

**Decision**

19/056/2025

(a) **IN THE MATTER** the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

**AND**  
**IN THE MATTER**

of an application by  
Awakino Bowling 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. Awakino Bowling Club Inc is authorised to sell and supply alcohol, on the premises situated at 5 Briscoe Street, Awakino to any person attending the series of monthly bowling club tournaments from 12 October 2025 to 12 April 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 under the licence only on the following days and during the following hours:  
Sunday 12 October 2025, from 9:30am to 9:00pm  
Sunday 9 November 2025, from 9:30am to 9:00pm  
Sunday 14 December 2025, 9.30am to 9.00pm  
Sunday 18 January 2026, from 9:30am to 9:00pm  
Sunday 15 February 2026, from 9:30am to 9:00pm  
Sunday 15 March 2026, from 9:30am to 9:00pm  
Sunday 12 April 2026, from 9:30am to 9:00pm
  - (c) Alcohol may be sold or supplied to people present participating in the event this licence is issued for.
  - (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 20 August 2025 and no alcohol is to be taken out of this area.
  - (e) The person nominated to manage the conduct of the sale and supply of alcohol at all times the premises are open for the sale and supply of alcohol is Gail O'Keeffe and a sign shall be prominently displayed inside the premises, which identifies by name the person responsible under the licence.
    - 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.
- (f) 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.
- (g) Drinking water must be freely available from the bar and this must be clear to customers while the premises is open for the sale and supply of alcohol.
- (h) 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: pies, sandwiches, savouries, scones, and cakes.
- (i) A range of low-alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks must always be available when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol.
- (j) A telephone must be readily available for customers to arrange transport, and staff must assist if required. Contact details for alternative transport options from the premises and the availability of a courtesy vehicle or sober driver services must be clearly displayed for customers.
- (k) The entire premises is restricted.

## **REASONS**

1. This is an application by Awakino Bowling Club Inc for a special licence to host a series of bowling tournaments at their premises from October 2025 through to April 2026. This application was received more than 20 working days prior to the event as required by section 137 of the Act.
2. The Liquor Licensing Inspector, Police and Medical Officer of Health have no opposition 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, this committee 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?

**Should a special licence be granted?**

- 4. The general nature of the event a series of monthly bowling tournaments. Up to 100 people are expected to attend each event but this may vary depending on the weather.
- 5. The licensing committee is satisfied that Awakino Bowling 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. The licensing committee is satisfied that proposed hours are reasonable.
- 6. Awakino Bowling Club Inc has submitted a request under section 213 for a waiver to exempt them from appointing a nominated person in place of a certified manager for the special licence. The request arises because their certified manager's licence has expired and will not be renewed. The applicant advises that Gail O'Keeffe, who has assisted at the bar for many years, has been associated with the club for over 30 years, serving as president for 13 years and currently as secretary/treasurer for 11 years. The licensing committee is satisfied that an exemption may be granted from the requirement to appoint a duty manager (s 213). This is a small low risk competition and Awakino Bowling Club Inc is capable of managing it without a certificated duty manager. Gail O'Keeffe will take responsibility for the management of the all the tournaments and ensure that they comply with the Act. We note that three bar staff/volunteers will be on duty to supervise and serve attendees. They are trained to identify signs of intoxication and to cease service where necessary, as well as to request valid identification from anyone who appears under 25 years of age before serving alcohol. The licensing committee expects Gail O'Keeffe will brief all volunteer bar staff on their responsibilities under the Act and the conditions of this licence prior to the event.
- 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.
- 9. 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.
- 10. The licensing committee is satisfied that the design and layout of the premises is suitable given the temporary nature of the licence. The clubrooms are open plan and contain a small bar area. The bowling green is not included in the licensed area. The applicant will provide sufficient food, low-alcohol and non-alcoholic refreshments. Free water will be provided.
- 11. The licensing committee is satisfied that the applicant will provide information about alternative forms of transport from the premises, including a courtesy van and sober driver services and a free phone for customers to call those services.

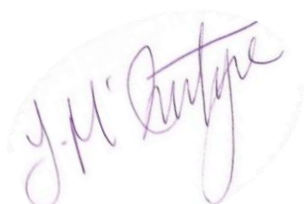
**Conclusion**

- 12. 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.

13. Therefore, the application for a special licence is granted.

Dated at this 23rd day of September 2025

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Tegan McIntyre', is written over a faint, circular official stamp.

Tegan McIntyre  
Commissioner  
Waitomo District Licensing Committee