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| Decision | 19/014/2026 |
| <u>IN THE MATTER</u> | the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 |
| <u>AND</u> <u>IN THE MATTER</u> | of an application by Piopio Cosmopolitan Club Inc for a special licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act |

DECISION OF THE DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

1. The application for a special licence is granted. The special licence may issue immediately.
2. Piopio Cosmopolitan Club Inc is authorised to sell and supply alcohol, on the premises situated at 38 Moa Street, Piopio to any person attending the Wild Hunting Competition on Saturday, 9 May 2026.
3. This licence is subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) A copy of this licence with all the conditions must be displayed in a prominent place so all persons can read it and all staff must be familiar with the conditions.
 - (b) Alcohol may be sold or supplied to people present participating in the event this licence is issued for.
 - (c) Alcohol may be sold under the licence only on **Saturday 9 May 2026 from 11.00am to 1.00am the following day. A one-way door policy shall apply from 11.00pm.** From this time, no patrons shall be admitted or readmitted to the premises.
 - (d) The area where alcohol is to be sold and consumed is described in the plan date stamped as received by the District Licensing Committee **on 24 February 2026** and no alcohol is to be taken out of this area.
 - (e) A properly appointed certificated must be always on duty and on the premises when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol. If a duty manager is not present, then there must be no alcohol sales and a notice displayed advising the public of this fact.
 - i. All staff will be trained in their responsibilities under the Act;
 - ii. Evidence of age documents will be requested from any person appearing to be under the age of 25.
 - iii. There must be no consumption of alcohol by staff or managers immediately before or during their shifts.

- (g) There must be no sale or supply of alcohol to minors or intoxicated persons. Appropriate signage outlining these restrictions must be clearly displayed at every point of sale.
- (f) Drinking water must be freely available from the bar and dining room and this must be clear to customers while the premises is open for the sale and supply of alcohol.
- (g) Food must be available for consumption on the premises at all times the premises is open for the sale of alcohol in accordance with the menu submitted with the application for this licence: Lions caravan selling hot food and club bar menu is available from 5.00pm to 9.30pm.
- (h) A range of low-alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks must be available at all times when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol.
- (i) A telephone must be freely available for customers to call for transport and staff must assist if required. Telephone numbers for alternative forms of transport from the premises, including a courtesy vehicle or sober driver services, must be displayed and be promoted.
- (k) The entire premises is undesignated.

REASONS

1. This is an application by Piopio Cosmopolitan Club Inc for a special licence for a wild hunt community event to be held at their premises on the 9 May 2026. This application was received more than 20 working days prior to the event as required by section 137 of the Act.
2. The Licensing Inspector, Police and Medical Officer of Health have no objection to this application for a special licence (s 141). Accordingly, this application is decided on the papers (s 202).
3. The object of the Act is to ensure that the sale and supply of alcohol is undertaken safely and responsibly, and the harm caused by excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol is minimised (s 4). In deciding whether to grant a special licence the District Licensing Committee must have regard to the criteria in s 142 of the Act. Therefore, we must consider the following questions within the framework of the purpose and object of the Act:
 - a) What is the nature of the event? Does the applicant propose to engage in the sale of goods or provision of services other than those directly relating to the sale of alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments and food?
 - b) Is the applicant suitable?
 - c) Will the amenity and good order of the locality be reduced to more than a minor extent by the effects of the issue of the licence?
 - d) Are the days and hours during which the applicant proposes to sell alcohol reasonable?
 - e) Is the design and layout of the premises suitable? Are any areas of the premises designated restricted or supervised areas?
 - f) Does the applicant have appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law? What steps will the applicant take to ensure that alcohol is not sold to prohibited persons?
 - g) What proposals does the applicant have in relation to the sale and supply of non-alcoholic drinks and food, low-alcohol drinks and the provision of help with or information about alternative forms of transport from the premises?
 - h) Have the Inspector, Police and Medical Officer of Health raised any relevant considerations?
 - i) Does the application comply with the Waitomo District Local Alcohol Policy?

4. The licensing committee may refuse a special licence even if there was no objection to the application (s 144). Sections 146 – 149 of the Act outline the compulsory and discretionary conditions for a special licence.

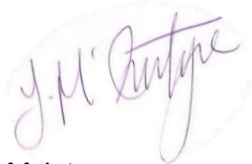
Should a special licence be granted?

5. The hunt is an annual event for the club and this year is scheduled to take place from 7–9 May 2026, with the special licence sought for the weigh-in day and prizegiving on 9 May 2026 only. It is a ticketed event with entry fees set at \$45 for adult categories and \$5 for the children’s “critter” category. Approximately 200 people are expected to attend.
6. The licensing committee is satisfied that Piopio Cosmopolitan Club Inc is a suitable applicant to hold a special licence. The club currently holds a club licence and has demonstrated compliance with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. The issue of a special licence for these events will allow the applicant to sell alcohol to non-members of the club attending the event. A Duty Manager will be present on the premises for the duration of the proposed event to ensure compliance with the Act. The licensing committee is satisfied that proposed hours are reasonable.
7. The Licensing Inspector reports that the application does comply with the Waitomo District Local Alcohol Policy.
8. The licensing committee is satisfied that suitable measures will be taken to ensure that alcohol is sold and supplied responsibly, and that harm caused by inappropriate or excessive consumption of alcohol is minimised. Piopio Cosmopolitan Club Inc has confirmed, in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health, a willingness to implement a one-way door policy. This policy will help reduce alcohol-related harm by limiting late-night entry and re-entry, when intoxication levels are typically higher. Accordingly, a condition requiring a one-way door policy from 11.00pm to 1.00am the following day has been included. These hours align with section 4(d) of the Waitomo District Council Local Alcohol Policy. Piopio Cosmopolitan Club Inc has confirmed that all staff will be trained to implement this condition, including actively monitoring entry and exit points to ensure that patrons who leave the premises are not permitted to re-enter.
9. The licensing committee is satisfied that the design and layout of the premises is suitable given the temporary nature of the licence. The premises consists of a large club room with a bar and gaming room. There is a separate dining area and associated kitchen. The licensed area also includes an outside area just beyond the rear decking.
10. Substantial bar snacks are always available which include pies, fish & chips, pizzas, tenders and chips, cordon bleu, lasagne topper and various small snack items. The Lions Caravan will also be present for the event selling hotdogs, hot chips, steak sandwiches and non-alcoholic drinks. The applicant will provide low-alcohol and non-alcoholic refreshments. Free water will be provided.
11. Given the nature of the events and the venue it is not likely that the issue of the special licence will adversely affect neighbouring properties.
12. The licensing committee is satisfied that the applicant will provide information about alternative forms of transport from the premises, including a courtesy vehicle and sober driver services and a free phone for customers to call those services.

Conclusion

- 13. The licensing committee is satisfied that the grant of the special licence with the appropriate conditions will ensure the safe and responsible supply of alcohol and the minimisation of harm caused by excessive or inappropriate use of alcohol.
- 14. Therefore, the application for a special licence is granted.

Dated at this 25th day of March 2026



Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Waitomo District Licensing Committee