

MEDIA RELEASE



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SNOWY HOTELIERS BRACE FOR 'PERFECT STORM' SNOW SEASON

After two years of COVID-affected seasons, hoteliers in Jindabyne and the ski fields are preparing for the 'perfect storm' this winter.

AHA NSW Director of Liquor and Policing John Green said the combination of good quality early snow and thousands of patrons keen to hit the slopes after two years of cancellations will bring welcome relief for struggling high country pubs.

"The last two years of COVID restrictions saw significant restrictions on patron numbers across all venues, so operators are looking forward to a bumper year," he said.

"As always, venues will work closely with local police to ensure patrons have a safe and enjoyable time.

Mr Green is in Jindabyne today for the annual pre-season briefing involving police, licensees and Liquor and Gaming NSW officers at the Jindabyne Bowling Club.

He said publicans and authorities are working together to create a safe environment but patrons also need to show a little patience too.

"Hospitality venues are facing chronic staffing shortages right around the country and the snowfields are no different," he said.

"Many venues struggling to fill positions and patrons need to be patient with staff who are doing the best they can in stressful conditions – many are new staff just coming into the industry."

Cameron McKid from The Banjo Patterson Inn said he had been doing it tough for the last two years and was hopeful this season will make up for lost time.

"We've already had some big dumps of snow and the ski fields have opened early so we are hopefully headed for a cracker year," he said.

"Staff numbers are down across the whole area - we have bar, kitchen and housekeeping work available so anyone looking for a "ski-change" should get in touch with us."

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