

Premiers 1909, 1912, 1914, 1915, 1920, 1921, 1923, 1927, 1937, 1939, 1948, 1951,
1955, 1956, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1970,
1997, 1998, 1999, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2008

PORT FOOTBALL AND COMMUNITY SPORTING CLUB INC

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1st August 2011

In response to the email from the Hon Jenny Macklin MP the Port Football & Community Sporting Club is disappointed in her response to us via the media. Our Club is a member of "Club Safe" which has strong procedures in place to identify, help and assist people with pokie addictions. Club Safe is recognised and supported by various government departments.

The Federal Government wishes to introduce mandatory pre commitment. This form of pre commitment will do nothing to assist in problem gambling as problem gamblers will set unrealistic amounts as their limit. The large number of recreational gamblers who have to register to play gaming machines will simply not do so. The option to play low intensity machines is also not the answer. Any form of pre commitment has to be voluntary.

We understand the technology for pre commitment is yet to be finalised and has not been costed. Like a lot of smaller Clubs we do have a number of older machines and it is more than likely that these machines will need to be replaced at a very substantial cost.

In regards to Jenny Macklin's claim that each machine takes in \$60,000 a year, our Club like most Club's in South Australia take nowhere near this amount. The Port Football & Community Sporting Club donates extensively to the Sport and the Community as a whole. Our Oval is regarded as one of the best in Port Pirie and probably the most used sporting facility in town. Our Club has supported financially a number of individuals in sport in Port Pirie who have gone on to represent South Australia and Australia at sport. All this is in jeopardy.

It is very surprising that a Federal Minister chose to make a comment on a small regional Community Sporting Club without the appropriate facts and figures.

Stephen Murphy

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