



BUREAU OF GAMBLING CONTROL
P.O. Box 168024
Sacramento, CA 95816
Phone: (916) 227-3584

June 30, 2016

TO: ALL CALIFORNIA GAMBLING ESTABLISHMENTS

RE: **NOTIFICATION REGARDING RULES OF GAMES FEATURING A PLAYER-DEALER POSITION**

Dear Gambling Establishment Representative:

A letter published February 19, 2016, notified all gambling establishments that a review of the Bureau of Gambling Control's (Bureau) inspection and game review process was being conducted with respect to the play of games featuring a rotating player-dealer position as permitted by Penal Code section 330.11. The February 19, 2016, letter informed all gambling establishments that a prior letter issued December 20, 2007, which had addressed the Bureau's inspection practice with respect to compliance with Penal Code section 330.11, was suspended pending this review, and stated that on or before June 30, 2016, a notification of the revised practice would be issued relating to the rotation of the player-dealer position in games permitted by Penal Code section 330.11.

The Bureau has now completed an extensive review of the play of games currently offered at gambling establishments throughout the State. A number of gambling industry stakeholders have provided input and all suggestions and comments received have been considered.

Penal Code section 330.11 provides in relevant part that acceptance of the deal by every player is not mandated if the Bureau finds that the rules of the game render the maintenance or operation of a bank impossible by other means. Accordingly, in considering rules for games featuring a player-dealer position that do not mandate acceptance of the deal by every player, the Bureau will deny approval to rules that do not do all of the following:

1. Provide for an offer of the player-dealer position to each player seated at the table immediately upon completion of every second consecutive hand, or more frequently if desired. The offer must be clearly visible to surveillance cameras and audible, so that each player at the table is aware of the opportunity made available by the offer.
2. Provide that no one person or entity may hold or otherwise be involved in the player-dealer position continuously for 60 minutes. The player-dealer position must rotate completely away from a person or entity within a 60-minute period, to a different

person or entity from the one who occupied the position during the hand immediately preceding the rotation. The 60-minute period commences upon acceptance of the player-dealer position.

3. Provide that upon failure of fulfillment of any of the requirements of play identified in paragraph 2, the game must end, and that a new game cannot begin for at least two minutes.
4. Provide for immediate notification to all players that the game has ended, cards or tiles cannot be dealt, and wagers cannot be made. The dealer tray must be covered during this time to indicate the game has ended.
5. Provide for the shuffling of all cards or tiles upon the opening of a new game.

Enclosed is a list of games featuring a player-dealer position currently approved for play in your gambling establishment. Gambling establishments are encouraged to review current game rules for all listed games for compliance with this notification. If the rules of any listed game are not in compliance with paragraphs 1 through 5 of this notification, proposed modified rules for each game must be received by the Bureau or postmarked **no later than September 30, 2016**. Games for which proposed modified game rules are received by the deadline may continue to be offered by the gambling establishment under the currently approved rules until the Bureau makes a determination on the proposed modified game rules. No application fee or deposit will be required for submission of proposed modified game rules for the games on the enclosed list. The Bureau will exercise its authority to issue temporary approvals (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 11, § 2071, subd. (c)) for 12 months to continue to monitor game play to ensure that rotation is occurring and banking is precluded, as specified in the above items 1 through 5.

If the rules of any listed game are not in full compliance with paragraphs 1 through 5 of this notification, and the Bureau does not receive proposed modified game rules by the deadline, the current approval for that game will be withdrawn and the game may no longer be offered.

Submit proposed modified game rules to the address or email address below:

Bureau of Gambling Control
Attn: Game Review Unit
P.O. Box 168024
Sacramento, CA 95816
Email: BGCGames@doj.ca.gov

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The Bureau will not approve any other game modifications, new game approvals, or gaming activities until further notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wayne J. Quint, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

WAYNE J. QUINT, JR.
Bureau Chief

For KAMALA D. HARRIS
Attorney General

Enclosure

cc: Third-Party Providers of Proposition Player Services