

Press release

Betsson AB (publ)

Betsson argues it's case despite the police report

The Lottery Inspection has filed a police report claiming that Betsson's shop violates article 38 in the Swedish lottery act. Also, the Lottery Inspection is threatening Betsson with a fine. However, Betsson's betting shop will remain opened as it complies with EC law. Betsson is convinced that the Swedish gaming monopoly is illegal. If the state take steps that in any way harm Betsson, the company will demand damages.

By operating the betting shop Betsson uses its right to advertise gaming services provided to Swedish consumers over the Internet. This right, the freedom to provide services within the Community, is stated in the EC treaty. The EC treaty is superior to the Lottery Act. Therefore, Betsson does not break Swedish law.

"Given the current legal position, the Lottery Inspection's actions are perilous. If these actions harm Betsson in any way, we will demand damages. We are convinced that the gaming monopoly will be declared illegal by EC court." said Pontus Lindwall, CEO Betsson

Before the launch of the betting shop Betsson had a meeting with the Lottery Inspection, to get the Inspection's view of the legal situation.

"At the meeting the Lottery Inspection agreed with us that some parts of the Lottery Act are dubious and may not comply with EC law. I am therefore very surprised of the actions taken by the Inspection the last couple of days. An authority should not take actions on a weak basis, which can hurt a particular company." said Lindwall

The betting shop complements Betsson's online offerings and widens the options for the players. The shop has been positively received by the market and Betsson's ambition is to continue to operate the shop, and offer better odds and a relaxing environment to our customers.

For more information please contact:
Pontus Lindwall, President and CEO,
Tel: +46 (08) 506 403 10, +46 (0) 708 27 51 55, pontus@betsson.com

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MAIL AND VISITING ADDRESS	PHONE FAX	REGISTERED OFFICE	E-MAIL IR WEBB SITE	ORG. NO. VAT.REG.NO.
BETSSON AB (PUBL) REGERINGSGATAN 30-32, 111 53 STOCKHOLM, SVERIGE	+46 (0)8 506 403 00 +46 (0)8 735 57 44	STOCKHOLM	INFO@BETSSON.SE WWW.BETSSONAB.COM	556090-4251 SE556090425101