

Amended by R.1982 d.255, effective August 2, 1982, operative September 15, 1982.

See: 14 N.J.R. 559(b), 14 N.J.R. 841(b).

Added definition of "Bart Carter shuffle", "determinant card" and "double shoe".

Amended by R.1993 d.38, effective January 19, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 2351(a), 25 N.J.R. 367(a).

Added card reader device.

Case Notes

No action for violation of federal constitutional rights absent state action permitted to card counter excluded from casino; State Supreme Court holding denying casino's right to exclude card counters not retroactive. *Hoagsburg v. Harrah's Marina Hotel Casino*, 585 F.Supp. 1167 (D.N.J.1984).

"Card counter" patron not excludable from gambling at casino absent valid Commission rule; public access to casinos. *Uston v. Resorts International Hotel, Inc.*, 89 N.J. 163 (1982).

19:47-2.2 Cards; number of decks; value of cards

(a) Blackjack shall be played with at least one deck of cards with backs of the same color and design and one additional yellow or green cutting card. If the additional wager authorized by N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.17(a)3 is offered, blackjack shall be played with at least four decks of cards with backs of the same color and design and one additional yellow or green cutting card.

(b) The value of the cards contained in each deck shall be as follows:

1. Any card from 2 to 10 shall have its face value;
2. Any Jack, Queen or King shall have a value of ten;
3. An ace shall have a value of:
 - i. Eleven, unless that value would give a player or the dealer a score in excess of 21, in which case, it shall have a value of one; or
 - ii. One, if the ace is one of the initial two cards dealt to a player in determination of the additional wager authorized by N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.17(a)1; provided, however, that the value of such ace for all other purposes under this subchapter shall be governed by (b)3i above.

(c) If a double shoe is utilized, blackjack shall be played with at least two decks of cards that shall be dealt from separate sides of the dealing shoe. The cards dealt from each side of the shoe shall have backs of the same color and design as all other cards being dealt from that side of the shoe. The backs of the cards being dealt from one side of the shoe, however, shall be of a different color than the backs being dealt from the other side. In addition to the cards used, a separate yellow or green cutting card shall be used in each side of the shoe.

(d) Notwithstanding (a) above, if a casino licensee offers a progressive blackjack wager pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.19 the game of blackjack shall be played with at least four decks of cards.

Amended by R.1982 d.255, effective August 2, 1982, operative September 15, 1982.

See: 14 N.J.R. 559(b), 14 N.J.R. 841(b).

Added (c).

Amended by R.1992 d.174, effective April 20, 1992.

See: 23 N.J.R. 3251(a), 24 N.J.R. 1516(c).

In (b)3i: stylistic revision moving "Eleven" to 3i from 3 regarding the value of an Ace.

Added new (b)3ii.

Amended by R.1994 d.80, effective February 22, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 5454(b), 26 N.J.R. 1113(a).

Amended by R.1996 d.315, effective July 15, 1996.

See: 28 N.J.R. 1947(a), 28 N.J.R. 3623(a).

Amended by R.1996 d.316, effective July 15, 1996.

See: 28 N.J.R. 1950(a), 28 N.J.R. 3625(a).

19:47-2.3 Wagers

(a) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player at the game of blackjack shall make a wager against the dealer which shall win if:

1. The score of the player is 21 or less and the score of the dealer is in excess of 21;
2. The score of the player exceeds that of the dealer without either exceeding 21;
3. The player has achieved a score of 21 in two cards and the dealer has achieved a score of 21 in more than two cards; or
4. The player has achieved a score of 21 in five cards and the dealer has not achieved a blackjack or a score of 21, provided the casino licensee elects such option pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.16.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a)3 of this section, a wager made in accordance with this subsection shall be void when the score of the player is the same as the dealer, provided, however, that a player's wager shall be lost when the dealer has a blackjack and the player has a simple 21 which is not a blackjack.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in these regulations, no wager shall be made, increased or withdrawn after the first card of the respective round has been dealt.

(d) All wagers at blackjack shall be made by placing gaming chips or plaques and, if applicable, a match play coupon on the appropriate areas of the blackjack layout, except that verbal wagers accompanied by cash may be accepted provided that they are confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor and that such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips or plaques in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:45-1.18.

(e) After each round of play is complete, the dealer shall collect all losing wagers and pay off all winning wagers. All winning wagers made in accordance with (a) above shall be paid at odds of 1 to 1, with the exception of standard blackjack, which shall be paid at odds of 3 to 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, a casino licensee may, in its discretion, offer one or more of the following payout odds for winning wagers made in accordance with (a) above, provided that the casino licensee complies with the notice requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3:

1. Three cards consisting of the 6, 7 and 8 of the same suit shall be paid at odds of 2 to 1;
2. Three cards consisting of three 7's of any suit shall be paid at odds of 3 to 2;
3. A single blackjack combination consisting of a specific ace and face card designated by the casino licensee in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3 shall be paid at odds of 2 to 1;
4. Five Cards Totalling 21 shall be paid at odds of 2 to 1.

(f) Once the first card of any hand has been removed from the shoe by the dealer, no player shall handle, remove or alter any wagers that have been made until a decision has been rendered and implemented with respect to that wager except as explicitly permitted by these regulations.

(g) Once a wager on the insurance line, a wager to double down or a wager to split pairs has been made and confirmed by the dealer, no player shall handle, remove or alter such wagers until a decision has been rendered and implemented with respect to that wager except as explicitly permitted by these regulations.

(h) No dealer or other casino employee or casino key employee shall permit any player to engage in conduct violative of (f) or (g) above.

(i) A casino licensee may implement any of the following options at a blackjack table provided that the casino licensee complies with the notice requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3:

1. Persons who have not made a wager on the first round of play may not enter the game on a subsequent round of play until a reshuffle of the cards has occurred;
2. Persons who have not made a wager on the first round of play may be permitted to enter the game, but may be limited to wagering only the minimum limit posted at the table until a reshuffle of the cards has occurred;
3. Persons who, after making a wager on a given round of play, decline to wager on any subsequent round of play may be precluded from placing any further wagers until a reshuffle of the cards has occurred; and
4. Persons who, after making a wager on a given round of play, decline to wager on any subsequent round of play may be permitted to place further wagers, but may be limited to wagering only the minimum limit posted at the table until a reshuffle of the cards has occurred.

(j) If a casino licensee implements any of the options in (i) above, the option shall be uniformly applied to all persons at that table; provided, however that if a casino licensee has implemented either of the options in (i)3 or 4 above, an exception may be made for a person who temporarily leaves the table if, at the time the person leaves, the casino licensee agrees to reserve the person's spot until his or her turn.

(k) If a double shoe is utilized, the term "first card" as used in (a), (c) and (f) above shall mean "determinant card."

(l) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter to the contrary, a player may, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.19, make a supplemental progressive blackjack wager at any blackjack table where the wager is offered.

Amended by R.1979 d.2, effective January 5, 1979.

See: 10 N.J.R. 568(a), 11 N.J.R. 108(c).

Amended by R.1980 d.132, effective March 31, 1980.

See: 11 N.J.R. 653(a), 12 N.J.R. 294(c).

Amended by, R.1980 d.186, effective April 29, 1980.

See: 12 N.J.R. 357(a).

Amended, R.1982 d.255, effective August 2, 1982, operative September 15, 1982.

See: 14 N.J.R. 559(b), 14 N.J.R. 841(b).

Added (j), (k) and (l).

Temporary amendment of rule pursuant to blackjack experiment.

See: 23 N.J.R. 123(b).

Amended by R.1991 d.551, effective November 4, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 1784(b), 23 N.J.R. 3350(a).

In (e): added reference to N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3 regarding wager requirements.

Amended by R.1991 d.533, effective November 4, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 28(b), 23 N.J.R. 3355(a).

Added new (a)4 and new (f)1-2 setting out odds; deleted language in subsection (f) regarding odds.

Amended by R.1991 d.534, effective November 4, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 1781(a), 23 N.J.R. 3351(a).

Revised subsection (f), adding (f)1-3 with text on payout odds for winner wagers in blackjack.

Amended by R.1992 d.123, effective March 16, 1992.

See: 23 N.J.R. 3436(a), 24 N.J.R. 974(c).

In (f): added initial sentence regarding when the dealer shall collect and pay off losing and winning wagers.

Amended by R.1993 d.37, effective January 19, 1993.

See: 24 N.J.R. 3695(a), 25 N.J.R. 348(b).

Simulcasting added.

Administrative Correction to subsection (k).

See: 25 N.J.R. April 5, 1993.

Amended by R.1993 d.293, effective June 21, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 1508(a), 25 N.J.R. 2703(a).

Amended by R.1993 d.630, effective December 6, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 3953(a), 25 N.J.R. 5521(a).

Amended by R.1994 d.137, effective March 21, 1994.

See: 25 N.J.R. 5902(a), 26 N.J.R. 1373(b).

Amended by R.1996 d.315, effective July 15, 1996.

See: 28 N.J.R. 1947(a), 28 N.J.R. 3623(a).

19:47-2.4 Opening of table for gaming

(a) After receiving the one or more decks of cards at the table, the dealer shall sort and inspect the cards and the floorperson assigned to the table shall verify the inspection in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18(f).

(b) After the cards are inspected, the cards shall be spread out face upwards on the table for visual inspection by the first player or players to arrive at the table. The cards shall be spread out in horizontal fan shaped columns by deck according to suit and in sequence. The cards in each suit shall be laid out in sequence within the suit.

9. "One pair" is a hand containing two cards of the same rank, with two aces being the highest ranking pair and two twos being the lowest ranking pair.

(c) When comparing two hands which are of identical poker hand rank pursuant to the provisions of this section, or which contain none of the hands authorized in this section, the hand which contains the highest ranking card as provided in (a) above which is not contained in the other hand shall be considered the higher ranking hand. If the hands are of identical rank after the application of this subsection, the hands shall be considered a push.

19:47-16.6 Wagers

(a) All wagers at caribbean stud poker shall be made by placing gaming chips or plaques and, if applicable, a match play coupon on the appropriate betting areas of the table layout. A verbal wager accompanied by cash shall not be accepted.

(b) All ante wagers shall be placed prior to the dealer announcing "No more bets" in accordance with the dealing procedure in N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.7, 16.8 or 16.9. Except as provided in N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.7, no wager shall be made, increased, or withdrawn after the dealer has announced "No more bets."

(c) Upon placing an ante wager, a player may, at his or her discretion, place a progressive payout wager by depositing a \$1.00 gaming chip into the acceptor device designated for that player. Each player shall be responsible for verifying that his or her respective acceptor light has been properly illuminated.

(d) A "bet" wager shall be made in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.10.

(e) A player shall not be permitted to play more than one hand per round of play.

(f) Only players who are seated at the caribbean stud poker table may place a wager at the game. Once a player has placed a wager and received cards, that player must remain seated until the competition of the round of play.

19:47-16.7 Procedure for dealing the cards from a manual dealing shoe

(a) If a casino licensee chooses to have the cards dealt from a manual dealing shoe, the dealing shoe shall meet the requirements of N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.19 and shall be located on the table in a location as approved by the Commission. Once the procedures required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.4 have been completed, the stacked deck of cards shall be placed in the dealing shoe either by the dealer or by an automatic shuffling device.

(b) Prior to dealing the cards and once all ante and progressive payout wagers have been placed, the dealer shall

then announce "No more bets" and press the "lock-out" button on the table controller panel. Once the "lock-out" button has been pressed, if any wagers have been placed on the progressive wager, the dealer shall remove these wagers from the table inventory return device, and on the layout in front of the table inventory container, verify that the number of gaming chips wagered equals the number of lights illuminated on the acceptor devices, and place the gaming chips into the table inventory container in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:45-1.20.

(c) Each card shall be removed from the dealing shoe with the hand of the dealer that is closest to the dealing shoe and placed on the appropriate area of the layout with the opposite hand.

(d) The dealer shall deal the first card, face down, to the player farthest to the left of the dealer and then, moving clockwise around the table, deal each remaining player a card, face down. The dealer shall then deal one card face down to an area directly in front of the table inventory container designated for the dealer's hand. This procedure shall be repeated until all players have received five cards face down; provided, however, the dealer's fifth card shall be dealt face up. The cards shall be dealt to each player directly on top of that player's preceding card.

(e) After five cards have been dealt to each player and the area designated for the hand of the dealer, the dealer shall remove the stub from the manual dealing shoe and, except as provided in (f) below, place the stub in the discard rack without exposing the cards.

(f) The dealer shall be required to count the stub at least once every five rounds of play in order to determine that the correct number of cards are still present in the deck. The dealer shall determine the number of cards in the stub by counting the cards face down on the layout.

1. If the count of the stub indicates that 52 cards are in the deck, the dealer shall place the stub in the discard rack without exposing the cards.

2. If the count of the stub indicates that the number of cards in the deck is incorrect, the dealer shall determine if the cards were misdealt. If the cards have been misdealt (a player or the area designed for the placement of the dealer's hand has more or less than five cards) but 52 cards remain in the deck, all hands shall be void pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.13. If the cards have not been misdealt, all hands shall be considered void and the entire deck of cards shall be removed from the table pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18.

19:47-16.8 Procedures for dealing the cards from the hand

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of N.J.A.C. 19:46 or this chapter, a casino licensee may, in its discretion, permit a dealer to deal the cards used to play caribbean stud poker from his or her hand.

(b) If a casino licensee chooses to have the cards dealt from the dealer's hand, the following requirements shall be observed:

1. The casino licensee shall use an automated shuffling device to shuffle the cards.

2. Once the procedures required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.4 have been completed, the dealer shall place the stacked deck of cards in either hand.

i. Once the dealer has chosen the hand in which he or she will hold the cards, the dealer shall use that hand whenever holding the cards during that round of play.

ii. The cards held by the dealer shall at all times be kept in front of the dealer and over the table inventory container.

3. The dealer shall then announce "No more bets" and press the lock-out button in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.7 prior to dealing any cards. The dealer shall deal each card by holding the deck of cards in the chosen hand and using the other hand to remove the top card of the deck and place it face down on the appropriate area of the layout.

(c) The dealer shall deal the first card, face down, to the player farthest to the left of the dealer and then, moving clockwise around the table, deal each remaining player a card, face down. The dealer shall then deal one card face down to an area directly in front of the table inventory container designated for the dealer's hand. This procedure shall be repeated until all players have received five cards face down; provided, however, the dealer's fifth card shall be dealt face up. The cards shall be dealt to each player directly on top of that player's preceding card.

(d) After five cards have been dealt to each player and the area designated for the placement of the dealer's hand, the dealer shall, except as provided in (e) below, place the stub in the discard rack without exposing the cards.

(e) The dealer shall be required to count the stub at least once every five rounds of play in order to determine that the correct number of cards are still present in the deck. The dealer shall count the stub in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.7.

19:47-16.9 Procedures for dealing the cards from an automated dealing shoe

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of N.J.A.C. 19:46 or this chapter, a casino licensee may, in its discretion, choose to have the cards used to play caribbean stud poker dealt from an automated dealing shoe which dispenses cards in stacks of five cards, provided that the shoe, its location and the procedures for its use are approved by the Commission.

(b) If a casino licensee chooses to have the cards dealt from an automated dealing shoe, the following requirements shall be observed:

1. Once the procedures required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.4 have been completed, the cards shall be placed in the automated dealing shoe.

2. The dealer shall then announce "No more bets" and press the lock-out button in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.7.

(c) The dealer shall deliver the first stack of cards dispensed by the automated dealing shoe face down to the player farthest to his or her left who has placed a wager in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.6. As the remaining stacks are dispensed to the dealer by the automated dealing shoe, the dealer shall, moving clockwise around the table, deliver a stack face down to each of the other players who has placed a wager in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.6. The dealer shall then deliver a stack of five cards face down to the area designated for the dealer's hand.

(d) After each stack of five cards has been dispensed and delivered in accordance with this subsection, the dealer shall remove the stub from the automated dealing shoe and, except as provided in (e) below, place the cards in the discard rack without exposing the cards.

(e) The dealer shall be required to count the stub at least once every five rounds of play in order to determine that the correct number of cards are still present in the deck. The dealer shall count the stub in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.7.

(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of (e) above, the counting of the stub shall not be required if an automated card shuffling device is used that counts the number of cards in the deck after the completion of each shuffle and indicates whether 52 cards are still present. If the automated card shuffling device reveals that an incorrect number of cards are present, the deck shall be removed from the table in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18.

(g) The dealer shall then expose the top card of the dealer's hand, and the round of play shall proceed in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.10.

19:47-16.10 Bet wagers; procedure for completion of each round of play; collection and payment of wagers

(a) After the dealing procedures required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.7, 16.8 or 16.9 have been completed but before the dealer exposes the hole cards, each player shall, after examining his or her cards, either place a bet wager in the designated betting area or fold and forfeit the ante wager. If a player folds, the entire ante wager shall be collected by the dealer and placed in the table inventory container. A folded hand shall then be immediately collected by the dealer and placed in the discard rack.