded persons, including those referred from other clubs or hotels, so as to prevent them from entering the Club.

Every month a Duty Manager completes an OLGR checklist, which is checked by the Compliance Manager then tabled in his monthly Board report.

RWC is a member of Club Safe and responsible gambling information, such as brochures, signage and gambling counselling cards are available throughout the Club. The Club's website as well as publications such as the Club magazine, posters and brochures feature responsible gambling messages.

The gaming area at RWC is somewhat isolated from other areas of the Club so that patrons and guests of all ages attending the Club for the many other activities run by the Club, such as entertainment, restaurants, auditorium, functions room, bingo, sports bar, gymnasium, etc., do not have to pass through the gaming area and be exposed to poker machines.

We also have a “player activity book” readily available to members which highlights the chances of winning, responsible gaming, rules of playing, help numbers available etc. This document is produced in house and is unique to Revesby Workers’ Club.

How will a drop in revenue (30 to 50%) would affect the Club’s viability and the support it gives to the local community;

- Should a **30%** drop in gaming revenue occur it will equate to **\$10,305,708.30**, total revenue being **\$24,046,652.70**
- Should a **50%** drop in gaming revenue occur it will equate to **\$17,176,180.50**, total revenue being **\$17,176,180.50**
- Should the club experience such a drop in its annual revenue many things unfortunately would need to be re-evaluated.
- The CDSE contribution would be significantly reduced as it equals **1.5%** of total gaming revenue.
- Our diversification plans in place would be made extremely difficult to fulfil, thus not providing members and the community with updated facilities, better choices and continuous upgrade in our local area.
- The club would need to re assess its wages and staff levels, currently employing **350** staff there will be a **reduction of over 100** staff
- Our current wages are **\$13million** which would drop by **\$4million**
- Our staff training, rewards program and parties will need be reduced from the current spend of **\$50,000.00**.
- We would need to reassess the ownership and sustainability of the 2 bowling clubs, as they are not profit making units they are heavily subsidised by the main club.
- Our sporting bodies and in kind donations would **reduce** heavily, last year over **\$500,000.00** was given in donations as such, this will no longer be sustainable.
- Our food and beverage options would need to again, be re-evaluated, as they are not profitable centres.
- Our food and beverage spend with suppliers will decrease.
- Our members entertainment such as bingo, raffles, poker, mahjong etc would need to be removed as they cost in excess of **\$430,000** a year.
- Our school donations and additional charity work will be reduced heavily if not cancelled, currently \$10,000 annually.
- Our local suppliers will be impacted as advertising and spend from the venue decreases current advertising costs exceed **\$350,000**, 70% of this spend is directed at the local paper.

- Our promotional suppliers will be impacted as we will no longer be running as many promotions, bingo and raffles therefore their employees would need to be reassessed

A summary;

Summary of community contribution		
Item	Cost	Additional comments
Now n then support	\$ 50,000.00	
Donation to the local schools	\$ 56,000.00	
Inkind & cash contributions	\$ 1,000,056.00	
CSDE 1 contribution	\$ 255,000.00	
Commitment to non sporting	\$ 654,019.76	\$3.15 value per member
Commitment to amateur sports	\$ 402,838.00	\$ 7.10 value per member
Bingo and raffles	\$ 200,000.00	
Interactive "free" games	\$ 430,000.00	
Bowling greens	\$ 200,000.00	
Total	\$ 3,247,913.76	