IN THE MATTER of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act

2012

AND

IN THE MATTER of an application for the renewal of a

Club licence pursuant to s. 120 in respect of premises situated at 206 Golf Links Road, Takutai, Hokitika and known as the Hokitika Golf Club by the Hokitika Golf Club Incorporated.

# <u>DECISION OF THE WESTLAND DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE ON UNCONTESTED</u> <u>APPLICATIONS</u>

#### Authority:

Pursuant to section 191(2) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (the Act) and a Council resolution dated 28 November 2013, the functions, powers and duties of the Westland District Licensing Committee are delegated to the committee chairperson where no objection has been filed, and no matters of opposition have been raised by the Police, the Medical Officer of Health or an Inspector. There is no Local Alcohol Policy in place for the District.

## The application:

The Hokitika Golf Club is a Club and therefore can continue to hold a licence. The Club license was put in place in 2019 and this is the first renewal. The renewal application does not seek to change any of the existing conditions.

#### **Summary of Evidence**

The complete file has been made available to me.

The application is not well documented.

The Police advise that there is no objection to the application.

The Medical Officer of Health has no opposition to the application.

#### **Evaluation of Evidence**

I have considered the application on the basis of the uncontested reports received. The matter is able to be dealt with on the papers.

The renewal application does not seek to change any of the existing conditions.

I have not identified any amenity and good order issues to be addressed.

There is a plan attached to the application which I presume is the plan of the extent of the licensed premises. The Inspector has not made particular reference to the plan, but it seems to me to be adequate enough for the purposes of defining the extent of the premises subject to the Club license.

The application does state at part 4.(i) in response to the question as to steps that are to be taken to promote the responsible consumption of alcohol, that food will be available. The application does not elucidate on the nature of the food that is available. This is an important host responsibility issue and the application is

mostly silent and none of the reporting agencies have made reference to the availability of food so I am left with the assumption that there are no issues for me to address as part of the renewal process.

In my view The Golf Club should as a matter of obvious necessity have in place a Host Responsibility Policy which clearly defines the Club's obligations to its members in so far as the sale, supply and consumption of alcohol is concerned. The Club would be sensible if it took its Host Responsibility obligations seriously and in time for the next renewal round. On reflection, I have decided that this is to be a matter that will be subject to a condition pursuant to section 110 (1)(a) of the Act requiring the Club to establish an appropriate Host Responsibility Policy in time for the next renewal of the licence. I do not expect a generic document and with three years to perform the task I anticipate a document particular to the needs of the Club and one that has been tested for an appropriate period.

An issue for the Club is the Question of the supply of freely available drinking water to patrons. Section 110 (2)(c) of the Act provides that a condition must be attached to every Club license requiring the place or places where the Club will provide freely available drinking water at all times that the premises are open for business. The application suggests that two outside taps and the toilets should be considered as sources of freely available water. This is simply not good enough at any level and does not, I think, meet the expectations of what should be a civilized and convivial drinking environment. I am surprised that the Inspector let the comment go without analysis. Host Responsibility is much more than this application suggests and it would be good if the Club took this matter seriously.

A further issue for the Club to consider seriously is the question of supply of alcohol to persons other than members. Section 60 of the Act relates to the Sale and supply of alcohol in Clubs to members and Guests.

#### Section 60 Sale and supply in clubs to members and guests only

- (1) The holder of a club licence must ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied to any person for consumption on the premises unless the person is—
- (a) an authorised customer; or
- (b) if the licence issued subject to a condition allowing alcohol to be sold or supplied to people of that kind, a person who is on the premises at the invitation of an authorised visitor who is also on the premises.
- (2) If a club licence and an off-licence are held for the same premises, the holder must ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied to any person for consumption off the premises unless the person is an authorised customer.

The Act goes further to define an authorised customer and an authorised visitor.

The Club may need to turn its attention to this matter for the next renewal. In the meantime, alcohol is only able to be supplied to members of the Club. Visitors and associates are precluded. This is a matter that the Club should address, perhaps, with guidance from the inspector.

### **Decision and Reasons**

I am satisfied as to those matters provided for in s.120 of the Act.

The application is granted on the papers pursuant to s.202 (1) of the Act as Decision Numbers **039-2020** and I direct that renewed licence 56/CLUB/019/2019 be issued pursuant to s.64 of the Act.

The licence is to be issued for a period of three years from the date of this decision and is subject to the following conditions:

(a) alcohol may be sold only on the following days and during the following hours:Monday to Friday from 12.00Noon to 6.00PM the same day; and

- Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays from 12.00Noon to 8.00PM the same day.
- (b) Alcohol may only be sold or supplied to Club Members.
- (c) the following steps must be taken to promote the responsible consumption of alcohol:

  Prior to the next renewal of this licence the Club is to establish and implement a Host

  Responsibility Policy particular to the needs of the Club and its members or associates.
- (d) The Principal Entrance is to be described as "The main front door to the Clubhouse"
- (e) Pursuant to section 110(2)(c) of the Act, drinking water shall be freely available to all customers from the bar at all times that the licence is being exercised.
- (f) The extent of the Licensed premises shall be that area shown on a plan accompanying the renewal application dated 11 February 2020.

Dated at Hokitika this 12th day of April 2020

hairman, Westland District Licensing Committee

