

Application number:

036/SOL/032/2025

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by **Whanganui Marist Rugby Club** for a special-licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act on the occasion of a 'Celtics 50th Anniversary Function'.

BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

Chairperson
Mr Stuart Hylton



DECISION

1. Introduction

This is an application by **Whanganui Marist Rugby Club** for a special licence in regard to an event to be held at the Marist Club's premises, 23 Hatrick Street, Whanganui. The nature of the event for which the licence is sought is a "Celtics 50th Anniversary Function". The application is to extend the Club's normal trading hours by two hours for the function. Celtic is a historical rugby team of the Club.

The date and hours sought are –

- **Friday 20th June 2025, between 10.00pm and 12.00 midnight**

2. Application

The application was received on 22 May 2025 and included a supporting letter, menu, drinks list, flyer, waiver application/decision and floor plan.

The application was not advertised and no objection or notice of desire to be heard has been received under section 141 of the Act. Accordingly, we deal with the matter on the papers in accordance with section 202(1).

In considering the application for special licence the committee had regard to the following criteria under section 142 of the Act:

- (a) *the object of this Act:*
- (b) *the nature of the particular event for which the licence is sought and, in particular, —*
 - (i) *whether the applicant is engaged in, or proposes at the event to engage in, the sale of goods other than alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments, and food, and if so, which goods; and*
 - (ii) *whether the applicant is engaged in, or proposes at the event to engage in, the provision of services other than those directly related to the sale of alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments, and food, and if so, which services:*
- (c) *the suitability of the applicant:*
- (d) *any relevant local alcohol policy:*
- (e) *whether (in its opinion) the amenity and good order of the locality would be likely to be reduced, by more than a minor extent, by the effects of the issue of the licence:*
- (f) *the days on which and the hours during which the applicant proposes to sell alcohol:*
- (g) *the design and layout of the premises concerned:*
- (h) *whether the applicant has appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law:*
 - (i) *any areas of the premises that the applicant proposes should be designated as restricted areas or supervised areas:*
 - (j) *any steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure that the requirements of this Act in relation to the sale and supply of alcohol to prohibited persons are observed:*
- (k) *the applicant's proposals relating to—*
 - (i) *the sale and supply of non-alcoholic drinks and food; and*
 - (ii) *the sale and supply of low-alcohol drinks; and*

- (iii) the provision of help with or information about alternative forms of transport from the premises:
- (l) any matters dealt with in any report from the Police, the Medical Officer of Health, or an inspector made under [section 141](#).

3. Reporting Agencies

The following reports were received under section 141 of the Act.

Police Report – No opposition within report dated 3 June 2025.

Medical Officer of Health – No opposition within report received on 27 May 2025.

Licensing Inspector Report – Full report provided by the inspector including assessment of application against section 142 criteria. The Inspector concludes that the application is complete and will likely meet the criteria of the Act. Draft conditions are also offered by the inspector.

The complete file and inspectors report noted the following pertinent points in determining this application –

- The applicant is a body corporate incorporated in 1971.
- The applicant holds a Club Licence but needs a special licence to sell outside normal club premise hours and to non-members for the special occasion. Up to 400 people may attend.
- The applicant has described this as a milestone anniversary celebration for 50 years of existence. Club members, affiliates and bona fide guests will be in attendance in accordance with their Club licence requirements and this application seeks to extend their usual licensed hours by two hours to provide an opportunity to include formal speeches and presentations and include food service as they celebrate this event.
- The applicant has not come to the notice of enforcement agencies previously.
- Suitability is not challenged.
- The premise and club licence has been in existence for many years and an extra special licence should not reduce amenity and good order of the locality. The Club has spoken to the immediate neighbours, namely Greyhound Club, about events and use of cross boundary areas. The Greyhound Club have given conditional approval.
- The premise is suitable for the type of event and layout has been suitable in the past. The marked floor plan was included which is the club rooms generally.
- The hours appear relevant for the event being undertaken.
- A certified manager is nominated for the event including other security staff. This is seen as sufficient to cover the functions.
- A 'restricted' designation for the event is requested and supported.
- Both the Police and MOH have no objections to the application

4. Decision

The application for Special Licence is **Approved** for issue subject to the conditions outlined in the inspector's report.

DATED at Whanganui this 3 day of June, 2025.



Secretary
Whanganui District Licensing Committee

