



MEDIA RELEASE
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26 March 2008

**QUESTIONABLE STATEMENTS MADE BY ANZAC
CLUB CEO IN NORTH SHORE TIMES ARTICLE –
26 MARCH 2008**

From Hans Sarlemyn – *norths* Group CEO.

I have read with interest the comments attributed to Mr Madden in the article and would like to take issue with a number of the points he makes.

Statement made: “It is not up to *norths* to decide with whom the Anzac Club should amalgamate. If *norths* have an issue with our decision to amalgamate with Ramsgate (RSL) they should know the correct forum is the Licensing Court, where the merger has to be approved”

My response: “Mr Madden is giving his members and the public a very misleading view of the situation. The Licensing Court’s approval is one of the final steps in the process of amalgamation and leaves little room for intervention. The ANZAC Club is rushing through its general meeting to vote on the Ramsgate amalgamation. As a result, we believe the members are not being told the full story. We believe the issue of selection criteria and how this was determined will rest with the Equity Court as there are many unanswered questions as to the process that was undertaken.”

“Obviously the ANZAC Club members will ultimately determine who the club will amalgamate with. Our intervention is simply designed to ensure that members have all the facts presented in a fair, reasonable and unbiased manner. This is currently not the case.”

Statement made: “Obviously we are their major competitors and they’re feeling threatened.”

My response: "The Anzac Club president has written to members saying the club needs an amalgamation partner due to unfinancial and operational trading difficulties. The Anzac Club has lost over 10,000 members in recent years which tell its own story. The norths Group, on the other hand, has posted a solid 2007 profit. Accordingly the members will judge this statement on its merits, if they know all the facts."

- Ends -

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