

Application number: **036/SOL/012/2026**
IN THE MATTER of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND

IN THE MATTER of an application by **Whanganui Bridge Club Incorporated** for a special-licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act on the occasion of 'Friday Meetings and Tournament Events February 2026 to January 2027'.

BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

Commissioner
Mr S G Hylton



DECISION

1. Introduction

This is an application **Whanganui Bridge Club Incorporated** for a special licence in regard to an event to be held at premises 3 Parson Street, Whanganui (being part of Victoria Park, 19 Parsons Street, St Johns Hill, Whanganui. The nature of the events for which the licence is sought is for "Friday Meetings and Tournament Events February 2026 to January 2027".

The dates and hours sought is –

- **Every Friday from Friday 13 February to Friday 22 January 2027 4:30pm to 6:30pm**
- **Sunday 21 June 2026 4:30pm to 6:30pm**
- **Sunday 12 July 2026 4:30pm to 6:30pm**
- **Sunday 2 August 2026 4:30pm to 6:30pm**
- **Sunday 30 August 2025 4:30pm to 6:30pm**
- **Sunday 20 September 2025 4:30pm to 6:30pm**
- **Sunday 11 October 2026 4:30pm to 6:30pm**
- **Saturday 12 December 2026 4:30pm to 6:30pm**
- **Sunday 24 January 2027 4:30pm to 6:30pm**

2. Application

The application was received on 29 January 2026 and included a site 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 received on 8 February 2026.

Medical Officer of Health – No opposition within report received on 3 February 2026.

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 following matters from the full file including inspectors report are pertinent to this decision –

- The applicant is a Club affiliated to its national Club. The events are in respect of a series of weekly bridge play events and tournament events.
- It is noted that these events have occurred in a similar manner in the past and hosted (it would appear) without concern, but without a licence. The Club has since been made aware of the obligation to hold a Special Licence for such events and have subsequently submitted this application. This is to be commended.
- The applicant estimates that the event may attract up to 25 people (small event) where attendance is likely to attract their known special interest membership.
- Suitability is not challenged.
- The bar area is located within the internal space of their Club Rooms and is a dedicated building used for their Club activities. The entire internal area is requested to be '**Undesignated**'.
- This venue has been used for the Club activities for many years, there is no reason to believe that the amenity and good order the locality would be likely to decrease, by more than a minor extent, if the licence was to be granted.
- The premise is suitable for the type of event.
- The hours appear reasonable for the events being undertaken.
- A non-certified manager is nominated for the event. A s. 213(2) waiver is sought for the member to act as a non-certified manager.
- No designation for the events is supported.
- Both the Police and MOH have no opposition to the application

4. Decision

The application for Special Licence is **Approved** for issue subject to the conditions outlined in the inspector's report and a s. 213(2) waiver.

DATED at Whanganui this 10th day of February 2026.


Secretary
Whanganui District Licensing Committee

