

THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND FEDERATION OF CLUBS

Review ^{Club}

VOLUME 35 - Issue 7, 2022



TheMusicLicence



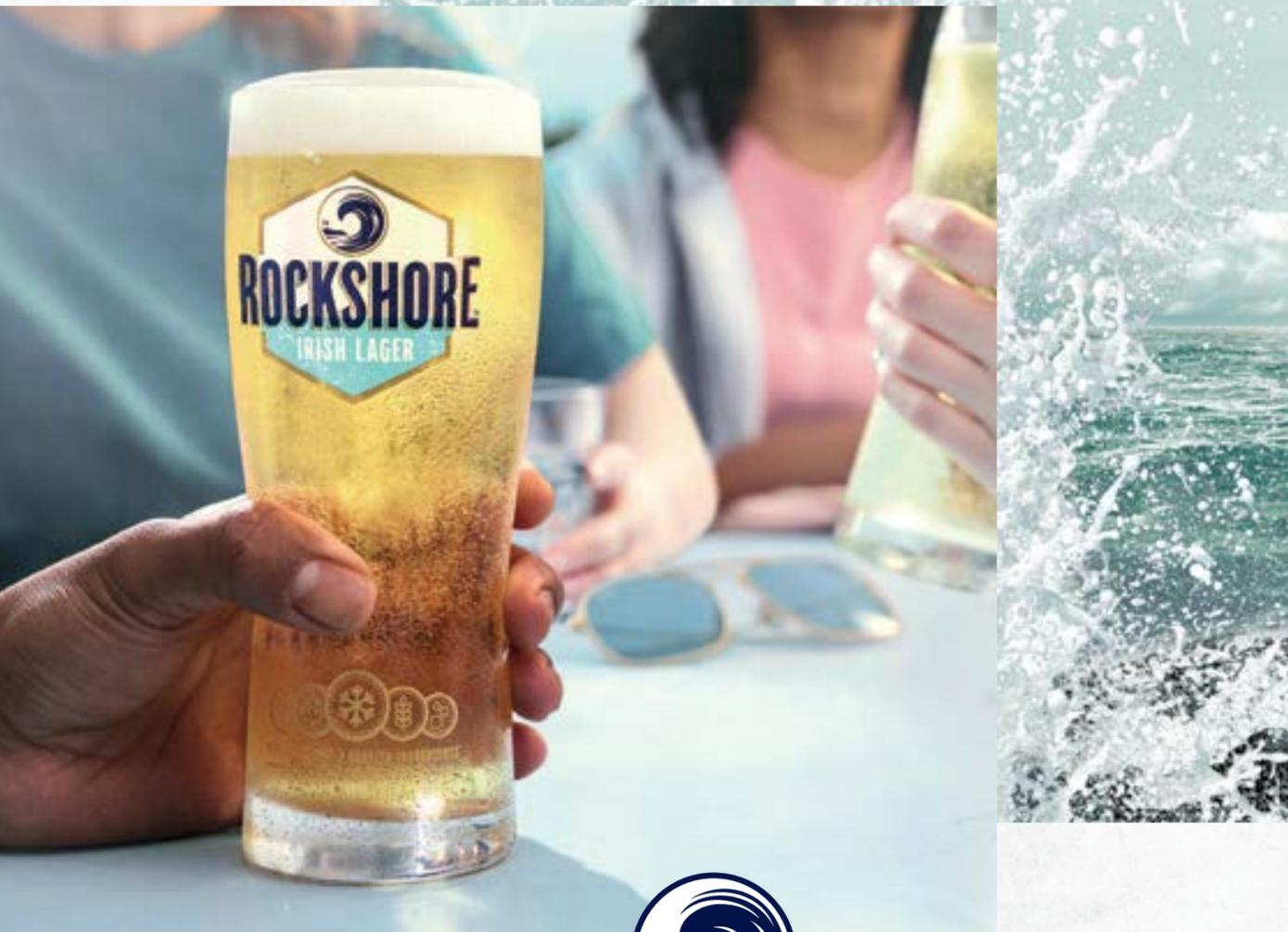
Support the future of music!

0800 001 4544

**Without the talented,
hard working music
creators, they're just
instruments...**

THIS IS ATLANTIC refreshment

THIS IS ROCKSHORE




ROCKSHORE
IRISH LAGER

A message from your Chairman & Secretary



John Davidson, Chairman,
N.I. Federation of Clubs



Harry Beckinsale, Secretary,
N.I. Federation of Clubs

The ongoing difficulties faced by hospitality have been well documented in the media, with little firm evidence that help is forthcoming. Naturally, everyone is increasingly concerned as energy costs continue to rise at an unprecedented rate, anticipated to continue into 2025!

We are hopeful that our local Assembly will be able to find a way forward as the national Government at Westminster continues to tear itself apart.

With the Bank of England likely to again increase interest rates, we fear that people will have rather less disposable income, which of course will impact on the entire hospitality sector.

We are attempting to assist members in such areas as rating, particularly where clubs may be losing out on sport and recreational relief which has the effect of lowering rating NAVs

and Sky TV tariffs. However, some work has to be done by such clubs to assure they meet the minimum 20% requirement of sport and leisure facilities in their clubrooms. If successful, the said S&R relief provides an 80% reduction on the area of 20% or more provided in a registered club.

Please bear in mind that activities such as dancing and/or dance movement are included in the rating agency's list of approved sport and leisure activities.

We were recently visited by the local representative of BT Sport who are naturally promoting the BT Sport package.

While they offer a different range of football games, it is nevertheless not like-for-like when compared with Sky TV, which also holds the rights for the Scottish Premier League games, whereas BT Sport are

limited to the Premier League 12.30pm game on Saturday and an additional game periodically, the main focus of BT being on the Champions League and Europa League.

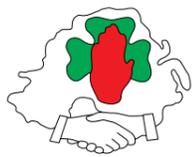
Our main contention is that they do not accept S&R Relief as establishing a registered club as legally being a sports club, which has a detrimental impact on the cost. They rather rely on a club's title as stated on the rating agency website and club rating bill.

Should clubs receive a visit and consider signing up to the BT package, they should be aware of the benefit provided by being listed as a sports club.

Members should also be aware that a Northern Ireland BT Sport representative is visiting clubs. A club listed as a sports club should be able to avail of a tariff of around £144 per month, with others having a tariff of around £200 per month.

Finally, the issue of trustees continually raises its head. At our recent executive committee meeting it was once again discussed. To update on this area of club management, refer to page 5 of Club Review Issue 4 2022, which sets out requirements.

All issues of Club Review are available on the Federation website under the title Club Review Archive.



 **stocktaking.com**
Professional stock auditors

**FULL STOCKTAKING SERVICE
and VALUATIONS**



"45 years behind bars"

- ▶ Professionally qualified through the Institute of Licensed Trade Stock Auditors
- ▶ The only NIFC approved stock-taking provider
- ▶ Preferred suppliers to Hospitality Ulster

T: 028 7034 4666 • M: 07778 762007

W: www.stocktaking.com

E: enquiries@stocktaking.com

Beresford House, 2 Beresford Road, Coleraine BT52 1HE

Qualified members of the Institute of Licensed Trade Stock Auditors

N.I.F.C. HELPLINES

07889 800329

07889 681714

07889 800325

07763 835449 (North West)

E-mail: info@nifederationofclubs.com



Minutes of the Executive Meeting



Hosted by West Belfast HPS, Bootle Street, on Wednesday 19th October 2022

The Chairman, John Davidson, opened the meeting by requesting that the Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting which were subsequently passed by Philip Mallon and Jim Hanna as a true record.

The issue of registration renewals was raised, which prompted the Chairman to call the Federation solicitor for confirmation if indeed renewals were not mainly due until 2023.

The Secretary confirmed that he had received queries on this matter, so we continue to await confirmation on the required renewal date.

Difficulties being experienced by some clubs were discussed, with the search for members willing to be selected for committee status being a common problem.

The minutes confirmed details of the amended legislation in respect to which the Chairman was delighted to confirm that the Federation had achieved the majority of their aims.

The Secretary interceded, to confirm that the remaining Phase 5 will be introduced on 6th April 2023.

Rating was discussed in some detail with the Secretary complimenting the assistance he has received from the rating department in resolving a number of issues in the interest of the clubs involved.

It was suggested that we seek a meeting with the department, which was duly noted to be acted upon.

Gerry Gallagher raised the rating issue in respect to his area in the North West which the Secretary agreed to address.

Gerry Gallagher continued to confirm that some clubs may

be guilty of not securing sport and recreational relief which, of course, if successfully secured, has the effect of lowering both the club's rating NAV and also such things as the Sky TV tariff.

The Secretary conveyed the detail of compliments received by Club Review columnist Nigel Blair on his editorial on Harry (Trixie) Hamilton, Gerry Rice and Tony Morelli, three legends of the Northern Ireland entertainment scene.

The Secretary made comment on the MPLC Licence which on occasion, continues to

raise its head. We continue to advise that, in the words of MPLC, 'it is for the public screening of film' which of course confirms that registered clubs are by definition excluded as they are not public venues, but are rather private member clubs.

At this point the Treasurer, David Larmour, presented a financial report, which was covered in some detail, being passed as a true record by Gerry Gallagher and Philip Mallon.

This concluded the meeting which was followed by hospitality, kindly provided by the club.

The Chairman paid tribute to Hugh Stockman for affording his club facilities and the excellent food which followed the meeting. In return, Hugh spoke fondly of the Federation and his continuing desire that the West Belfast HPS Club remains to provide a service in the local community.

This brought the meeting to a close.

H. Beckinsale
Secretary

Winter weather How should your club prepare?

Over recent years, increasingly extreme weather patterns and snowfall are causing disruptions and creating hazards that can lead to slips and falls. Clubs should endeavour to make the entrances and exits to the club as safe as possible.

Gritting and Protecting Surfaces

Arrangements should be made to minimise risks from snow and ice by gritting, snow clearing and the closure of some pathways, particularly outside stairs.

It is wise to keep a good supply of grit handy to help clear them. Gritting is not an automatic way of ensuring you are blameless, but it is definitely recommended, especially around important thoroughfares like car-parks, entrances and exits.

Temporary Closures and Footwear

If some pathways or entrances become too dangerous or troublesome to clear, place barriers and signs to close any footpaths that may propose a significant risk.

Also, making sure all employees are wearing correct footwear is advisable to help protect against avoidable slips/falls. Alternatively, if the club's clothing policy typically involves smarter shoes it could be worthwhile to allow boots or more hard-wearing footwear during winter.

Preparation as well as Reaction

Ignorance is not a defence against a claim, so make sure steps are taken to reduce foreseeable risk whenever possible. Paying attention to weather forecasts can help you get a head start in preparing for upcoming hazardous conditions, such as pre-emptively laying down grit or arranging appropriate signage to be placed on pathways.

Records

It is important to document as much as possible, such as retaining invoices and receipts for items in order to show you have taken an active effort to combat the problems and potential dangers caused by snow and ice. Keep a log to demonstrate when snow and ice have appeared and the

action taken to reduce the risk posed. Remember that a claimant has three years from the date of the incident in which to pursue a claim, so it is important that checklists and logs are retained for at least this period.

Any incidents which could give rise to a claim should be communicated to the club's insurers. You should arrange to take photos of the area where the accident took place to demonstrate conditions at the time, especially if you have made significant attempts to make the club safer. If you have CCTV covering the area, please ensure that any images are retained securely for three years.

Written Warnings and Signage

Arrange to have some written instructions and warning signage on hand to inform members of the public that there is a risk of falling/slipping and that reasonable care should be taken.

Not providing these warning signs will leave the club more open to a liability claim.

Northern Ireland's leading supplier and distributor of:

- Club gaming machines
- Pool tables
- Juke boxes / BGM systems
- Quiz / Skill machines
- Big Screen / LED TVs




OASIS RETAIL SERVICES
 Oasis House, Mallusk Drive, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim BT36 4GX
 Office Tel: 028 9084 5845
 Drew Pritchard, Sales/Service Manager - Mobile: 07917 641781
 Email: sales@oasisrs.com - Website: www.oasisrs.com

McCONNELL CHARTERED SURVEYORS

celebrating over 165 years in business

we have a long and successful record in commercial property.

If you are a not for profit club and have concerns about your rates bill please do not hesitate to contact us for advice in relation to any potential Sport & Recreational relief that you may be entitled to.

M McCONNELL 028 90 205 900
CHARTERED SURVEYORS & PROPERTY CONSULTANTS www.mcconnellproperty.com

O'HARA SHEARER
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

A COMPLETE RANGE OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES & ADVICE
Providing an accountancy and audit service to private member clubs

- Audit & Accountancy
- Taxation & Self Assessment
- Book-keeping
- Business Advisory Service
- Payroll & VAT
- Registered Charities & Community Groups Advisory Service



547 Falls Road, Belfast BT11 9AB
(opposite Kennedy Centre)

T: 028 9030 9550 • F: 028 9060 1445
 Email: lawrence@oharashearer.com

Scareware and Ransomware - know the difference?

Scammers have a wide range of tricks that they employ to try and part unsuspecting internet users from their hard-earned cash and/or personal details.

other hand, you may have to restore your PC to avoid paying a fee to scammers to unlock your files or regain access to your computer.

Scareware and Ransomware are quite different things (one is certainly more serious than the other), but would you be able to spot the difference and, more importantly, protect yourself from both?

Scareware
Scareware mainly consists of browser or Windows-style popups, which can appear when you visit a compromised website or after downloading a malware-infected attachment from a dodgy email.

It tries to scare you into clicking links in the popups that will download a virus or other malware onto your machine; this can enable a scammer to steal your data. They can be very convincing so be vigilant.

The main difference is this - if you encounter Scareware, you are probably still safe (just from being scammed; you should close your browser (immediately!), disconnect from the internet and run a full scan using up-to-date anti-virus software. If you encounter Ransomware on the

If Scareware appears when you're browsing a website, it most likely means that the website has been hacked or is dodgy. Close your browser immediately and run a full anti-virus scan (always make sure your anti-virus software is up-to-date). Don't revisit that website.

If the Scareware appears when you're not browsing the internet, it means your computer is infected. The Scareware could still compromise your data, so run a full system scan with your anti-virus software.

Ransomware
Ransomware comes in several varieties, and of varying degrees of seriousness. It may

lock your computer, making it unusable (examples of this type include Kovter ransomware), or it could encrypt your personal data and demand that you pay a fee in bitcoins to recover it (examples of this type include CryptoLocker ransomware).

Although Ransomware is very serious, you may be able to recover your files without paying the scammers a penny. Try restoring your computer using the System Restore function in Safe Mode, or by using a Windows Repair Disc.

Above all, stay safe - keep away from dodgy websites, don't download files from torrent sites and never open attachments in suspicious emails.

Energy costs and the government support scheme

BAD NEWS: Electricity and gas prices are still horrendous, and it seems that this will be the case for the foreseeable future. A recent interview with the regulator suggested that these 'high prices' are here to stay until perhaps 2026.

GOOD NEWS (if we can call it that): The government has published its Energy Bill Relief Scheme, albeit a short-term measure to help businesses.

As I'm writing this article on 18th October 2022, and although the government have published details of the assistance being offered to businesses, the energy suppliers themselves have yet to 'iron out' the specifics as to how they will be implementing the scheme and how they will apply the reductions in pricing.

By the time this edition of the Club Review reaches you I would certainly like to think that I will be better informed and have some information to share with clients as to how they will benefit from the scheme.

Please get in touch if you require any information on the scheme and/or would like a review of your current electricity/gas contracts.

As there is no good news on the horizon regarding energy prices, we now have in place a trusted partner, Taylored Solutions, who may be able to help reduce other types of expenditure within your club, such as Telecoms, Internet and Merchant Services.

As always, this is a no-obligation review which can potentially offer up to 30% savings.

If you would like to take advantage of this additional service, please get in touch.

There has probably never been a better or more important time to review every kind of expenditure, so I can only urge and invite you to contact us at the earliest opportunity.





P & F AMUSEMENTS

Part of P&F Group

N. Ireland's Premier Suppliers 'Province-Wide'

★

**ALL COIN OPERATED AMUSEMENT & GAMING
MACHINES, FOBTs, POOL TABLES, SNOOKER TABLES
and DIGITAL JUKEBOXES, BIG SCREEN T.V.'S,
PLASMAS, BACKGROUND MUSIC SYSTEMS**

★

SALES - SERVICE - RENT

Special Terms for Social Clubs

**For A Free "No Obligation" Quote
call 028 9037 0314**

F: 028 9077 9408 • E: info@pandfamusements.com
W: www.pandfamusements.com

N.I.E.C. **HEAD OFFICE: Unit 9, Graham Ind. Estate, Dargan Crescent, Belfast BT3 9LP**

Electricity & Gas Reviews
mark@mjutilities.com
T: 077 7699 4807

Telecoms / Internet / Fibre / Merchant Services
sales@tayloredolutions.co.uk
T: 028 9260 7608
(when calling or emailing please quote MJTelecoms)

Reduce Your Club's Electric & Gas Bills

MJU

MJ Utilities

077 7699 4807 | 028 9460 0175
mark@mjutilities.com
www.mjutilities.com



to any person who is in the club and has made a purchase from the club. It is also likely to apply to any member of the club who is in the club and has not made a purchase, although this is a grey area, (the fact that your members pay for a subscription to the club probably means they would be considered customers in all situations).

My advice is to simply provide free tap water on request to anyone who requests it. If you have a serious problem of some members only drinking tap water then it is certainly something for the committee to consider and perhaps efforts should be made to establish why members are only drinking tap water. Are other non-alcoholic beverages such as soft drinks and tea and coffee available at reasonable prices for example? Ultimately, I would hope that

Q. We seem to have some members who only ever drink tap water? Given the cost to the club of the water and the time of our employees, are we able to charge these members for this tap water?

A. I can confirm that the club is legally obliged to provide tap water free of charge to customers. The definition of customer is a point of contention, it certainly applies

if you do have any members that purely drink tap water, that this is very much a minority of your membership and you can simply accept that this is the case and that effectively they are paying for the cost of providing this tap water to them through their annual membership fees.

Q. Currently there is an ice bucket on the club's bar which members can help themselves to.

The club's relief steward has told us that we can no longer operate in this way since it violates health and safety laws. Your view would be appreciated.

A. I find that the words 'health and safety' are often used when a person simply does not want to operate in a certain manner.

I suggest that the club performs a risk assessment on the ice being available on

the bar. Personally, I cannot foresee many risks of the ice being located on the bar, but if you undertake a risk assessment with the relief steward, then perhaps he will be able to point out his specific concerns with this practice and the committee can then factor in his thoughts when concluding the risk assessment and deciding on future best practice.

If the committee decides that there is no foreseeable risk from leaving the ice on the bar, then I see no reason why you will not be able to continue operating this facility.

If you have any questions you need answered for your club, then please send them to us at: info@nifederationofclubs.com



Urgent warning on surprise tax bills

Are you affected?

More and more households are withdrawing large parts of their pension pots, potentially unaware that it could trigger a hefty tax bill.

Of the 705,666 pensions accessed for the first time in 2021/22, more than half were fully withdrawn, according to new research.

If you are unaware of pension withdrawal rules you may end up with a hefty tax bill.

How much you'll be forced to pay depends on your other income.

The number of pensions over £50,000 that were fully withdrawn rose by 15.5% from 15,296 to 17,661 from 2020/21 to 2021/22, analysis by financial advice firm NFU Mutual has found.

Over 260,000 of these full withdrawals were for smaller pots with less than £10,000 in them. Overall, more than 10,000 of the withdrawals were taken without getting financial advice.

It's important to know that only 25% of withdrawals are tax-free, and the rest is added to your other taxable income.

If you make large withdrawals, you may be hit with a 40% tax rate, or in some cases 45%, NFU Mutual added.

If your total income - including the taxable pension withdrawal - exceeds £100,000, you'll also start to lose your tax-free allowance.

The personal allowance is the amount you can earn tax-free every year. In the current tax year - which runs from April 6, 2022, to April 5, 2023 - the figure is £12,570.

Plus, if you continue to work after taking a taxable sum, the amount you and your employer can pay into a pension will be reduced by £4,000 each tax year.

To avoid a tax bill, you should consider phasing withdrawals over a number of years, if possible.

There are plenty of tax calculators to help you check pension withdrawals online, including one from Moneyhelper (formerly Pensionwise) <https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/pensions-and-retirement/pensions-basics/pension-calculator>

Before making any big financial decisions you should always speak to a financial advisor.

As of this summer, millions above the age of 50 can now get free pension advice from Moneyhelper. Just visit <https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/pensions-and-retirement> for more information.

Sean McCann, chartered financial planner at NFU Mutual, said, "Some people cash in their pension funds without a clear idea of what they plan to do with the money, often putting it into a bank account. If investors are concerned about market volatility, talking to their pension provider about lower

risk funds may help them avoid an unnecessary tax bill.

"Although it sounds counter-intuitive, for those that can afford to, pensions should be the last investment they access in retirement because of the protection they can offer from inheritance tax."

When can you access your pensions?

The earliest you can withdraw from a private and workplace pension without penalty is currently age 55.

However, this doesn't necessarily mean that you should, especially during periods of high inflation.

From 2028, the age you can start withdrawing cash will rise to 58.

Meanwhile, the state pension age could rise to 68 for millions of people "as early as 2035".



SDM SHEAN DICKSON MERRICK SOLICITORS

38/42 Hill Street
Belfast BT1 2LB

Tel: 028 9032 6878
Fax: 028 9032 3473

Email: law@sdmsolicitors.com
Web: www.sdmsolicitors.com

SDM is offering all members of the N.I. Federation of Clubs

20% off Legal Fees*

Inc. Conveyancing, Matrimonial, Personal Injury Claims, Wills and Probate

*Does not include disbursements
Quote "N.I.F.C." when making your enquiry



AVA LEISURE
WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF GAMING
Major supplier in Northern Ireland with over 40 years experience

FREE MACHINE, POKER & CLUB EQUIPMENT, BILLIARDS & POOL TABLES, COINTEGRAL GAMES, JARRE MATCH TV, VIDEO, VIDEO

For more information call Scott
07810 743 164 365 days a year call out service available
AVA Leisure
14 Prince Regent Road
Belfast BT5 6QP

The name you trust for all your personal and commercial insurance needs



Rollins is the preferred Insurance supplier of the Northern Ireland Federation of Clubs

Rollins is a family run business with over 75 years experience providing personal and commercial insurance. Rollins takes great pride in it's personal service, competitive prices and attention to detail.

Call us today for an insurance solution to meet your exact requirements on 02890 429800.



Telephone: 02890 429800 www.rollinsinsurance.co.uk

Problems in the workplace and resolutions

Got a query? Call the LRA Workplace Information Service on 03300 555 300

Problems can arise in any workplace. Below are some examples, though not an exhaustive list. Employers, employees and their representatives may find it helpful to refer to the Labour Relations Agency's codes of practice, sample letters, flowcharts and guides. Their service is confidential and all their resources are free of charge to anyone working to prevent or resolve a workplace issue in N.I.

When discrimination legislation applies

This applies during recruitment and selection, throughout the employment relationship and after the employment relationship has come to an end.

“Discrimination can occur in three ways”

Direct discrimination

Treating a person less favourably on the grounds of their sex/race/sexual orientation/disability/religious belief/political opinion/age, for example, not appointing a female to a job because the preference is for a male.

Discrimination

Employers have a legal duty to ensure that they do not treat an individual less favourably on any grounds related to their age, gender, marital status, disability, race/nationality, sexual orientation, religious belief or political opinion.



improving employment relations

Indirect discrimination

Occurs where something is equally applied to all but has the effect of disadvantaging a particular group and cannot be justified, for example, rules about clothing or uniforms that aren't necessary and disadvantage a racial group.

(including dismissal in more serious cases).

Misconduct

Every organisation needs rules. They set the standards of conduct and performance at work. Rules cover things like timekeeping, absence, discrimination and gross misconduct. An employee who does not adhere to the rules could be accused of misconduct. Details should be included in policies and documents, such as a written statement of employment particulars, which employers must provide to employees within their first two months.

Victimisation

Treating a person less favourably because they have either previously taken action in relation to discrimination, have assisted or been involved in action taken by someone else in relation to discrimination.

More than a moral and legal right

Fair treatment is not just a moral and legal right. It makes good business sense. Employers who treat employees fairly and flexibly will be best placed to recruit and retain staff in an increasingly diverse and competitive labour market.

Misconduct and gross misconduct

Disciplinary issues arise when the employer has concerns about an employee's conduct, absence from work or the way they are performing in their job. They may start a disciplinary procedure which could lead to disciplinary action

Gross Misconduct

Very serious misconduct such as theft, physical violence or significant breaches of health and safety rules can be referred to as Gross Misconduct. The types of behaviour considered to be gross misconduct will vary from organisation to organisation.

If an employee commits gross misconduct it means the employer may be permitted to dismiss the employee immediately. However, the full three-stage standard statutory procedure should be used before deciding whether to dismiss someone.

BRING THE WAVE

WHITE CLAW® HARD SELTZER

SPARKLING WATER WITH ALCOHOL

THE UK'S NO.1
HARD SELTZER*



NEW

*SOURCE: IRI, TOTAL MARKET PLACE, LS2W TO 10TH JULY



Why go anywhere else?

SALES OFFICE: 028 9079 0444 | FREEPHONE: 0800 7833215



Based in Bangor, North Down, PCI offer a commercial shopfitting service alongside a bespoke joinery service for the domestic customer.

Whatever style you have in mind for your bar, restaurant, shop or home, PCI will meet the challenge, **not to mention your budget and deadline.**

Our team of highly skilled shopfitters deliver the highest quality property refurbishment service. Meeting our customers needs is our top priority.

Contact us for a free quote on 02891 478000
you can also phone 078 5021 2962 or 077 8401 9989
johnp.pci@gmail.com | ronnie.pci@gmail.com
www.pubclubsandinteriors.co.uk
Unit 88, Dunlop Commercial Park, Balloo Industrial Estate, Bangor, Co. Down BT19 7QY

UNMISSABLE LIVE ACTION FOR YOUR MEMBERS



sky sports

THERE'S NOTHING QUITE LIKE SPORT TO HELP BRING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY TOGETHER IN YOUR CLUB

Upcoming live action includes:



TOTTENHAM
LIVERPOOL
Sun 6 Nov, 4.30pm

NEWCASTLE
CHELSEA
Sat 12 Nov, 5.30pm

FULHAM
MAN UTD
Sun 13 Nov, 4.30pm



ST JOHNSTONE
RANGERS
Sun 6 Nov, 12pm

ST MIRREN
RANGERS
Sat 12 Nov, 12.30pm



NORWICH
QPR
Wed 2 Nov, 7.45pm

SHEFFIELD UTD
BURNLEY
Sat 5 Nov, 12.30pm

BURNLEY
BLACKBURN
Sun 13 Nov, 12.30pm

TALK TO US TODAY ABOUT
ADDING LIVE SPORT TO YOUR CLUB

08442 411 528

sky business

DADÁ

Drinks Inc. is delighted to welcome Dadá Art Malbec to its ever-growing wine portfolio. Now available exclusively in Northern Ireland through Drinks Inc, Dadá is the best-selling Argentinean wine brand in the Republic of Ireland, and the 4th best-selling wine brand. It is also recognised as the 3rd best-selling wine brand in its home country of Argentina.

The newly launched Malbec is purplish red in colour with fruity aromas of ripe cherries and plums. Its passage through French oak of medium-strong toasting, gives aromas and notes of cinnamon and chocolate. Fine grain tannins conclude with a medium length aftertaste that's both elegant and savoury.

Dadá Art Malbec 391 is a reinterpretation of traditional

red wines, the power of 100% Malbec. A modern brand, on trend, contemporary and refreshingly different. Artistic winemaking because rules are meant to be broken, being bold and daring to turn ordinary into extraordinary - this is Dadá.

Alongside Dadá Drinks Inc. is proud to have a number of world-class agency wine brands within their portfolio, including Mionetto Prosecco, Mouton cadet, Beronia and Piccini. The range also includes over 150 on-trade exclusive wines from 27 wine regions in 12 countries. The team sources award-winning wines by country and grape variety and consistently aims to ensure the best quality entry level wines through to fine and rare selections. With support available for in-outlet staff training and wine tastings, and the facility to develop bespoke wine lists for



customers the Drinks Inc. team are equipped to offer a unique customer experience. Please speak to your local Drinks Inc. representative for further information.

DADÁ
FINCA LAS MORAS

#391 Art Malbec

Open your mind.

The only rule in Dadá's world is there are no rules

Dadá is available exclusively through **DRINKS INC.**

TRANS4MATION UPHOLSTERY

SEATING & UPHOLSTERY MANUFACTURERS

T 028 9186 1656 | M 07515 901 288
E trans4mation-upholstery@hotmail.co.uk

H&W Welders FSC, Belfast

46 Abbey Road, Millisle, Newtownards, County Down BT22 2DG

Media Design and Print .com

15% OFF ALL PRINTING
available to all NIFC member clubs

We print:
Posters, leaflets, party tickets, rule books, invoice books, vinyl banners, ballots, fixture books and lots, lots more...

Make Media Design and Print the one-stop shop for your club

Unit B7, Portview Trade Centre, 310 Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 1HE
T: 028 9045 9864 F: 028 9045 9034 E: printing@mediadesignandprint.com

SALES MANAGER	• Tom Kinnier • 077 1110 4585 • tom@drinksinc.com	WINE SALES SPECIALIST	• Peter McBride • 077 7197 2412 • peter.mcbride@drinksinc.com
SALES REPS	• Dee Lewis • 074 8405 2202 • dee@drinksinc.com	• Denise Stone • 075 0331 1316 • denise@drinksinc.com	• Stephen Jackson • 077 0371 8799 • stephen.jackson@drinksinc.com
	• Gabriel Lupari • 078 1259 7431 • gabriel@drinksinc.com	• Ronan Cunningham • 079 5623 0482 • ronan@drinksinc.com	

Heineken® unveils new green room at the SSE Arena

Heineken has unveiled a newly revamped Green Room at The SSE Arena, Belfast.

The luxurious hospitality upgrade comes on the back of a renewed five-year contract agreed with The SSE Arena and Heineken, which sees the drinks company continue as the venue's exclusive beer and cider partner until at least 2026.

Formerly the West Lounge, the new Heineken Green Room offers visitors a brand-new look and feel, with a dedicated bar and extensive food and drink menu.

Heineken Green Room ticket packages include a luxurious evening of premium hospitality, followed by quality live entertainment with a panoramic frontal view of the stage from your private balcony. The packages also include fast-track entry, access to private bar facilities throughout the evening, concierge cloakroom and luxury bathroom facilities, as well as a welcome drink and a two-course meal. Tickets are available to the public via Ticketmaster.

The SSE Arena and Heineken's long-standing partnership, which has been in place since 2014, sees Heineken's portfolio of drinks, including leading brands Heineken, Heineken0.0, Birra Moretti and Orchard Thieves, served at bars within The SSE Arena, Northern Ireland's leading concert and entertainment venue and home to the Stena Line Belfast Giants ice hockey team.

"We are over the moon with the results of the upgraded

lounge, which takes pride of place in Northern Ireland's premier entertainment venue," said Martin McAuley, Managing Director for Craigavon-based United Wines, which handles all of Heineken's sales, marketing and distribution in Northern Ireland.

"Guests wanting to create special memories can enjoy our Green Room ticket package, with private balcony and panoramic views of the stage, fast-track entry, direct lounge access, private bar throughout the evening, luxury bathroom facilities and lots of other VIP perks, not to mention a complimentary drink on arrival and a two-course meal before the show.

"The new and improved Heineken Green Room further strengthens our partnership with The SSE Arena, Belfast and gives people the gift of luxurious and comfortable surroundings as they look forward to watching some of the biggest stars in the world of entertainment," added Martin.

Dermot McGinn, Group Head of Food and Beverage for The Odyssey Trust, which owns The SSE Arena, said, "We're excited to see the completion of the Heineken Green Room and very much look forward to working with Heineken on more exciting plans as part of our ongoing partnership - to further develop and enhance the customer experience here at the SSE Arena. We'd like to thank Heineken for their continued support."

Kelly Kinsley-Smith, Corporate Development Manager for The



Cheers to the next four years: Celebrating the renewal of the long-standing partnership, which has been in place since 2014, are (l-r) Dermot McGinn, Group Head of Food and Beverage for The Odyssey Trust, which owns The SSE Arena, and Gemma Herdman, Brand Manager for drinks distributor United Wines, which handles all of Heineken's sales, marketing and distribution in Northern Ireland.

Odyssey Trust, added, "We're delighted to unveil the new Heineken Green Room as an extension of our partnership with Heineken, one of the biggest brands in the world.

"It is available to book now and we're very much looking forward to welcoming guests to an enhanced experience on top of our busy calendar of events scheduled, covering everything from comedy shows, to ice hockey, theatre events and concerts."

The SSE Arena, located in Belfast's Titanic Quarter, has been hosting world-class events for over 20 years, including the MTV Europe Music Awards, World Police and Fire Games, BBC Sports Personality of the Year, and concerts from the likes of Bruce Springsteen, Beyoncé, and U2.



This Christmas give the gift of hope.



Help us to support families living with chest, heart and stroke illnesses.



Please donate today.
Text **LITTLE** to **70450** to donate **£5**
or visit **www.nichs.org.uk**

Chest
Heart &
Stroke



Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message, and you'll be opting into hearing more from us. If you'd like to donate without opting in, use LITTLENOINFO when texting. Charity Reg No. NIC 103593.

Nigel talks to JP McCauley on everything Cash Returns



Nigel Blair, Belfast 89FM.

It gives me the greatest pleasure of sharing my recent interview with (JP) John Paul McCauley.

JP recently told me that as far back as he could remember he loved music. He said, "My first love in music was 50s Rock & Roll. My dad had a selection of cassette tapes in his car, including Chuck Berry, Fats Domino, and Eddie Cochrane. The first time I heard 'Good Golly Miss Molly' by Little Richard, it was a eureka moment for me."

When I asked how his interest in Johnny Cash began, he smiled and said, "In my late teens and early 20s, I would sing for fun at local weekend karaoke nights. I was asked to sing at a back-to-back competition for a local bar, having won through the heat. I heard a song on the jukebox by Johnny Cash, 'Hurt', which blew me away.

"People asked me to learn more Cash songs. I did, and was amazed at the catalogue of his material. I researched his background and found there was a lot more to this man and his music than I had ever envisaged.

"In December 2013, I was asked to do a show at the Crumlin Road Gaol, forming my own band in the process. I reached out to musicians I had worked with before, asking if they would like to come together to back me. I brought my sister Caroline along as the tribute to June Carter; she has an amazing country voice. We had a fantastic show, explosive would be an understatement, and it was a complete sell out. We returned in January 2014 for two more shows; Cash Returns was well and truly born.

"Caroline left the band after a few years as we were constantly travelling to venues all over Ireland and beyond, and her work as a clinical psychologist was becoming more and more in demand, as well as her having just started a young family.

"It was a great loss as the audience loved her. In searching for a replacement, we were lucky to find Karen Martin - to this day some people still think she is my sister. We have a fantastic band, with everyone giving their very best at each performance. Les Thompson has been with Cash Returns from the very first

show, having toured with other bands across Ireland, England and Scotland, well before my time. He has proved to be a great source of knowledge, and bad jokes, whilst on tour. It takes a certain type of person to adapt to this type of life." He laughed at this point, saying, "I think you need a screw loose.

"I can only speak for myself as an entertainer, although I'm sure quite a few would agree with me, there is before each show a crippling doubt - is this the show where I get found out? That little voice that niggles and pokes at you. I think it can be a good thing in the right context, it keeps your mind on the job in hand, makes you want to do the very best you can. In these times of financial hardship, people are paying hard-earned money to see your show, and deserve something really special.

"As a travelling band, we have to leave our loved ones each weekend, and sometimes longer, to travel. Like all musicians, we had a two year hiatus owing to the pandemic and put our careers on hold. During this time my wife Melissa and I had our first baby boy, (and no we

did not call him Sue). Melissa has been a great support to me over the years, and grounds me in equal measure.

"The forthcoming venue in March 2023 at the Belfast Grand Opera House, is up there with the best of great venues we have played both at home and further afield. We have some very special plans for this show; you could say we are chomping at the bit to let it happen.

"We are a tribute band to Johnny Cash and June Carter, doing our very best to create entertainment for their fans, playing their music the best we can. If it was not for the original artistes, we could never pay tribute. Our show is a tribute to their great legacy and should be respected as such. I'd like to thank everyone for their support along the way. Without this, our journey would not have been possible."

Thank you JP for your interview and the wonderful performances of Cash Returns. I wish you every success and hope you don't hang your guitar up for a very long time. Nigel



Join our Santa Cause Jumper Day this Christmas



Don your best or worst Christmas jumpers this December and help us ensure families like Ben's don't have to face cancer alone.



Sign up at cancerfundforchildren.com or scan the QR code



NI Football Writers' Awards - September



Larne Football Club's Tiernan Lynch has been named Manager of the Month by the Northern Ireland Football Writers' Association.

Lynch said, "It's an honour to collect this award. I'd like to thank the Football Writers' for selecting me. However, the award isn't just about me. It's an award won by all the staff and the players. September was tough, so I was pleased we came through it unbeaten, but we have some even tougher games on the horizon. We will do our best to maintain this momentum."

The Inver Reds finished September unbeaten, with wins over Carrick Rangers, Portadown, Knockbreda and Lisburn Distillery, as well as a keenly contested draw with Crusaders.



The Dream Spanish Homes Player of the Month for September is Crusaders midfielder Philip Lowry.

The Limavady native is in a rich vein of goalscoring form this season, bagging three goals in the month of September.

This is the third time the former Linfield man has won the monthly award.

He said, "Sometimes goals can mask poor performances, but on this occasion, I feel like I'm playing well as well as scoring goals. My goals have proved to be quite important, which is probably the most important thing. It's always an honour to win this award and I'd like to thank the Football Writers' for selecting me. I'd also like to thank the award's sponsors Dream Spanish Homes."

Emily Wilson, is the Women's Premiership Player of the Month. The Crusaders Strikers FC star scored five goals in the month as the North Belfast club moved up to third in the league and booked their place in the semi-finals of the Irish Cup.

She said, "I won my first award two seasons ago, so it's nice to get another one. I'd like to thank the Writers' and their sponsors Danske Bank."



The Federation Invite New Members to Join

Start 2022 off on the right foot by joining the Northern Ireland Federation of Clubs today. Benefit from expert support and advice on a range of topics related specifically to the day-to-day running of your club. Issues such as ever changing employment legislation, the 1996 Clubs Order, accountancy regulations, and rates relief, are only a small sample of the topics we can provide guidance on - **guidance that will cost you less than £1 per week!**

Our helplines are always a welcome source of information and prove beneficial to members.

07889 800329 - 07889 800331 - 07889 800325 & 07889 681714

N.I. Federation of Clubs Membership Application Form

Name of club:

Address:

Telephone No:

Fax No:

The annual membership fee is £50.00 payable to:
The Northern Ireland Federation of Clubs
c/o Unit B7 Portview Trade Centre,
310 Newtownards Road,
Belfast BT4 1HE.

Club Officers

Chairman:

Tel:

Secretary:

Tel:

Treasurer:

Tel:

For telephone queries call:
07889 681714
(Please include your membership fee or completed standing order form with your application)

For administration purposes only

Accepted by: *Secretary*

Seconded by: *Chairman*

Date:

STANDING ORDER TO N.I. FEDERATION OF CLUBS

This is to authorise the transfer of £50.00 from the club's account:-

A/C No:

Sort Code:

Bank:

To account no: 627 998 63
Sort code: 95-01-45
Danske Bank
Belfast BT1 6JS

The payment is for the annual membership fee to the Northern Ireland Federation of Clubs. The transaction to be effected now and continue annually in January of each year until further notice.

Club Name:

Address:

Authorised by: (1)

(2)

Please sign and return to:
N.I. Federation of Clubs,
c/o Unit B7, Portview Trade Centre,
310 Newtownards Road,
Belfast BT4 1HE.

Entertainment Licence Renewals
Electrical Inspections
Fire Risk assessments

Lyle Dunn 07748634430
E: lyle.dunn@btconnect.com

GET RUGBY READY AND SURGE YOUR SALES



VISIT DIAGEO ONE FOR A CHANCE
TO WIN RUGBY TICKETS
PLUS DOWNLOAD FREE RUGBY
SOCIAL MEDIA IMAGERY FOR YOUR PUB



The oval trim design is a registered trademark of Gilbert Rugby.

A PROUD SPONSOR
OF IRISH RUGBY

