

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. What is the new licensing condition?

With effect from **10 Aug 2007**, the following clauses will be added to the licensing conditions of Category 1, 2 and 6 public entertainment outlets and events:

16. The Licensee shall ensure that all [staff, employees, performers, models, contestants, and participants of any event] are not indecently dressed or exposed.

17. In addition and without limiting the generality of condition (16), the Licensee shall prohibit any [staff, employees, performers, models, contestants, and participants of any event] from being:

- a) Nude or partially nude;*
- b) Topless;*
- c) Dressed in attire that provides bare, transparent or translucent exposure of any part of the genitalia, nipples, breast/s or buttock/s;*
- d) Dressed in underwear, briefs, lingerie, swimwear, or bikinis.*

unless exception in whole or part to complying with the condition (17) has been granted by the Licensing Officer and reflected on this licence

Explanatory note: As regard to condition 17(c), an exception is made for those performers, models, contestants, and participants who do not mingle with the patrons, who are permitted to be dressed in attire that provides bare, transparent or translucent exposure of any part of the breasts or buttocks, other than the genitalia, nipples, the portion of the breasts bounded by the two lateral lines as shown in Annex A and the portion of the buttock/s bounded by the two lateral lines which mark the start and end of the gluteal cleft as shown in Annex B.

18. For the removal of doubt, conditions (16) and (17) above shall apply to Licensees whose outlets are physically located at beaches or at swimming pools as well, save only that:

- a) Female staff, employees, performers, models, contestants, and participants of any event are permitted to wear bikinis, and*
- b) Male staff, employees, performers, models, contestants, and participants of any event are permitted to be topless.*

The previous clause 16 with regards to employees' attire will be rescinded and replaced with the new clauses above.

2. What other changes will be effected?

Besides the amendments to the licensing conditions, the requirement for compulsory pre-vetting of performers' costumes will be rescinded and pre-vetting will be made voluntary. Licensees who wish to seek clarification on their employees' attire may choose to approach Police Licensing Division to conduct a pre-vetting to ascertain if such attire contravenes the new rules.

3. Who will be affected by the new licensing condition?

Licensees of the following classes of public entertainment outlets and events will be affected by the new licensing conditions:

- (i) Category 1 licences which includes, “Any reproduction or transmission of recorded music by any means other than telephony or radio telephony, of any music, song or speech: or any variety act, performance of music, singing or dancing, gymnastics or acrobatics in any place, including a place where dancing by customers is permitted, to which the public or any class of the public has access whether gratuitously or otherwise”;
- (ii) Category 2 licences which includes, “Any reproduction or transmission of recorded music by any means other than telephony or radio telephony, of any music, song or speech, in any place, where there is no dancing by customers, to which the public or any class of the public has access whether gratuitously or otherwise” and;
- (iii) Category 6 licences which includes, “Any variety act, performance or music, singing or dancing, gymnastics, demonstration or parade (including beauty pageants and fashion parades)”

4. How will the new licensing condition affect licensees?

If your public entertainment licence falls under the mentioned Category 1, 2 or 6 which is affected by the new conditions, you will be required to adhere to it.

5. How will the new licensing conditions benefit licensees?

The new set of conditions with regards to employees' attire will effectively benefit affected licensees by:

- (i) Defining what is specifically allowed and disallowed (with illustratory explanations) with regard to employees' attire at public entertainment outlets and events;
- (ii) Allowing bikinis to be worn by female employees, and for their male counterparts to be topless, for outlets and events that are located at beaches and swimming pools;

- (iii) Allowing the Licensing Officer to grant exceptions in part or whole with regard to employees' attire; and
- (iv) Rescinding the requirement for compulsory pre-vetting of performers' costumes, and make pre-vetting voluntary.

6. Where can I get a set of the new conditions?

For affected licensees, a notification letter with the new set of conditions will be mailed to your public entertainment outlet's address. Alternatively, you can also come down to Police Licensing Division to get a copy of the new set of conditions or download and print out the new set of conditions at:

- (i) http://www.spf.gov.sg/licence/obls/doc/PE_New_Appendix1.pdf for Category 1 licences;
- (ii) http://www.spf.gov.sg/licence/obls/doc/PE_New_Appendix2.pdf for Category 2 licences; and
- (iii) http://www.spf.gov.sg/licence/obls/doc/PE_New_Appendix10.pdf for beauty pageants or fashion shows.

7. What is the address and telephone number of Police Licensing Division?

The addresses of the Police Licensing Division are as follows:

Police Licensing Division
Police Cantonment Complex
Blk D 391 New Bridge Road #02-701
Singapore 088762
Tel: 6835 0000 (office hours only)

8. What happens if I do not comply with the conditions given by the licensing officers?

While the SPF recognise that it is important that our regulations facilitate instead of hinder legitimate business interests and support government-wide efforts towards being pro-enterprise, the SPF will not tolerate indecent activities and vice. We are monitoring the situation and will not hesitate to take enforcement action against any licensee who breaches the licensing conditions or commits any other offence which are provided for in other relevant legislation like the Penal Code, Chapter 224 or Women's Charter, Chapter 353.