

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title 58 - RECREATION

PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

58 PA. CODE CH. 525, 539 and 549

Internal Controls and Rules of Play

The Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (Board), under its general authority in 4 Pa.C.S. § 1303A (relating to temporary table game regulations) enacted by the act of January 7, 2010 (P.L. 1, No. 1)(Act 1) and the specific authority in 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1302A(1) and (2) (relating to regulatory authority), amends Chapters 525, 539 and 549 (relating to Table Game Internal Controls; Sic Bo; and Blackjack) to read as set forth in Annex A.

Purpose of the Temporary Rulemaking

This temporary rulemaking amends the internal controls and the dice retention requirements for Sic Bo and allows for an additional payout for the Bad Beat Progressive Wager in Blackjack.

Explanation of Chapter 525.

The amendment will allow the security department to transfer its key to the count room supervisor for the purpose of resetting the release mechanism on the empty table game drop boxes.

Additionally, the definition of Match Play Coupon was deleted from the definition section. In the first quarter 2012, the final-form rulemaking on Internal Controls (125-145) will be submitted which will supersede all sections of the temporary regulations (§§521.1 - 521.20) with the exception of the provisions on Match Play Coupons. To avoid deleting information when §521.1 is superseded, the definition was moved into the provisions on Match Play Coupons found in §§521.21 and 521.22.

Explanation of Chapter 539.

This amendment will allow operators to retain the dice that have been locked in the automated Sic Bo shaker for a period of one month provided that the facility is utilizing the dice that

are specifically designed for use in the automated Sic Bo shaker.

Explanation of Chapter 549.

This rulemaking adds the Lucky Player Bonus to the Bad Beat Progressive Wager in Blackjack.

Affected Parties

The amendments in this rulemaking will allow certificate holders additional options on how to conduct table games at their licensed facilities.

Fiscal Impact

Commonwealth

The Board does not expect that the revisions in this rulemaking will have any fiscal impact on the Board or any other Commonwealth agency. Internal control procedures submitted by certificate holders related to table games rules submissions will be reviewed by existing Board staff.

Political Subdivisions

This rulemaking will have no direct fiscal impact on political subdivisions of the Commonwealth. Eventually, host municipalities and counties will benefit from the local share funding that is mandated by Act 1.

Private Sector

The amendments contained in this rulemaking will give certificate holders some additional flexibility as to how they conduct table games.

General Public

This rulemaking will have no direct fiscal impact on the general public.

Paperwork requirements

If a certificate holder selects different options for play at the licensed facility, the certificate holder will be

required to submit an updated rules submission reflecting the changes.

Effective Date

This temporary rulemaking will become effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

Public Comments

While this rulemaking will be effective upon publication, the Board is seeking comments from the public and affected parties as to how this temporary regulation might be improved. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, suggestions or objections regarding this temporary rulemaking within 30 days after the date of publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* to Susan A. Yocum, Assistant Chief Counsel, Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, P.O. Box 69060, Harrisburg, PA 17106-9060, Attention: Public Comment on Regulation #125-161.

Contact Person

The contact person for questions about this rulemaking is Susan A. Yocum, Assistant Chief Counsel, at (717) 346-8300.

Regulatory Review

Under 4 Pa.C.S. § 13A03, the Board is authorized to adopt temporary regulations which are not subject to the provisions of: sections 201 - 205 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L. 769, No. 240), referred to as the Commonwealth Documents Law; the Regulatory Review Act (71 P.S. §§ 745.1 - 745.12); and sections 204(b) and 301(10) of the Commonwealth Attorneys Act (71 P.S. §§ 732-204(b) and 732-301(10)). These temporary regulations shall expire 2 years after publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

Findings

The Board finds that:

(1) Under 4 Pa.C.S. § 1303A, the temporary regulations are exempt from the requirements of the Regulatory Review Act, sections 201 - 205 of the Commonwealth Documents Law and sections 204(b) and 301(10) of the Commonwealth Attorney Act.

(2) The adoption of the temporary regulations is necessary and appropriate for the administration and enforcement of 4 Pa.C.S. Part II (relating to gaming).

Order

The Board, acting under 4 Pa.C.S. Part II, orders that:

(1) The regulations of the Board, 58 Pa. Code Chapters 525, 539 and 549 are amended to read as set forth in Annex A.

(2) The temporary regulation is effective **Insert Publication Date.**

(3) The temporary regulation will be posted on the Board's web site and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

(4) The temporary regulation is subject to amendment as deemed necessary by the Board.

(5) The Chairman of the Board shall certify this order and Annex A and deposit them with the Legislative Reference Bureau as required by law.

William H. Ryan, Jr.
Chairman

Annex A

Title 58. RECREATION

PART VII. GAMING CONTROL BOARD

Subpart K. TABLE GAMES

CHAPTER 525. TABLE GAME INTERNAL CONTROLS AND MATCH PLAY COUPONS

§ 525.1. Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

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[Match Play Coupon – A coupon with a stated value that when presented with gaming chips by a patron at a table game is included in the amount of the patron’s wager.]

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§ 525.18. Transport of table game drop boxes to and from gaming tables.

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(h) Notwithstanding subsection (d) and § 525.17(c), the security department may, immediately prior to the commencement of the table game [drop and] count [process], issue the security department’s key to the trolley and the key utilized to release the table game drop boxes from the gaming tables to a count room supervisor for the purpose of gaining access to the trolley or resetting the release mechanism on empty table game drop boxes

[to be dropped and counted]. A key transferred from the security department shall be returned immediately following the conclusion of the count of the table game drop boxes and the return of any table game drop boxes or emergency table game drop boxes to their respective storage cabinets or trolleys by the count room supervisor. The security department shall establish sign-in and sign-out procedures in its internal controls documenting this transfer and procedures governing the control of the key during any breaks taken by count room personnel.

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§ 525.21. Match Play Coupons; physical characteristics and issuance.

(a) A certificate holder may utilize Match Play Coupons in accordance with this chapter. **A Match Play Coupon is an approved wagering instrument with a stated denomination that when presented with gaming chips at a banking game is included in the amount of the patron's wager.**

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CHAPTER 539. SIC BO

§ 539.2. Dice; number of dice.

(a) Sic Bo shall be played with three dice, which shall be kept inside the Sic Bo shaker while at the Sic Bo table.

(b) The dice that have been placed in a **manual** Sic Bo shaker **[for use in gaming]** may not be used for the play of the

game for more than 24 hours. Dice that have been locked in an automated Sic Bo shaker and comply with the requirements of § 523.12(c) (relating to dice; physical characteristics) may not be used in play for more than 1 month.

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CHAPTER 549. BLACKJACK

§ 549.24. Bad Beat Progressive Wager; payout odds.

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(d) Before settling the player's Blackjack Wager, the dealer shall settle the Bad Beat Progressive Wager, which shall win if the player's hand has a total value of 20, even if the dealer has a Blackjack or a total value of 21. If a player has won the Bad Beat Blackjack Wager, the dealer shall:

(5) A player who placed a Bad Beat Progressive Wager may also receive a Lucky Player Bonus, if included in the certificate holder's rules submission required under § 521.2, if the player is seated in the player position that is randomly selected by the table game system. The Lucky Player Bonus shall pay out at odds of 5 for 1.

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