

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K
CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): March 16, 2021

ALLIED ESPORTS ENTERTAINMENT, INC.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-38266

(Commission
File Number)

82-1659427

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

17877 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 300

Irvine, California, 92614

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(949) 265-2600

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Not Applicable

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock	AESE	The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On March 15, 2021, the Board of Directors of Allied Esports Entertainment, Inc. (the "Company"), in consultation with its financial and legal advisors, determined that a revised proposal from Bally's Corporation ("Bally's") constitutes a "Superior Proposal" under the Stock Purchase Agreement (the "Stock Purchase Agreement") among the Company, Element Partners, LLC ("Element") and other parties thereto. Under the terms of Bally's proposal, Bally's would acquire all of the equity interests of Club Services, Inc., an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company that directly or indirectly owns the Company's poker-related business and assets, including the entities comprising the World Poker Tour® ("World Poker Tour," or "WPT®"), for consideration totaling \$90,000,000 in cash at the closing. Bally's would also pay the \$3.0 million break-up fee owed to Element upon the termination of the Stock Purchase Agreement, and Bally's would pay to the Company a \$10 million initial deposit within one business day of the execution of a definitive agreement. Bally's would also pay to Element a \$10 million reverse break-fee if Bally's proposal is not completed due to a failure on Bally's part. The terms of the agreement to consummate the transactions contemplated by Bally's proposal, including the closing conditions, would be substantially the same as the Stock Purchase Agreement, revised only to the extent necessary to accommodate the specific aspects of Bally's proposal.

The Company notified Element that it intends to terminate the Stock Purchase Agreement unless, prior to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on March 19, 2021, the Company and Element negotiate an amendment to the Stock Purchase Agreement such that the Bally's revised proposal no longer constitutes a Superior Proposal.

On March 16, 2021, the Company issued a press release regarding Bally's proposal, which is attached as Exhibit 99.1.

Important Additional Information Has Been Filed With the SEC

The Company has filed with the SEC and mailed to its stockholders a Consent Solicitation Statement in connection with the transactions contemplated by the Stock Purchase Agreement (the "Element Transaction"). The Consent Solicitation Statement contains important information about the Company, Club Services, Inc., the Element

Transaction and the Stock Purchase Agreement. Investors and stockholders are urged to read the Consent Solicitation Statement carefully before making any decision to invest or consent to the Element Transaction. Investors and stockholders will be able to obtain free copies of the Consent Solicitation Statement and other documents filed by the Company with the SEC through the website maintained by the SEC at www.sec.gov or may contact the Company's solicitor, Regan & Associates, Inc., by telephone (toll-free within North America) at 1-800-737-3426.

If a negotiated transaction between the Company and Bally's is entered into, the Company will prepare a consent solicitation statement related to the proposed transaction, the proposed transaction will be submitted to the stockholders of the Company for their consideration, and the Company will provide the consent solicitation statement to its stockholders. The Company, and possibly Bally's, may also file other documents with the SEC regarding the proposed transaction. This document is not a substitute for any consent solicitation statement or any other document which the Company or Bally's may file with the SEC in connection with such proposed transaction. If a negotiated transaction between the Company and Bally's is entered into, investors and stockholders are urged to read the consent solicitation statement and the other relevant materials with respect to the proposed transaction with Bally's carefully in their entirety when they become available before making any voting or investment decision with respect to the proposed transaction with Bally's because they such documents will contain important information about the proposed transaction with Bally's.

Participants in the Solicitation

In addition to Regan & Associates, Inc., the Company, its directors and executive officers may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of consents with respect to the Element Transaction. Information regarding the Company's directors and executive officers and their ownership of Company shares is contained in AESE's Amended Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2019 and its definitive consent solicitation statement for the Element Transaction which was filed with the SEC on February 2, 2021, and is supplemented by other public filings made, and to be made, with the SEC. The Company's directors and executive officers beneficially own approximately 6.8% of Company common stock. Investors and stockholders may obtain additional information regarding the direct and indirect interests of the Company and its directors and executive officers with respect to the Element Transaction by reading the consent solicitation statement and other filings referred to above.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 [Press Release dated March 16, 2021](#)

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: March 16, 2021

ALLIED ESPORTS ENTERTAINMENT, INC.

By: /s/ Frank Ng
Frank Ng, *Chief Executive Officer*

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EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release dated March 16, 2021

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Allied Esports Entertainment Board Determines Bally's Corporation Revised Proposal is Superior to Element Stock Purchase Agreement

IRVINE, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Allied Esports Entertainment, Inc. (NASDAQ: AESE) (the "Company"), a global esports entertainment company, today announced that the Company's Board of Directors, in consultation with its financial and legal advisors, has determined that a revised proposal from Bally's Corporation ("Bally's") constitutes a "Superior Proposal" under the Company's pending stock purchase agreement with Element Partners, LLC ("Element"). Under the terms of Bally's revised proposal, Bally's would acquire all of the equity interests of Club Services, Inc. ("CSI"), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company that directly or indirectly owns the Company's poker-related business and assets, including the entities comprising the World Poker Tour® ("World Poker Tour," or "WPT®"), for consideration totaling \$90,000,000 in cash at the closing.

The Company notified Element that it intends to terminate their stock purchase agreement unless, prior to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on March 19, 2021, the Company and Element negotiate an amendment to their pending stock purchase agreement such that the Bally's revised proposal no longer constitutes a Superior Proposal.

Prior to making its determination regarding Bally's revised proposal, the Company received a proposal from Bally's to sell the outstanding capital stock of the Company for \$100 million, which would include the sale of the World Poker Tour and the Company's esports operations. After discussions, Bally's updated its proposal to acquire only the entities comprising the World Poker Tour to more closely mirror the structure of the Company's pending stock purchase agreement with Element.

There can be no assurance that the Company will enter into a definitive agreement with Bally's or consummate any transaction with Bally's.

About World Poker Tour

World Poker Tour (WPT) is the premier name in internationally televised gaming and entertainment with brand presence in land-based tournaments, television, online, and mobile. Leading innovation in the sport of poker since 2002, WPT ignited the global poker boom with the creation of a unique television show based on a series of high-stakes poker tournaments. WPT has broadcast globally in more than 150 countries and territories, and is currently producing its 18th season, which airs on FOX Sports Regional Networks in the United States. Season XVIII of WPT is sponsored by ClubWPT.com. ClubWPT.com is a unique online membership site that offers inside access to the WPT, as well as a sweepstakes-based poker club available in 43 states and territories across the United States, Australia, Canada, France and the United Kingdom. WPT also participates in strategic brand license, partnership, and sponsorship opportunities. For more information, go to WPT.com. WPT Enterprises Inc. is a subsidiary of Allied Esports Entertainment, Inc.

About Allied Esports Entertainment (AESE)

Allied Esports Entertainment (NASDAQ: AESE) is a global esports entertainment venture dedicated to providing transformative live experiences, multiplatform content and interactive services to audiences worldwide through its strategic fusion of two powerful entertainment brands: Allied Esports and the World Poker Tour (WPT). On January 19, 2021, AESE entered into a Stock Purchase Agreement to sell the equity interests that own WPT to Element Partners, LLC once all applicable shareholder and regulatory consents have been obtained, and the other conditions to closing have been satisfied (the "Proposed Transaction").

Forward-Looking Statements

This communication contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements may relate to future results, strategy and plans of Allied Esports Entertainment, Inc. and the World Poker Tour (collectively, the "Companies") (including certain projections and business trends, and statements, which may be identified by the use of the words "plans", "expects" or "does not expect", "estimated", "is expected", "budget", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "intends", "anticipates" or "does not anticipate", or "believes", or variations of such words and phrases or state that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might", "projects", "will" or "will be taken", "occur" or "be achieved"). Forward-looking statements are based on the opinions and estimates of management of the Companies as of the date such statements are made, and they are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties, assumptions and other factors that may cause the actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. For example, the Bally's proposal may not result in a definitive agreement for an alternative transaction. Other risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the determinations made by the Company's Board of Directors following its evaluation of the negotiations between the Company and Element; the impact of the actions of Element and Bally's in response to any discussions between the Company and the other company and the potential consummation of the proposed transaction with one of such companies; the outcome of any legal proceedings that could be instituted against the Company or its directors related to the discussions or the proposed or pending stock purchase agreement with Element or Bally's; changes in a proposal from Element or Bally's; the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could give rise to the termination of the pending stock purchase agreement with Element; each Company's respective revenues and operating performance, general economic conditions, industry trends, legislation or regulatory requirements affecting the business in which it is engaged, management of growth, its business strategy and plans, the result of future financing efforts and its dependence on key personnel, and the ability to retain key personnel. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance upon any forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date made. These forward-looking statements are made only as of the date hereof, and no Company undertakes any obligation to update or revise the forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. With respect to the Proposed Transaction, these factors include, but are not limited to, the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstances that could give rise to the termination of the Stock Purchase Agreement or could otherwise cause the Proposed Transaction to fail to close; the outcome of any legal proceedings that may be instituted against us following the announcement of the Proposed Transaction; the inability to complete the Proposed Transaction, including due to failure to obtain approval of AESE's stockholders or other conditions to closing; the receipt of an unsolicited offer from another party for an alternative business transaction that could interfere with the Proposed Transaction; a change in our plans to retain the net cash proceeds from the Proposed Transaction; our inability to enter into one or more future acquisition or strategic transactions using the net proceeds from the Proposed Transaction; an event or condition that results in our not fully participating in the future revenues of Element (as contemplated by the Stock Purchase Agreement); and a decision not to pursue strategic options for the esports business. Further information on potential factors that could affect our business is described under "Risk Factors" in AESE's Consent Solicitation Statement dated February 1, 2021, filed with the SEC on February 2, 2021.

No Offer or Solicitation

This communication is for informational purposes only and is neither an offer to sell or purchase, nor the solicitation of an offer to buy or sell any securities, nor is it a solicitation of any vote, consent, or approval in any jurisdiction pursuant to or in connection with the Proposed Transaction or otherwise, nor shall there be any sale, issuance or transfer of securities in any jurisdiction in contravention of applicable law.

If a negotiated transaction between the Company and Bally's is entered into, the Company will prepare a consent solicitation statement related to the proposed transaction, the proposed transaction will be submitted to the stockholders of the Company for their consideration, and the Company will provide the consent solicitation statement to its stockholders. The Company, and possibly Bally's, may also file other documents with the SEC regarding the proposed transaction. This document is not a substitute for any consent solicitation statement or any other document which the Company or Bally's may file with the SEC in connection with such proposed transaction. If a negotiated transaction between the Company and Bally's is entered into, investors and stockholders are urged to read the consent solicitation statement and the other relevant materials with respect to the proposed transaction with Bally's carefully in their entirety when they become available before making any voting or investment decision with respect to the proposed transaction with Bally's because they such documents will contain important information about the proposed transaction with Bally's.

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In addition to Regan & Associates, Inc., AESE, its directors and executive officers may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of consents with respect to the Proposed Transaction. Information regarding AESE's directors and executive officers and their ownership of AESE shares is contained in AESE's Amended Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2019 and its definitive consent solicitation statement for the Proposed Transaction which was filed with the SEC on February 2, 2021, and is supplemented by other public filings made, and to be made, with the SEC. AESE's directors and executive officers beneficially own approximately 6.8% of AESE's common stock. Investors and stockholders may obtain additional information regarding the direct and indirect interests of AESE and its directors and executive officers with respect to the Proposed Transaction by reading the proxy statement and other filings referred to above.

Investor Contact:

Lasse Glassen
Addo Investor Relations
lglassen@addoir.com
424-238-6249

Source: Allied Esports Entertainment, Inc.
