

2. If none of the players accepts the mini-dice shaker, the dealer shall accept the shaker on behalf of the players and shake it at least three more times.

(e) The dealer shall then place the mini-dice shaker directly in front of him or her, remove the cover and immediately call out the sum of the spots on the top or uppermost faces of the two dice. Only one face on each die shall be considered uppermost.

(f) After calling out the sum of the spots, the dealer shall settle all wagers decided by that shake of the dice by first collecting all losing wagers and then paying all winning wagers at the odds currently being offered in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-13.6. The dice shaker shall remain uncovered until all winning wagers have been paid.

**19:47-13.6 Payout odds; vigorish prohibited**

(a) The payout odds for winning wagers at mini-dice printed on any layout or in any brochure or other publication distributed by a casino licensee shall be stated through the use of the word "to" or "win," and no odds shall be stated through the use of the word "for."

(b) A casino licensee shall pay off winning wagers at no less than the odds listed below. A casino licensee may pay off winning wagers at higher odds than those listed below provided that such odds are uniform within the casino and the casino simulcasting facility.

Wager	Payout Odds
Place Bet 4 to Win	9 to 5
Place Bet 5 to Win	7 to 5
Place Bet 6 to Win	7 to 6
Place Bet 8 to Win	7 to 6
Place Bet 9 to Win	7 to 5
Place Bet 10 to Win	9 to 5
Field Bets (3, 4, 9, 10, 11)	1 to 1
Field Bets (2 and 12)	2 to 1
Any 7	4 to 1
Over 7	1 to 1
Under 7	1 to 1

(c) No casino licensee or its employees shall accept any wager that, because of the amount thereof, cannot be paid at the odds permitted by (b) above.

(d) No casino licensee shall charge any percentage fee or vigorish to a player making any wagers in the game of mini-dice.

**19:47-13.7 Voluntary or compulsory relinquishment of the dice shaker**

(a) After each shake of the dice is completed and the bets are settled, the person who accepted the mini-dice shaker pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-13.5(d) may either retain or pass the right to shake the mini-dice shaker after the dealer, except that:

1. If the person is a player:

- i. The shaker shall be passed after the player shakes a 7;
- ii. The floorperson may order the shaker to be passed if the player unreasonably delays the game, repeatedly makes invalid shakes, or violates either the Casino Control Act or the rules of the Commission; or

2. If the person is the dealer, the dealer shall offer to pass the shaker if there is any player seated at the table who has not previously refused to accept the shaker.

(b) Whenever a voluntary or compulsory relinquishment of the mini-dice shaker occurs, the dealer shall offer the shaker to the first player who is immediately to the left of the person who previously accepted the shaker, and if that player does not accept, to each of the players in turn moving clockwise around the table until one of the players accepts the shaker. If none of the players accepts the mini-dice shaker, the dealer shall accept the shaker on behalf of the players.

**19:47-13.8 Irregularities**

(a) The dealer shall call a "no roll" and reshake the dice in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-13.5 if the dealer uncovers the mini-dice shaker and:

1. The two dice do not land flat on the bottom of the shaker; or
2. A die falls out of the shaker.

**SUBCHAPTER 14. POKER**

**19:47-14.1 Definitions**

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"All-in" means a player who has no funds remaining on the poker table to continue betting in a round of play but who still retains the right to contend for that portion of the pot in which the player has already placed a bet.

"Ante" means a predetermined wager which each player is required to make in some poker games prior to any cards being dealt in order to participate in the round of play.

"Bet" means an action by which a player places gaming chips or gaming plaques into the pot on any betting round.

"Betting round" means a complete wagering cycle in a hand of poker after all players have called, folded or gone all-in.

"Blind bet" means a mandatory wager in some poker games which only players sitting in specific betting positions

at the poker table shall be required to place prior to looking at any cards.

"Burn card" means a card taken from the top of a deck which is discarded face down, which is not in play and the identity of which remains unknown.

"Button" means an object which is moved clockwise around the table to denote an imaginary dealer and thereby determine the betting and dealing sequence.

"Call" means a wager made in an amount equal to the immediately preceding wager.

"Check" means that a player waives the right to initiate the betting in a betting round but retains the right to act if another player initiates the betting.

"Common card" means, in any game of stud poker, a card which is dealt face upward if there are insufficient cards left in the deck to deal each player a card individually and which can be used by all players at the showdown.

"Community card" means any card which is dealt face upward and which can be used by all players to form their best hand.

"Cover card" means a yellow or green plastic card used during the cut process and then to conceal the bottom card of the deck.

"Draw" means, in any game of draw poker, an exchange by a player of cards held in his or her hand, after the initial round of betting, for an equal number of new cards from the deck.

"Fold" means the withdrawal of a player from a round of play by discarding his or her hand of cards during a betting round and refusing to equal a wager.

"Forced bet" means a wager which is required to start the wagering on the first betting round.

"Fouled hand" means a hand that either has an improper number of cards or has come into contact with other cards in such a way as to render it impossible to determine accurately which cards are contained in the hand.

"High" means a game of poker in which the highest ranking hand in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.3 wins the pot.

"High-low split" means a form of poker in which there is a winner for both the highest and lowest ranking hands.

"Hole card" means any card dealt to a player face down.

"Low" means a game of poker in which the highest ranking low hand in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.3 wins the pot.

"Opening bet" means the first bet in a round of play.

"Pot" means the amount which is awarded to the winning player or players at the conclusion of a round of play and is equal to the total amount anted and bet by the players during the round of play, less any rake extracted pursuant N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.14.

"Protected hand" means a hand of cards which the player is physically holding or has placed under one or more gaming chips.

"Raise" means a bet in an amount greater than the immediately preceding bet in that betting round.

"Rake" means the amount of gaming chips, gaming plaques or coin collected by the dealer as poker revenue in accordance with 19:47-14.14.

"Round of play" means, for any game of poker, the process by which cards are dealt, bets are placed and the winner of the pot is determined and paid in accordance with the rules of this subchapter.

"Showdown" means the action of revealing the hands of each player in order to determine who shall win the pot.

"Side pot" means a separate pot formed when one or more players are all-in.

"Stub" means the remaining portion of the deck after all cards in a round of play have been dealt.

"Suit" means one of the four categories of cards, that is, diamond, spade, club or heart.

"Table stakes" means the currency, gaming chips and gaming plaques on the table is in play and a player may not subtract from his or her currency, gaming chips or gaming plaques at any time during ongoing play.

"Up-card" means, in a game of stud poker, any card dealt to a player face up.

Amended by R.1999 d.123, effective April 19, 1999.

See: 30 N.J.R. 3394(a), 31 N.J.R. 1082(b).

Deleted "High-low split eight or better" definition.

Petition for Rulemaking.

See: 33 N.J.R. 4396(b), 34 N.J.R. 790(c).

#### 19:47-14.2 Cards; number of decks

(a) Poker shall be played with one deck of cards with backs of the same color and design and one additional cover card. The cover card shall be opaque and in a solid color readily distinguishable from the color of the backs and edges of the playing cards, as approved by the Commission. Two decks of cards shall be maintained for use at each poker table at all times. Each deck maintained at the poker table shall be visually distinguishable in some manner from the other deck. While one deck is in use, the other deck shall be stored in a designated area pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.13E, unless an automated card shuffling device is being used.

(c) Starting with the first player to the left of the dealer and continuing in a clockwise rotation around the poker table, the dealer shall deal two rounds of cards face down and one round of cards face up to each player.

(d) Once each player has received three cards in accordance with (c) above, the first betting round shall commence by comparing the up-card of each player. For the purposes of this subsection only, in the event that two or more up-cards are of the same rank, the up-cards shall then be ranked by suit, with the highest to lowest ranked suits in order as follows: spades, hearts, diamonds, clubs. Betting shall be commenced by:

1. For high poker, the player with the lowest ranked up-card;
2. For high-low split poker, the player with the highest ranked up-card. For this purpose, an ace shall be considered ranked below a two; and
3. For high-low split eight or better poker, the player with the lowest ranked up-card. For this purpose, an ace shall be considered the highest ranking card.

(e) Following the placement of the forced bet required by (d) above, each subsequent player may, proceeding in a clockwise rotation from the player who placed the forced bet, fold, call or raise the bet. After the last player has responded to the most recent bet, the betting round shall be considered complete.

(f) Upon completion of the first betting round, the dealer shall burn the top card of the deck and then, starting with the first remaining player to his or her left, deal a fourth card face up to each player who has not folded. The next betting round shall commence as follows:

1. The player with the highest ranking poker hand showing shall be required to bet or check; or
2. If the highest ranking poker hand showing is held by two or more players, the player closest to the left of the dealer shall be required to bet or check.

(g) Following the initial bet or check required by (f) above, each subsequent player, proceeding in a clockwise rotation, may fold, call, raise or, if the preceding players have not made a bet, check. Each player may check until a bet has been made. Once a bet has been made, the next player in a clockwise rotation may fold, call or raise. After the last player has responded to the most recent bet, the betting round shall be considered complete.

(h) The dealer shall then deal two additional rounds of cards face up and one round of cards face down to each player who has not folded, with each such round followed by a betting round conducted in accordance with the provisions of (f) and (g) above. Prior to each round of cards being dealt, the dealer shall burn the top card of the deck. If insufficient cards remain in the deck to give each remaining

player a seventh and final card, the top card of the deck shall be burned and a common card shall be dealt face up in the center of the table. If there is one or less cards remaining in the deck, the dealer shall shuffle the burn cards, burn a card and then deal the common card.

(i) If more than one player remains in the round of play after the final betting round has been completed, a showdown shall be used to determine the winner of the pot. Each player remaining in the game shall form a five card poker hand from the seven cards which he or she was dealt. This five card hand shall constitute the poker hand of that player at the showdown. The winner of the pot shall be:

1. In high poker, the player with the highest ranking five card high hand;
2. In high-low split poker or high-low split eight or better poker, the player with the highest ranking five card high hand and the player with the highest ranking five card low poker hand, subject to the provisions of (j) below, who shall divide the pot equally.

i. If a pot cannot be divided equally, the excess amount, which shall not exceed \$1.00, shall be given to the player with the highest ranking high hand.

ii. If a tie exists between two or more players for the highest ranking high hand, the high hand share of the pot shall be divided equally among the tied players. If the high hand share of the pot cannot be divided equally among the tied players, the excess, which shall not exceed \$1.00, shall be given to the player with the highest ranking high poker card by suit.

iii. If a tie exists between two or more players for the highest ranking low hand, the low hand share of the pot shall be divided equally among the tied players. If the low hand share of the pot cannot be divided equally among the tied players, the excess, which shall not exceed \$1.00, shall be given to the player with the lowest ranking low poker card by suit.

iv. For purposes of this subsection, the cards shall be ranked by suit with the highest to lowest ranked suit in order as follows: spades, hearts, diamonds and clubs.

(j) In seven-card stud high-low split eight or better poker, a winning low hand may not contain any pairs or a nine, 10, jack, queen or king. This defines the qualifying clause known as "eight or better." In the event that none of the hands of the remaining players satisfies this requirement, the entire pot shall be awarded to the player with the highest ranking high hand.

(k) In seven-card stud high-low split poker and seven card stud high-low split eight or better poker, the player may form two different hands of five cards each out of the player's seven available cards, enabling that player to contend for both the high hand and low hand share of the pot.

A player may use the same five card grouping to make a high poker hand and a low poker hand. For example:

1. A hand consisting of a two, three, four, five and six would qualify as a straight for purposes of the high hand and as a high ranking low hand; or
2. A hand consisting of five cards of the same suit, none higher than an eight, would qualify as a flush for purposes of the high hand and as a high ranking low hand.

(l) In seven-card stud high-low split poker and seven-card stud high-low split eight or better poker, an ace may be used concurrently as a low card to satisfy a low hand and as a high card to satisfy a high hand.

**19:47-14.10 Hold 'em poker; procedures for dealing of cards; completion of each round of play**

(a) Each casino licensee shall be required to observe the procedures set forth in this section for each game of hold 'em high poker offered in its casino room or casino simulcasting facility. Hold 'em poker shall be played to determine a winning high hand only.

(b) Each poker table shall be restricted to a maximum of eleven players. Each player who elects to participate in a round of play may be required to place an ante. The rule governing the placement of an ante and the amount of the ante, if any, shall be posted on a sign at each poker table in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3.

(c) The order in which the cards shall be dealt and the order in which players shall be required or have the option to bet shall be determined as follows:

1. A flat disk called the "button" shall be used to indicate an imaginary dealer;
2. At the commencement of play, the button shall be placed in front of the first player to the right of the dealer; and
3. Thereafter, the button shall rotate around the table in a clockwise manner after each round of play.

(d) The player to the immediate left of the button shall be required to initiate the first betting round by placing a blind bet in accordance with the posted table requirements. A casino licensee may require additional blind bets to be made immediately subsequent to the initial blind bet. The amount and number of all blind bets required by the casino licensee shall be posted on a sign in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3.

(e) Starting with the player to the immediate left of the button and continuing in a clockwise rotation around the poker table, the dealer shall deal two rounds of cards face down to each player, with the player with the button being the last player to receive a card each time.

(f) Following the placement of the blind bet(s), each player shall in turn, in a clockwise rotation around the poker table, either fold, call or raise the bet. The option to raise shall also apply to the player who made the blind bet(s). After the last player has responded to the most recent bet, the betting round shall be considered complete.

(g) The dealer shall then burn the top card of the deck and proceed to deal three community cards face up in the center of the table. The next betting round shall commence with the option to bet or check belonging to the first player to the left of the button who has not folded. Each subsequent player may, in clockwise rotation, fold, call, raise the bet or, if preceding players have not made a bet, make an opening bet or check. The betting round shall be considered complete when each player has either folded or called in response to the most recent bet.

(h) Upon completion of the betting round required by (g) above, the dealer shall again burn the top card of the deck and then deal a fourth community card face up in the center of the table. The next betting round shall be commenced and completed in accordance with the requirements of (g) above.

(i) Upon completion of the betting round required by (h) above, the dealer shall again burn the top card of the deck and then deal a fifth and final community card face up in the center of the table. The final betting round shall be commenced and completed in accordance with the requirements of (g) above.

(j) If more than one player remains in the round of play after the final betting round has been completed, a show-down shall be used to determine the winner of the pot. Each player remaining in the game shall form his or her highest ranking five card high poker hand by using, in any combination, his or her own two cards and the five community cards available on the table. The winner of the pot shall be the player with the highest ranking five card high poker hand. If the highest ranking five card high poker hand that each of the remaining players can form is comprised of the five community cards, all players remaining in the round of play shall share equally in the pot.

**19:47-14.11 Omaha poker; procedures for dealing of cards; completion of each round of play**

(a) Each casino licensee shall be required to observe the procedures set forth in this section for each game of omaha high and omaha high-low split eight or better poker offered in its casino room or casino simulcasting facility.

(b) Each poker table shall be restricted to a maximum of ten players. Each player who elects to participate in a round of play may be required to place an ante. The rule governing the placement of an ante and the amount of the ante, if any, shall be posted on a sign at each poker table in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3.

(c) The order in which the cards shall be dealt and the order in which players shall be required or have the option to bet shall be determined in accordance with the procedures governing the use of a button as set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.10(c).

(d) Starting with the player to the immediate left of the button and continuing in a clockwise rotation around the poker table, the dealer shall deal four rounds of cards face down to each player with the player with the button being the last player to receive a card each time.

(e) After each player is dealt four cards face down, an initial blind bet and all subsequent dealing and betting rounds shall be completed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.10(d) and (f) through (i).

(f) If more than one player remains in the round of play after the final betting round has been completed, a showdown shall be used to determine the winner of the pot. Each player remaining in the game shall form a five card poker hand by using two of the four cards dealt to the player and three of the five community cards. This five card hand shall constitute the poker hand of the player at the showdown. The winner of the pot shall be:

1. In high poker, the player with the highest ranking five card high poker hand; or

2. In high-low split eight or better poker, the player with the highest ranking five card high poker hand and the player with the highest ranking five card low poker hand, subject to the provisions of (g) below, who shall divide the pot equally.

i. If a pot cannot be divided equally, the excess amount, which shall not exceed \$1.00, shall be given to the player with the highest ranking high hand.

ii. If a tie exists between two or more players for the highest ranking high hand, the high hand share of the pot shall be divided equally among the tied players. If the high hand share of the pot cannot be divided equally among the tied players, the excess, which shall not exceed \$1.00, shall be given to the player with the highest ranking high poker card by suit.

iii. If a tie exists between two or more players for the highest ranking low hand, the low hand share of the pot shall be divided equally among the tied players. If the low hand share of the pot cannot be divided equally among the tied players, the excess, which shall not exceed \$1.00, shall be given to the player with the lowest ranking low poker card by suit.

iv. For purposes of this subsection, the cards shall be ranked by suit with the highest to lowest rank suit in order as follows: spades, hearts, diamonds and clubs.

(g) In omaha high-low split eight or better poker, the eligibility requirements of N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.9(j) must be satisfied. In the event that none of the hands of the

remaining players satisfies this requirement, the entire pot shall be awarded to the player with the highest ranking high poker hand.

(h) The following rules shall only apply in omaha high-low split eight or better poker:

1. A player may form two different hands of five cards each, enabling that player to contend for both the high hand and low hand share of the pot; provided, however, that the distribution of cards contained in each hand shall comply with (f) above;

2. A player may use the same five card grouping to make a high hand and a low hand; and

3. An ace may be used concurrently as a low card to satisfy a low hand and as a high card to satisfy a high hand.

Petition for Rulemaking.

See: 33 N.J.R. 4396(b), 34 N.J.R. 790(c).

**19:47-14.12 Five-card draw poker; procedures for dealing of cards; completion of each round of play**

(a) Each casino licensee shall be required to observe the procedures set forth in this section for each game of five-card draw high and five-card draw low poker offered in its casino room or casino simulcasting facility.

(b) Each poker table shall be restricted to a maximum of eight players. Each player who elects to participate in a round of play may be required to place an ante. The rule governing the placement of an ante and the amount of the ante, if any, shall be posted on a sign at each poker table in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3.

(c) The order in which the cards shall be dealt and the order in which players shall be required or have the option to bet shall be determined in accordance with the procedures governing the use of a button as set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.10(c).

(d) Starting with the player to the immediate left of the button and continuing in a clockwise rotation around the poker table, the dealer shall deal five rounds of cards face down to each player with the player with the button being the last player to receive a card each time.

(e) After each player has been dealt five cards face down, an initial betting round shall be completed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.10(d) and (f).

(f) After completion of the initial betting round, each player remaining in the round of play, starting with the player to the immediate left of the button and continuing in a clockwise rotation around the poker table, shall have an opportunity to draw new cards. This process shall be accomplished one player at a time. Each player may keep his or her original hand or discard as many cards as he or

she chooses. Each discarded card shall be replaced by the dealer with a new card dealt from the deck as follows:

1. Prior to the first player receiving any new cards, the dealer shall burn the top card of the deck; and

2. If insufficient cards remain in the deck for each player remaining in the round of play to draw new cards, the discard pile shall be reshuffled and used for this purpose; provided, however, that the cards to be discarded by a player who has not yet requested new cards shall not be included as part of the reshuffled cards.

(g) The final betting round shall commence with the option to bet or check belonging to the first player to the left of the button who has not folded. Each subsequent player may, in clockwise rotation, fold, call, raise the bet or, if preceding players have not made a bet, make an opening bet or check. The final betting round shall be considered complete when the last player has responded to the most recent bet.

(h) If more than one player remains in the round of play after the final betting round has been completed, a show-down shall be used to determine the winner of the pot. The winner of the pot shall be:

1. In high poker, the player with the highest ranking five card high hand; and

2. In low poker, the player with the highest ranking five card low hand.

**19:47-14.13 Five-card stud poker; procedures for dealing of cards; completion of each round of play**

(a) Each casino licensee shall be required to observe the procedures set forth in this section for each game of five-card stud high poker offered in its casino room or casino simulcasting facility. Five-card stud shall be played to determine a winning high hand only.

(b) Each poker table shall be restricted to a maximum of eight players. Each player who elects to participate in a round of play may be required to place an ante. The rule governing the placement of an ante and the amount of the ante, if any, shall be posted on a sign at each poker table in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3.

(c) Starting with the first player to the left of the dealer and continuing in a clockwise rotation around the poker table, the dealer shall deal one round of cards face down and one round of cards face up to each player.

(d) Once each player has received two cards in accordance with (c) above, the first betting round shall commence by comparing the up-card of each player. The player with the lowest ranked up-card, which shall be determined by suit in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.9(d) if two or more players have an up-card of the same rank, shall be required to make a forced bet.

(e) Following the forced bet, each subsequent player may, proceeding in a clockwise rotation from the player who placed the forced bet, fold, call or raise the bet. After the last player has responded to the most recent bet, the betting round shall be considered complete.

(f) Upon completion of the first betting round, the dealer shall burn the top card of the deck and then deal another round of cards face up to each player who has not folded. The next betting round shall be commenced by the player with the highest ranking high poker hand showing. If two or more hands are of equal rank, the player closest to the left of the dealer shall be required to bet. The betting round shall be completed in accordance with the procedures in (e) above.

(g) The dealer shall then deal two additional rounds of cards face up to each player who has not folded, with each such round followed by a betting round conducted in accordance with the provisions of (f) above. Prior to each round of cards being dealt, the dealer shall burn the top card of the deck.

(h) If more than one player remains in the round of play after the final betting round has been completed, a show-down shall be used to determine the winner of the pot. The winner of the pot shall be the player with the highest ranking five card high poker hand.

**19:47-14.13A Mambo stud poker; procedures for dealing the cards; completion of each round of play**

(a) Each casino licensee shall be required to observe the procedures set forth in this section for mambo stud high-low split six or better poker offered in its casino room or casino simulcasting facility.

(b) Each poker table shall be restricted to 11 players or such lesser number as may be determined by the casino licensee. Each player who elects to participate in a round of play may be required to place an ante. The rule governing the placement of an ante and the amount of the ante, if any, shall be posted on a sign at each poker table in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3.

(c) Starting with the first player to the left of the dealer and continuing in a clockwise rotation around the poker table, the dealer shall deal one round of cards face down and one round of cards face up to each player.

(d) Once each player has received two cards in accordance with (c) above, the first round of betting shall commence by comparing the up-card of each player. The player with the lowest ranked up-card shall be required to place a forced bet. The lowest ranked up-card shall be determined in accordance with the poker card rankings set forth at N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.3(a); provided, however, that if the lowest ranked up-card is held by two or more players, the lowest ranked up-card shall then be determined by suit. For the purposes of this subsection and (f) below, the rank of the suits, in order of highest to lowest rank, shall be: spades, hearts, diamonds and clubs.