

TABLE GAMES INDUSTRY MEETING MINUTES

January 8, 2014

1. Field Trial Updates:

The three games currently in field trial, Straight Edge Poker, Hit and Run Blackjack and Big Raise Stud (all SHFL entertainment games) will be going before the Commission in February and will become effective in the rules sometime after the first of April. We also have one game going into field trial this month, Dead Man's hand, and it will be at Monarch in Black Hawk and Bronco Billy's in Cripple Creek.

2. Supervision of the Pit:

We will be removing the section from the ICMP (Section 2: Table Games, Pit Supervision) that prohibits a supervisor from covering for a dealer only for relief purposes. As long as the supervisor does not take tips for themselves, and there is adequate supervision of the pit, the Division will no longer regulate when and where that supervisor can cover for dealers.

Dealers will still not be allowed to return to dealing if they have been asked to serve as the pit supervisor for any length of time.

3. Buffalo Blackjack Bonus

We have decided to revoke the felts being used for this game by many casinos. Felts that have the Bust Bonus wager below the regular blackjack wagering spot and directly in front of the patron will no longer be allowed. It is too easy for patrons to past post on the Bust Bonus wager with this spot so close to their chips. Galaxy has a felt for the game where the Bust Bonus spot is over the regular BJ wagering spot. This is the felt that will be necessary. All casinos have 30 days to ensure they are in compliance. I have spoken with Dean Barnett from Galaxy and he has assured me that this should be enough time for all casinos to switch out felts. Please let me know if you are running into any problems.

4. Dealers working for outside companies in a dealing capacity

The Division is not taking a stance on this one way or the other. If the dealer is working for a legitimate company who only caters to charitable events, then there shouldn't be a problem. However, the licensee could be held responsible if any of the companies they find themselves working for ever are found to be involved in actual illegal gaming. Licensees should use their good discretion when deciding to take a job with any of these companies.

5. Re-felting tables

A casino had asked if the Division had any stated guidelines for what needed to happen with the tray when table felts were changed out. The casino in question had been crediting the tray into the cashiers cage and then refilling the tray, along with completing all associated paperwork, and wanted to know if this procedure was necessary. They asked if the tray could be placed, locked, at the podium while the new felt was put back on and then simply put back on the table afterward. This is an acceptable procedure. Casinos should have it stated in their house policies how they will complete this procedure and ensure those procedures are followed each time. At a minimum, this should only be done on a closed table, meaning the opener/closer paperwork has been previously dropped. The tray should be locked, and surveillance should be notified so they are aware each time. Procedures should also ensure that one tray cannot be accidentally placed back on another table if multiple tables are being re-felted at the same time.

6. Craps and Roulette - dealer self corrections

Rule 8, Rules of Blackjack, 47.1-828 Irregularities (1), has specific language that prohibits dealers from correcting any dealing irregularities on their own. However, Rule 8 is specific to the game of Blackjack and any variations of Blackjack.

Rule 10, 22 and 23 do not have any such specific prohibitions. The Division will be amending these three rules with specific language, similar to what is found in Rule 8, to ensure no issues are found in poker, roulette or craps.

7. Craps wagers where no specific wagering spot exists

This deals specifically with the SFHL entertainment craps felts for their Fire Bet. They have removed all the hopping 7 spots to make room for their proprietary wagers. Casinos that have these felts have been placing the wagers above the Any 7's wagering spot. It has been asked if this was acceptable and within the requirements of 47.1-2305 (1) that speaks to wagers having to be placed on the "appropriate areas" of a layout. If a craps layout has a specific area for wagers, then wagers would need to be on those spots. However, for wagers that aren't specifically found on the layout, the casino can determine the "appropriate" place for these wagers. This should be in house policy so surveillance knows exactly where these wagers would be found.

8. Dealer tips received as currency

The ICMP's (Section 14: Dealer Tips, General Requirements) will be changed to allow dealers to color up currency tips rather than having to actually drop the bill itself. This will be an either/or change allowing casinos to decide how they want to handle these.

9. Tip wagers on a specific Craps wager that might violate the max bet limit

If a dealer ever receives tip wagers on one specific wagering spot from multiple players and the amount of these tip wagers exceed \$100, the Division does not view this a max bet violation. The tip wager starts with the patron, not the dealer and is specific to the patron who provided it. Five patrons tipping \$125 on one spot is acceptable, one patron tipping \$125 on one spot is not.

10. Card inventory

The ICMP requirement to keep a card inventory is being removed. Casinos that want to keep the card inventory requirement for internal purposes are more than welcome to do so, but the Division will not be inspecting card inventories in the future.

There was a question from the industry as to dice inventory. The Committee did not address dice inventory in our discussions of card inventory. We will do so in the near future and I will let you know if anything changes with this requirement.

An important note on the three changes to the ICMP that are mentioned above. The current requirements of the ICMPs must be adhered to until the ICMPs have been officially changed. Casinos will be notified, as always, when the ICMP change process is underway.

Please contact Sean Ballain in the Central City Gaming Office if you have any questions related to anything from this meeting.