

TAS: CLUB LIQUOR LICENSING REQUIREMENTS



When you're managing a club liquor licence or permit you need to understand the conditions set out in it and make sure your club complies with them.

This will ensure your club responsibly manages the sale and consumption of alcohol and you meet any legal requirements.

Your liquor licence or permit will state where and when alcohol can be sold, supplied and consumed.

When licence or permit requirements are met, the risk of excessive drinking, unsafe situations, conflict and drink driving is significantly reduced. This helps you maintain a safe and welcoming club environment.

In Tasmania, the *Liquor Licensing Act 1990* sets out the conditions for the sale, supply and consumption of alcohol.¹ And the Department of Treasury and Finance regulates the liquor laws under the Act.²

CLUB LICENCE & PERMIT:

There is one liquor licence and one permit available for Tasmanian clubs:

- **Club licence** – a permanent authority held at a sporting club, allowing the sale of alcohol between 5am and midnight.
- **Club permit** – a type of 'special permit' that is a temporary authority allowing the sale of alcohol at a sporting club and typically covers a limited number of hours in a week, e.g. game days and after training sessions.³

The individual liquor licence or permit contains all the conditions clubs must adhere to and generally has varying requirements and responsibilities, depending on the type of licence.

It's important for clubs to be familiar with their liquor licence or permit to make sure all conditions are being met and to keep up to date with any legislative changes.

Non-compliance will result in an offence being committed and penalties may apply.

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LICENCE REQUIREMENTS

The following table summarises some of the key requirements that apply to clubs.

Requirement ¹	Club licence or club permit
Approved consumption area and hours – alcohol can only be sold within the licensed or permit area (or ‘red line plan’) and during the authorised hours approved in a club’s licence or permit. ⁴	✓
Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) – clubs are required to adhere to RSA, which details responsibilities around serving alcohol. For example, one requirement is that clubs must not supply alcohol to intoxicated individuals or people aged under 18.	✓
RSA training – all staff serving alcohol must have completed an approved RSA training course within 3 months of being employed. RSA certifications do not expire, however refresher training is recommended. A copy of all RSA certificates must be kept at the club. ⁴	✓
Bar server minimum age – anyone serving alcohol at a club must meet the minimum age requirements – employees need to be at least 16 years old and in some circumstances, 18 years old. ⁵	✓
Signage – a club’s liquor licence or permit and the approved Department of Treasury and Finance signage or posters relevant to the licence or permit, are required to be displayed. ⁶	✓
Protect neighbouring amenity – clubs must ensure that the supply of alcohol is carried out in a way that is in the best interests of the community and does not detract from public amenity.	✓
Changes to your liquor licence or permit – to make variations to liquor licence or permit conditions (e.g. changes to licensed area or trading hours), clubs can submit an application to the Commissioner for Licensing. ⁴	✓
Administration and record keeping – there are some administrative obligations clubs must uphold, such as keeping a copy of the red line plan, or advising the Commissioner of changes to contact details within 14 days of the changes occurring. ^{4, 7}	✓
Inspections – the Commissioner for Licensing and Tasmania Police can enter and inspect club premises to make sure licence or permit holders are complying with both the liquor licence/permit conditions, and the law.	✓
Approved manager – in Tasmania there doesn’t have to be a named approved manager or nominee. The licensee or permit holder is responsible for ensuring compliance with all licence or permit conditions.	✓

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Further Information:

Liquor licence types in Tasmania

treasury.tas.gov.au/Documents/LiquorLicenceApplicationandInformation2016-17.pdf

Guide for liquor licence holders

treasury.tas.gov.au/Documents/Guideforlicenceholders.pdf

Guide for liquor permit holders

treasury.tas.gov.au/Documents/Guidetopermitholders.pdf

Fact sheet for special permit (club permit) holders

treasury.tas.gov.au/Documents/ClubPermitOperatingConditions2016-17.pdf

Liquor and Gaming Branch

GPO Box 1374

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licensing@treasury.tas.gov.au

treasury.tas.gov.au/liquor-and-gaming/liquor

This resource is intended as general information for community sporting clubs and was accurate at the time it was published. Laws and regulations may change, so the information may not always be up to date.

The information provided in this resource does not constitute legal advice and should not be relied upon as such. While the Alcohol and Drug Foundation has taken reasonable care in preparing this resource, clubs are responsible for checking the accuracy of the information and seeking independent legal advice for their specific situation.

References:

1. Tasmanian Government. *Liquor Licensing Act 1990*. [Internet]. Hobart, Australia: Tasmanian Legislation. 2019. [cited 2026 May 06] Available from: <https://www.legislation.tas.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1990-044>.
2. Department of Treasury and Finance. *Commissioner for Licensing*. [Internet]. Hobart, Australia: Tasmanian Government; 2024. [cited 2026 May 06] Available from: <https://www.treasury.tas.gov.au/liquor-and-gaming/regulators/commissioner-for-licensing>.
3. Department of Treasury and Finance. *Sporting club guidelines*. [Internet]. Hobart, Australia: Tasmanian Government; 2026. [cited 2026 May 06] Available from: <https://www.treasury.tas.gov.au/Documents/Club%20permits%20-%20Public%20guidelines.PDF>.
4. Department of Treasury and Finance. *Guide for liquor licence holders* [Internet]. Hobart, Australia: Tasmanian Government. 2025. [cited 2026 May 06] Available from: <https://www.treasury.tas.gov.au/Documents/Guideforlicenceholders.pdf>.
5. Tasmanian Government. *Liquor Licensing Regulations 2026*. [Internet]. Hobart, Australia: Tasmanian Legislation; 2026. [cited 2026 Aug 20] Available from: <https://www.legislation.tas.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sr-2026-058>.
6. Department of Treasury and Finance. *Signage*. [Internet]. Hobart, Australia: Tasmanian Government; 2025. [cited 2026 May 06] Available from: <https://www.treasury.tas.gov.au/liquor-and-gaming/liquor/licence-and-permit-holders/licensee-obligations/signage>.
7. Department of Treasury and Finance. *Guide to Tasmanian liquor licensing laws for liquor permit holders* [Internet]. Hobart, Tasmania: Tasmanian Government. 2025. [cited 2026 May 06] Available from: <https://www.treasury.tas.gov.au/Documents/Guidetopermitholders.pdf>.

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