

TABLE GAMES INDUSTRY MEETING MINUTES

July 13, 2016

1. 2017 Rule Review Process:

Sean reminded everyone that Senate Bill 14-063 requires all state agencies to review all of their rules every five years, or 20% of their rules per year. The Division of Gaming is planning to review all five table games rules in 2017. Last February Sean Ballain sent an e-mail to all casinos asking for rule change suggestions. Most of the suggestions that were received were in regards to poker (Rule 10). The Division is considering ways to break Rule 10 down to bare essentials. If the Division were to do this it would require each casino to come up with house rules detailing how poker would be handled. Anything that is currently in Rule 10 would need to be addressed in these house rules. The Division would approve these house rules and investigative decisions would be made based on them. The Ameristar has written a draft of their potential house rules and other casinos are welcome to copy it. Sean will send that to everyone via e-mail. None of this is set in stone yet. Sean noted that if the specific game rules are removed, Rule 10 boils down to 24 pages. The Division is also considering moving the game rules to the back of the rule and renumbering the entire rule. Sean's goal is to have all five rules reviewed, including industry comment, by end of December 2016 so that proposed changes can go before the Commission by early 2017. Sean may schedule a meeting with the industry to specifically discuss Rule 10. Please contact Sean with other ideas or comments.

Sean noted that many of the rule change suggestions he received were in regards to proprietary games. Changes to proprietary games have to come from the game owners. Contact the owners directly to suggest those rule changes.

2. Signage:

Please note that the requirement to post table games rules is found in the Gaming Rules as well as the Gaming Act. Check all table games pits and ensure there is adequate signage, conspicuously and conveniently located. Players need to be able to differentiate the signage from the wall decorations. The Division Director or designee must approve any changes to the location where the rules are posted. Central City/Black Hawk casinos can contact Sean and casinos in Cripple Creek can contact either Brad Nelson or Anthony Webb.

3. Pit supervision:

This topic comes up very frequently. The Division looks at what the employee is actually doing (dealing or supervising), rather than the employee's official title (dealer or supervisor). If an employee shows up to be a supervisor and ends up dealing and accepting tips, and never performs a single function as supervisor, the Division's stance is that the employee has been working as a dealer not a supervisor. Tips should be central in mind in determining what an employee has been doing. Once an employee goes from dealer to supervisor they are locked in as a supervisor and can no longer accept tips, even if they go back to dealing. Pit supervision plans should be updated if that has not been done in a while, especially if using supervisors to break pits. Investigators are supposed to be checking those plans when they go in, and compare what we have on file to what is in the pit. The Division doesn't need a break down of what game is on what table, but rather a breakdown of craps, roulette, house and player banked poker.

4. Field Trials:

Commission recently approved the blackjack-poker combination game of Pai Jack. Raise The Roof is currently in field trial at Monarch and the Wildwood, and a rules workshop regarding this game was held on July 28th. Flushes Gone Wild will begin field trial in mid-August at the Saratoga. At the moment this is the only field trial location for this game. Sean is encouraging the owner to find another one. The Division is now requiring 60 days of game data, beginning the first day of field trial. If we do not have 60 days of data, the Division will suspend the field trial. Multiple field trial locations make it more likely that we will get the required 60 days of data. If the Division has to suspend the field trial Sean will give the game owner the chance to rework the game, and find another field trial location before denying the game. Casinos that commit to a field trial can cancel it at any time if a game is not working out.

5. Miscellaneous:

It is a manufacturer's responsibility to get to casinos and train the staff on their games. Sean is working with game manufacturers to make sure this is happening. Any casino that is having a problem with this should call Sean.

There has been some miscommunication about when the Bonus Craps wager should be paid. This wager gets paid immediately when the wager is won. No one else can make that wager again until the next come out roll.

Regarding the 21 Magic wager in Buffalo Black Jack Bonus; to win, the player has to be dealt a 21 and has to beat the dealer. A player is paid on the 21 Magic wager when paid on the black jack wager. The only time a player won't get paid on the black jack wager is when the dealer also has a natural 21.

Please keep Sean informed regarding the structure of your table games operations. It helps him if he knows who is working in the table games areas and who needs to be getting information. If there are personnel changes, please let Sean know.

No comments or questions from industry.