

Use of music set to be a 'tax' on all members

Fitness Australia has now received the economic evidence from PPCA in the music copyright tariff review, with some alarming results. It now appears that PPCA are seeking a rate for the use of music in the vicinity of \$26 per member per month, of which they would take one-third. Using the economic formula, the remaining two-thirds would be shared between APRA and the fitness business.

Currently, the tariff is calculated on a per fitness class basis. This new information indicates that they wish to shift to a 'per member per month' tariff, regardless of whether the member attends a fitness class or not.

If PPCA and APRA both receive \$8.70 per member per month, that is an additional \$17 per member per month (\$204 per annum) for the cost of a fitness centre membership or an annual cost to the business of over \$300,000 for an average-sized centre with 1,500 members. The other important thing to note is that this change to the way the tariff is calculated will potentially affect all industry business models, not just those that run group exercise classes. Casual visits are affected as well.

If this makes you angry, then help us to fight it!

Only by taking collective action against this issue will the fitness industry be able to achieve a more reasonable outcome than what is proposed. Go to www.operationmusic.org.au to see who has directly donated and to make your contribution to the industry fighting fund.

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