

PROBLEM GAMBLING TREATMENT & SUPPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PGTSAC)

Draft Minutes

DATE/TIME: Tuesday, April 23, 2024 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET

LOCATION: VCSB, 10128 W. Broad St., Glen Allen, Va 23060

Members:

	Attend	Absent
Anne Rogers, Chairperson – PG Prevention Coordinator, Office of Behavioral Health Wellness	x	
Carolyn Hawley PhD, Vice-Chair – Executive Director of VCPG	x	
Khalid R. Jones – Executive Director, Va. Lottery	x	
Michael Menefee – Program Manager of Charitable and Regulatory Programs	x	
David Lermond – Executive Secretary, Va. Racing Commission	x	
Jim Bebeau – Executive Director of Danville Pittsylvania CSB	x	
Colleen Carraccio – Director of Compliance, Portsmouth Rivers Casino	x	
Brian Snell – Vice President of Administration, Colonial Downs	x	
Chrissy Thurmond – Head of Responsible Gaming Relations, DraftKings	x	
Vacant		

General Assembly Representatives Present:

Paul Krizek, Virginia House of Delegates, and Bryce Reeves, Virginia Senate, Maria Salgado Assistant to Del. Krizek

Media Present: Graham Moomaw, Virginia Mercury

Others Present: Nash Wiley, John Mohrmann, Bea Gonzalez, Tad Berman, Tom Dozier, Jennifer Mullen, Jill Vaughan, Don McCourtney, Sean Fournia, Willard Robertson, Dean Hessemann, Azeem Majeed, Gina Smith, Jennifer Davis Walton, Elizabeth Childress, and Lyndon Aguiar.

SUMMARY

- I. Welcome – Meeting Begins 10:00 am
- II. Minutes of Last Meeting summarized. Mr. Lermond moved to accept and Mr. Menefee seconded. All accepted. Minutes accepted into record.
- III. Responsible Gambling in Sports Betting – Presentation on DraftKings RG program presented by Chrissy Thurmond. Provided an overview of their program, new initiatives platform tools and resources, and PGAM messages. A few key points mentioned are:
 - a. DraftKings is the only Sports betting company that provides every State PG Council that is interested \$15,000 to use as they wish. Virginia Council is one of the States that receives this and they used this for website development.
 - b. They provide players who show signs of a possible problem a connection to Kindbridge Behavioral Health who can assess them and provide virtual clinical services.
 - c. Promoting positive play to get all to use responsible gaming tools in the app.
 - d. To see the entire scope of offerings see the pdf of the slides.
- IV. CDI/Rosies Responsible Gambling Program – Shared information about changes to their self-exclusion program. Their self-exclusion program (SEP) is throughout all Colonial Downs and has been expanded in April to include Kentucky and Indiana players who self-excluded and will expand to the other states later this year. The 8th Rosies in Dumfries will open in a few months. IDs are checked for everyone who enters a Rosies, but at the racetrack, it is more

difficult. When someone wins an amount or has other transactions which that fall under Title 26 or 31 or needs a 1099, their ID is required and checked against the exclusion list. During live racing it is more difficult to check all ID's. If a person signs up for an account with TwinSpires ID's are checked. During live racing, they will close off the HHR terminals so that person's underage cannot access them during live race days. There are also people at Colonial Downs who go around to help those using self-serve machines and are supposed to check IDs then as well. Colonial Downs reaches out to those who have lost/spent the most money as compared to previous quarters to check for potential service needs and crimes. But this only happens to those that have a player's card, because it is not available now if not using the card.

- V. Virginia Lottery Update on Voluntary Exclusion Program – As of April 20, 2024, there were 1,056 on the statewide self-exclusion program. The five-year exclusion is the most common (595), followed by two-year exclusions (411), then Lifetime (50). Enrollment skews toward males. Overall, ages 31-40 make up the majority of voluntary exclusion enrollees, followed by 21-30 year olds. The Voluntary Exclusion Program administered by the Virginia Lottery excludes enrollees from all legal forms of gambling in the state. One question led to general discussion about the potential for enhanced age verification on Lottery vending machines. Question was posed to Executive Director Jones about whether certain off track betting sites, known as, ADW (Advanced Deposit Wagering) are subject to the VEP (it was unclear which sites were being referenced so no answer was available at the time of the meeting). Enrolling for lifetime self-exclusion is required to occur in person. Lottery Deputy Executive Director of Gaming Compliance Gina Smith confirmed that this requirement was written into the regulations; because this action cannot be reversed, the Lottery conducts its due diligence to ensure the person understands.
- VI. Treatment and Recovery Overview: Helpline, Treatment, and Recovery activities – 274 Intakes occurred in Q1 (Jan-Mar) of 2024. Age 25-34 is the largest age group calling in. 70% were males. Casino gaming and slots were in the top 3. Skill games was no longer in the top 3 since they have been turned off. VCPG getting high read rates of their reports and their reach was high. Va Partnership has hired 5 peer recovery specialists (one in each region of Virginia) – had 166 referrals and able to connect with 54% of these; 66% of intakes met with one of the network treatment/recovery providers. Paid for 306 sessions of treatment, 117 sessions with external recovery specialists. Believe part of the success is due to being able to work with a Peer specialist as a case manager. 105 Treatment providers in the network.
- VII. Prevention/Promotion: Activities; Problem Gambling Treatment and Support Expenditures. Over the first 9-months of FY24 CSB's conducted over 555 merchant education/responsible retailing visits providing signage and educational materials. CSB's distributed over 18,000 guides, brochures, rack cards, participated in social marketing campaigns, presented at over 100 Community events and collaborated with 75 organizations across the state. The first ever State PG conference occurred in Region 3. Delivered information through websites, social media, podcasts, etc. on topics such as the helpline, VSP tipline, signs of Pg, and youth gambling prevention. All of this has been funded primarily through \$1.3 million in PGTS funds. We also collected almost 6,000 Young Adult Surveys, on gambling, alcohol, drugs, tobacco, suicide, etc. Results should be ready the end of summer.
- VIII. Overview of 2024 gambling/gaming bills enacted

- a. HB195 - prohibition on use of term "casino" by non-casino gaming operators – Died.
 - b. HJ10 and SJ12 - Continues the Joint Subcommittee to Study the Feasibility of Establishing the Virginia Gaming Commission, through November 30, 2025. – Passed (next two meetings will occur by end of June and a consultant is helping).
 - c. HB298 – Incorporated into HB523
 - d. HB523 & SB344 – Amenda charitable gaming law, allowing operational expenses and designates .25% of gross receipts to Problem Gambling Treatment & Support Fund. HB523 signed into law but without the .25%.
 - e. HB525 & SB345 – Limits from holding another referendum on Casino for 3 years in a locality that already voted it down. Passed.
 - f. HB526 – Reduces charitable gaming fees; adds technical amendments. Died.
 - g. HB991 & SB540 – Allows hosting of lottery games for other states to occur within Virginia. Passed.
 - h. HB1016 – Modifies definition of Organization for charitable gaming. Died.
 - i. HB1131, SB429, & SB541 – Removes Richmond as a host city for Casinos; Reducing number of host cities from 5 to 4. Passed
 - j. SB628 – Replaces Richmond with Petersburg to allow a referendum for a Casino. Passed.
 - k. SB675 – Aims to add a 6th option for a future casino, allowing a referendum in Fairfax County. Died.
 - l. SB124 – Allows sports betting on Virginia colleges. Died.
 - m. SB212 & HB590 – Allows skill gaming across the state with ABC as the regulator. The original SB212 that passed conference is currently on the Governor’s desk. Senate rejected Governor’s amendments.
 - n. SB307 – Allows skill gaming across the state with Lottery as the regulator. Died.
 - o. SB348 & SB397 – posting of illegal gaming tip line. Passed. (may want to add the helpline to this next year).
 - p. SB426 – Provides for a percentage of retainage be distributed as deemed. Passed.
 - q. SB694 – Clarifies skill gaming as a form of gambling. Died.
 - r. HB1478 – Cruise ship gambling. Died.
 - s. HB527 - 50/50 raffle to be electronic. May put this back in next year, to include only use of debit card or cash. If raffle is on electronic and not just paper it could include self-exclusion.
- IX. Other: Poker Tournaments going live May 9th. Charitable Gaming Statutes requires that the charitable gambling locations post information on problem gambling and the help line. Though the Charitable Gaming Statutes do not require Poker Tournaments to check if persons are on the self-exclusion list.
- X. 2024 Bill outcomes: -Impacts to PG & RG activities; Ideas to fix potential unintended outcomes; Changes needed due to new laws?
This will be delayed to the July meeting due to running out of time.
- XI. Wrap-up & Adjourn – Adjourn 12:00. Next meeting July 30th. Will try to get VaCSB site again.