

(b) Prior to the first card being dealt for the first of the three rounds of play, each player shall be required to make two or three wagers against the dealer as required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.3(a) and (d) by placing the wagers in the designated betting areas on the layout. A casino licensee may, in its discretion, require every player to place a wager against all three of the dealer's hands. The minimum number of wagers required and the minimum and maximum limits for each wager shall be posted at the table in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3.

(c) After all wagers have been placed, the dealer shall deal the cards in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.6(e). As each player's point total is announced, the player shall indicate whether he wishes to double down, split pairs, stand or draw as provided for by this subchapter, except that, a decision to double down or split pairs shall require an additional wager for each wager placed by the player in accordance with (b) above.

(d) Any player may elect to make an insurance wager pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.9 on any or all of his or her wagers made in accordance with (b) above. Such wager or wagers shall be decided individually based on the second card dealt to each of the dealer's hands.

(e) After the decisions of all players have been implemented and all additional cards have been dealt, the dealer shall deal a second card to his or her original face up card in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.6(h) and any additional cards required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.12(b).

(f) Once all wagers on the dealer's first hand have been decided, the dealer shall collect all losing wagers and pay off all winning wagers based on wagers placed in the first spot of each player's betting area, except that all of a player's wagers shall be collected along with his or her cards when that player's hand exceeds a hard total of 21. The dealer shall collect all of his or her cards and place them face down in the discard rack in accordance with one of the following:

1. If the hand of each player at the table has exceeded a hard total of 21, the dealer shall draw no additional cards pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.12 and the dealer shall collect all of his or her cards including his or her original face up card; or
2. If a wager remains on the second or third spot of a player's betting area, the dealer shall then collect all of his or her cards except his or her original face up card.

(g) If the dealer's cards have been collected and discarded in accordance with (f)2 above, the dealer shall move his or her original face up card to the area of the layout designated for the dealer's second hand and shall deal a second card to his or her original face up card in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.6(h) and any additional cards required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.12(b).

(h) Once all wagers on the dealer's second hand have been decided, the dealer shall collect all losing wagers and pay off all winning wagers based on wagers placed in the second spot of each player's betting area. The dealer shall then collect all of his or her cards except his or her original face up card and place them face down in the discard rack. The dealer shall then move his or her original face up card to the area of the layout designated for the dealer's third hand and shall deal a second card to his or her original face up card in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.6(h) and any additional cards required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.12(b), except that if no player has made a third wager the round shall be concluded in accordance with (j) below.

(i) Once all wagers on the dealer's third hand have been decided, the dealer shall collect all losing wagers and pay off all winning wagers based on wagers placed in the third spot of each player's betting area.

(j) At the conclusion of the third hand, all cards still remaining on the layout shall be picked up in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.6(i).

New Rule, R.1993 d.461, effective September 20, 1993.
See: 25 N.J.R. 2234(a), 25 N.J.R. 4508(c).
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.1999 d.9, effective January 4, 1999.
See: 30 N.J.R. 1217(a), 31 N.J.R. 57(a).

In (a), deleted "that does not offer the progressive blackjack wager authorized by N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.19" following "blackjack table" in the first sentence and added a new last sentence.
Amended by R.2001 d.24, effective January 16, 2001.
See: 32 N.J.R. 3754(a), 33 N.J.R. 287(a).
In (a), added "; or the streak wager authorized by N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.22" following "N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.20".
Petition for Rulemaking.
See: 35 N.J.R. 2375(a).

19:47-2.19 Progressive blackjack wager payouts; rules

(a) If a blackjack table includes the equipment that is required by N.J.A.C. 19:45-1.39B and 19:46-1.10 to offer a progressive blackjack wager, a casino licensee may give each player at that blackjack table the option to make an additional one dollar wager on whether the player will be dealt any of the designated series of cards set forth in (c) below. This wager shall be known as a progressive blackjack wager.

(b) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player may make a progressive blackjack wager by placing a one dollar gaming chip in the designated chip acceptor device at his or her betting position. Once such wagers have been placed, a light shall then illuminate at each betting position at which a progressive blackjack wager has been made. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.10(j), the dealer shall ensure that only one progressive blackjack wager has been made for each light that is illuminated and shall verify that the number of gaming chips wagered equals the number of lights illuminated. The dealer shall then announce "no more bets" and register the progressive wagers on the progressive meter and reset meter, if applicable. The dealer shall then deal the hand to all players in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.6.

(c) A player who has placed a progressive blackjack wager shall win the specified payout if he or she receives any of the following combinations of cards:

<u>Winning Hand</u>	<u>Payout</u>
Four black or four red aces in the first four cards	100 percent of the progressive meter amount
Three aces of the same suit in the first three cards	\$2,500
Any three aces in the first three cards	\$250.00
Two aces in the same suit in the first two cards	\$100.00
Any two aces in the first two cards	\$25.00

(d) A progressive blackjack wager shall have no bearing on any other wager made by a player at the game of blackjack and shall be paid irrespective of the point total of the hand of the dealer.

(e) A winning player shall receive the payout for only the highest possible progressive blackjack hand.

(f) A player shall only be permitted to make a progressive blackjack wager if he or she has placed a blackjack wager in compliance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.3(a) and (d).

(g) Prior to making a payout for a winning progressive blackjack wager, the dealer shall:

1. Verify that the player has received a winning combination of cards;
2. Verify that the appropriate light on the acceptor device has been illuminated; and
3. Have a casino supervisor validate the progressive blackjack payout pursuant to approved internal control procedures.

(h) All winning progressive blackjack wagers shall be paid in accordance with the amount on the primary meter when the player's regular blackjack wager is settled pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.3(e), provided, however, if more than one player at a table has four black or four red aces on the first four cards, each player shall share equally in the amount on the progressive meter when the first player with four aces is to be paid. If a player has won a progressive payout which is not being paid from the table inventory container, the cards of that player shall not be collected until the necessary documentation has been completed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:45-1.52.

(i) The rate of progression for the progressive meter or, if applicable, the reset meter and progressive meter combined, shall be no less than 70 percent. The initial amount placed on the progressive meter by the casino licensee and the portion of the reset amount funded by the casino licensee shall be established by each casino licensee and approved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:45-1.39B. In no instance shall the initial amount on the progressive meter or the reset meter amount funded by the casino licensee be less than \$5,000.

New Rule, R.1996 d.315, effective July 15, 1996.
See: 28 N.J.R. 1947(a), 28 N.J.R. 3623(a).
Petition for Rulemaking.
See: 35 N.J.R. 5624(b).
Petition for Rulemaking.
See: 36 N.J.R. 891(c).

19:47-2.20 Blackjack bonus wager

(a) If a blackjack table includes the equipment required by N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.10(k) to offer a blackjack bonus wager, a casino licensee may offer each player at that blackjack table the option to make an additional wager of \$1.00 or \$5.00, as to whether the player will be dealt a blackjack in the first two cards. This wager shall be known as a blackjack bonus wager.

(b) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player may make a blackjack bonus wager by placing gaming chips in the designated betting area on the layout, except that a verbal wager accompanied by cash may be accepted, provided that it is confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor at the table prior to the first card being dealt and such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:45-1.18. The dealer shall then announce "No more bets" and deal the hand to all players in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.6.

(c) A player shall be permitted to make a blackjack bonus wager only if he or she has first placed a blackjack wager in compliance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.3(a) and (d).

(d) A player who has placed a blackjack bonus wager shall win if the player receives a blackjack in the first two cards.

(e) After the second card is dealt to all players at the table, and prior to any additional cards being dealt to any player or the dealer:

1. All losing blackjack bonus wagers shall be collected by the dealer; and
2. The cards of any player with a winning blackjack bonus wager shall be placed underneath that player's blackjack bonus wager by the dealer.

(f) The dealer shall then proceed to complete the round of play, collecting any other losing wagers and paying off any other winning wagers in accordance with 19:47-2.6. After all such wagers have been settled, the dealer, starting on his or her left and continuing around the table, shall place the blackjack bonus button in front of each player with a winning blackjack bonus wager. Each winning blackjack bonus player shall press the blackjack bonus button once, causing the bonus amount payable to that player to be displayed on the blackjack bonus display.

(g) Prior to making a payout for a winning blackjack bonus blackjack wager, the dealer shall:

1. Verify that the player has received a winning combination of cards;

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).

Amended by R.2002 d.157, effective May 20, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 380(a), 34 N.J.R. 1852(c).

Inserted "Half-kill" and "Kill".

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.

(b) Each deck of cards maintained at the poker table may be rotated in and out of play; provided, however, that no deck of cards shall be used at the table for more than two hours without the dealer or floorperson placing the 52 cards into suit and sequence. All decks opened for use on a poker table shall be changed at least every four hours.

(c) Each gaming day, decks of cards with distinguishable card backings as required by N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.17(j) shall be distributed among all open poker tables in a manner determined by the poker shift supervisor or supervisor thereof. The distribution of decks among tables shall consider, at a minimum, the table limits, the location of the table and the type of poker available at each table and shall be intended to ensure the integrity of gaming at poker.

(d) If an automated card shuffling device is being used, a casino licensee shall use both decks of cards, and:

1. The backs of the cards in the two decks shall be of different colors;
2. One deck shall be shuffled by the automated card shuffling device while the other deck is being dealt or used to play the game; and
3. Both decks shall be continuously alternated in and out of play, with each deck being used for every other round of play.

Amended by R.1997 d.519, effective December 1, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 4082(a), 29 N.J.R. 5075(b).

In (a), added reference to use of an automated card shuffling device; and added (d).

Amended by R.1998 d.441, effective September 8, 1998.

See: 30 N.J.R. 1772(b), 30 N.J.R. 3259(b).

In (a), deleted "solid yellow or green" preceding "cover card" in the first sentence and added a new second sentence.

19:47-14.3 Poker rankings

(a) The rank of the cards used in all types of poker other than low poker, for the determination of winning hands, in order of highest to lowest rank, shall be: ace, king, queen, jack, 10, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three and two. All suits shall be considered equal in rank. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an ace may be used to complete a "straight flush" or a "straight" formed with, as applicable, a two and three (in a three card poker hand) or a two, three, four and five (in a five card poker hand).

(b) The permissible high poker hands in poker games that result in a five card hand, in order of highest to lowest rank, shall be:

1. "Royal flush" is a hand consisting of an ace, king, queen, jack and ten of the same suit;
2. "Straight flush" is a hand consisting of five cards of the same suit in consecutive ranking, with king, queen, jack, 10 and nine being the highest ranking straight flush and ace, two, three, four and five being the lowest ranking straight flush;

3. "Four-of-a-kind" is a hand consisting of four cards of the same rank regardless of suit, with four aces being the highest ranking four-of-a-kind and four twos being the lowest ranking four-of-a-kind;

4. "Full house" is a hand consisting of "three-of-a-kind" and a "pair," with three aces and two kings being the highest ranking full house and three twos and two threes being the lowest ranking full house;

5. "Flush" is a hand consisting of five cards of the same suit;

6. "Straight" is a hand consisting of five cards of consecutive rank, regardless of suit, with an ace, king, queen, jack and 10 being the highest ranking straight and an ace, two, three, four and five being the lowest ranking straight; provided, however, that an ace may not be combined with any other sequence of cards for purposes of determining a winning hand (e.g., queen, king, ace, two, three);

7. "Three-of-a-kind" is a hand consisting of three cards of the same rank regardless of suit, with three aces being the highest ranking three-of-a-kind and three twos being the lowest ranking three-of-a-kind;

8. "Two pairs" is a hand consisting of two "pairs," with two aces and two kings being the highest ranking two pair and two threes and two twos being the lowest ranking two pair; and

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

(c) The permissible high poker hands in poker games that result in a three card hand, in order of highest to lowest rank, shall be:

1. "Royal flush" is a hand consisting of an ace, king and queen of the same suit;
2. "Straight flush" is a hand consisting of three cards of the same suit in consecutive ranking, with king, queen and jack being the highest ranking straight flush and a three, two and ace being the lowest ranking straight flush;
3. "Three-of-a-kind" is a hand consisting of three cards of the same rank, regardless of suit, with three aces being the highest ranking three-of-a-kind and three twos being the lowest ranking three-of-a-kind;
4. "Straight" is a hand consisting of three cards of consecutive rank, regardless of suit, with an ace, king and queen being the highest ranking straight and a three, two and ace being the lowest ranking straight; provided, however, that an ace may not be combined with a king and two for purposes of determining a winning hand;
5. "Flush" is a hand consisting of three cards of the same suit; and

6. "One pair" is a hand consisting of two cards of the same rank, regardless of suit, with two aces being the highest ranking pair and two twos being the lowest ranking pair.

(d) When comparing two hands which are of identical poker hand rank pursuant to the provisions of (b) or (c) above, as applicable, or which contain none of the poker hands authorized for that game, the hand which contains the highest ranking card as provided in (a) above or (e) below, whichever is applicable, 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 tied and the pot shall be equally divided among the players with the tied hands.

(e) The rank of the cards used in low poker, for the determination of winning hands, in order of highest to lowest rank, shall be: ace, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, 10, jack, queen and king. All suits shall be considered equal in rank.

(f) The ranking of a low poker hand as determined by the holding of a five or three card hand shall be the inverse of the rankings for a high poker hand as set forth in (b) and (c) above; provided, however, that straights and flushes shall not be considered for purposes of determining a winning hand at low poker.

(g) In all games of poker, a hand shall be ranked according to the cards actually contained therein and not by the player's opinion or statement of its value.

Amended by R.1999 d.123, effective April 19, 1999.
See: 30 N.J.R. 3394(a), 31 N.J.R. 1082(b).
Rewrote the section.

19:47-14.4 Opening the table for gaming

(a) After receiving two decks of cards at the table, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18 and N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.2, the dealer shall sort and inspect the cards and the floorperson or supervisor thereof shall verify the inspection as required by N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.18.

(b) Following the inspection of the cards by the dealer and the verification by the floorperson or supervisor thereof, the cards shall be spread out face up on the table for visual inspection by the first two players to be seated at the table. The cards shall be spread out according to suit and in sequence.

(c) Immediately prior to the commencement of play and not before a minimum of two players are afforded an opportunity to visually inspect the cards from each deck at the table, each deck shall be separately turned face down on the table, mixed thoroughly by a "washing" or "chemmy shuffle" of the cards and stacked. Each deck of cards shall be shuffled in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.5.

1. If an automated shuffling device is not being used, one of the decks shall be cut in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.5 and the other deck shall be maintained pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.13E for subsequent use pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.2. In the alternative, a casino licensee may wash, shuffle and cut only the deck intended for immediate use and maintain the other deck pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.13E. Upon rotation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.2, the other deck shall be washed, shuffled and cut in accordance with the requirements herein and N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.5.

2. If an automated shuffling device is being used, one of the decks shall be cut in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.5 and the other deck shall be placed or left in the automated shuffler for the next round of play.

Amended by R.1997 d.519, effective December 1, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 4082(a), 29 N.J.R. 5075(b).

Rewrote (c) as (c) and (c)1; in (c)1, added reference to use of an automated card shuffling device; and added (c)2.

19:47-14.5 Shuffle and cut of the cards

(a) Immediately prior to commencement of play and after the completion of each round of play, the dealer shall shuffle the entire deck of cards, either manually or by use of an automated card shuffling device, so that they are randomly intermixed. Upon completion of the shuffle, the dealer or device shall place the deck of cards in a single stack.

(b) After the cards have been shuffled, stacked, and placed on the table in front of the dealer, the dealer shall, using one hand, cut the deck by:

1. Placing the cover card on the table in front of the deck of cards;
2. Taking a stack of at least 10 cards from the top of the deck and placing them on top of the cover card; and
3. Then placing the cards remaining in the deck on top of the stack of cards that were cut and placed on the cover card pursuant to (b)2 above.

(c) After the cards have been cut and before any cards have been dealt, a casino supervisor may require the cards to be recut if he or she determines that the cut was performed improperly or in any way that might affect the integrity or fairness of the game.

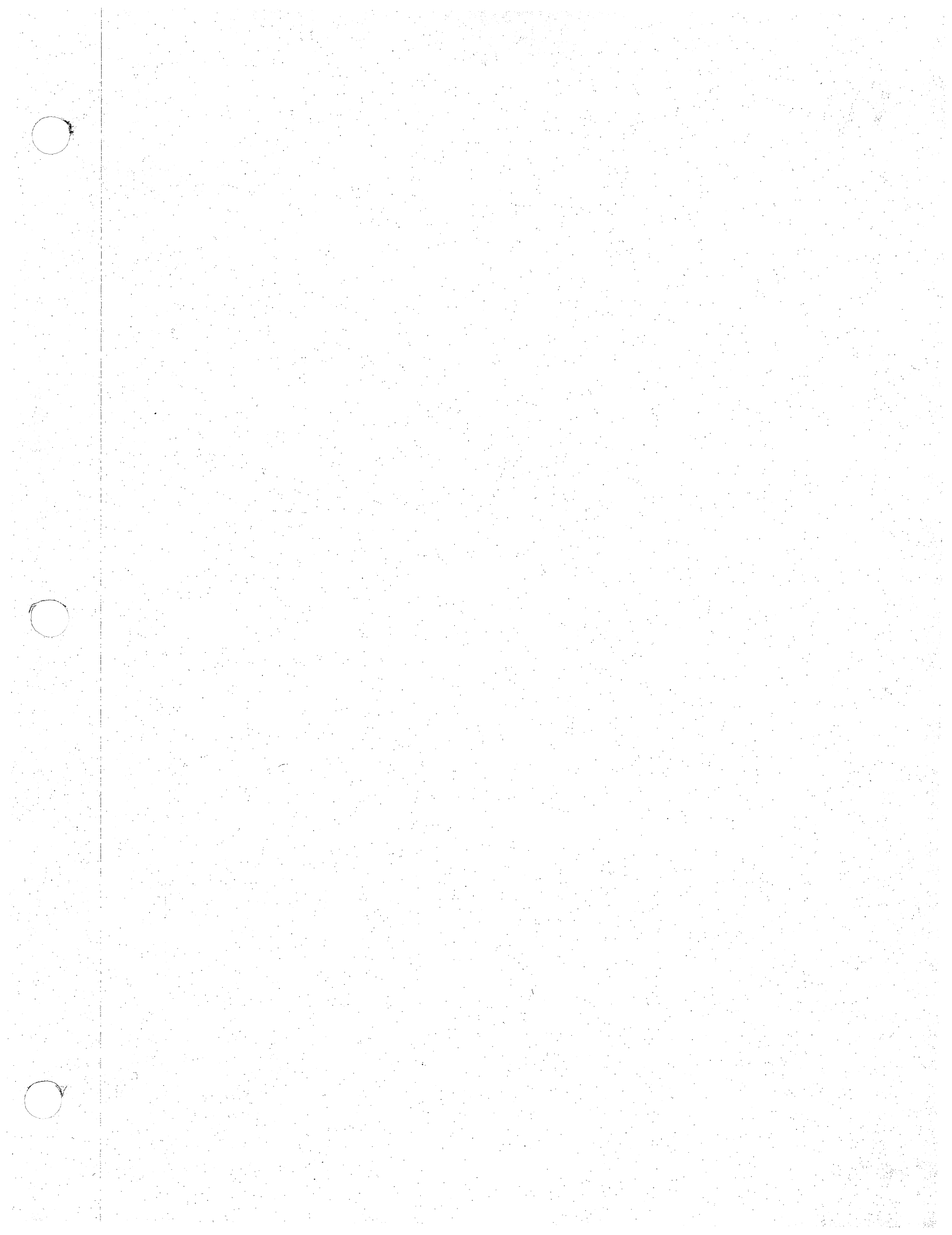
(d) If there is no gaming activity at the poker table, each deck of cards at the table shall be spread out on the table either face up or face down. If the cards are spread face down, they shall be turned face up once at least two players have arrived at the table. After the first two players are afforded an opportunity to visually inspect both of the decks, the procedures required by N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.4(c) shall be completed.

Amended by R.1996 d.223, effective May 20, 1996.

19:47-14.9 Seven-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 seven-card stud high, seven-card stud high-low split or seven-card stud 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 eight players as 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 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 show-down 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 10 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, and the kill or half-kill option, if offered, 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.

(i) In omaha high-low split eight or better poker, an optional kill or half-kill may be offered. A kill button, indicating the kill or half-kill is in effect, shall be placed in front of the player who wins the entire pot in the hand, provided that the amount of the pot is a minimum of five times to 15 times the minimum permissible wager for the hand, as determined by the casino licensee. In the succeeding hand, the player shall be required to place no more than one blind bet in the amount of the increased permissible minimum wager for the hand, notwithstanding that the player may be required to place a blind bet to initiate the first round of betting pursuant to (e) above and N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.10(d). Any other player required to place a blind bet to initiate the first round of betting shall be required to place a blind bet in accordance with the posted table requirements. If, in the succeeding hand, a qualifying pot is not split between one player winning the high hand and another player winning the low hand, the kill button shall be moved in front of the player who wins the entire pot for that hand. The kill or half-kill shall remain in effect until a pot does not qualify in amount or a pot is split between a player winning the high hand and a player winning the low hand. Once a pot does not qualify in amount or is split between two players, the dealer shall collect the kill button.

Petition for Rulemaking.

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

Amended by R.2002 d.157, effective May 20, 2002.

See: 34 N.J.R. 380(a), 34 N.J.R. 1852(c).

In (b), inserted "and the kill or half-kill option, if offered," in the third sentence; added (i).

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.

(b) Prior to paying a progressive payout hand, the dealer shall:

1. Verify that the hand is a winning hand;
2. Verify that the appropriate light on the acceptor device has been illuminated; and
3. Have a casino supervisor validate the progressive payout pursuant to approved internal control procedures.

(c) Any winning progressive payout wager shall be paid irrespective of the rank of the hand of the dealer or even if the dealer does not have a qualifying hand or has a higher ranking hand.

19:47-16.12 Payout odds; rate of progression; payout limitation

(a) The payout odds for winning wagers at caribbean stud poker 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 out winning ante wagers at payout odds of 1 to 1.

(c) Subject to the payout limitation in (d) below, a casino licensee shall pay off each winning wager at the game of caribbean stud poker at no less than the odds listed below:

Wager	Payout Odds
Royal Flush	100 to 1
Straight Flush	50 to 1
Four-of-a-kind	20 to 1
Full House	7 to 1
Flush	5 to 1
Straight	4 to 1
Three-of-a-kind	3 to 1
Two Pair	2 to 1
One Pair or less	1 to 1

(d) Notwithstanding the payout odds in (c) above, the payout limit on each bet wager for any hand shall be no less than \$5,000 or the maximum amount that one patron could win per round when betting the minimum permissible wager, whichever is greater.

(e) A casino licensee shall payout winning progressive payouts at no less than the amounts listed below:

Hand	Payout
Royal Flush	100 percent of progressive jackpot
Straight Flush	Either 10 percent of progressive jackpot or \$5,000, as designated in the casino licensee's approved system of internal controls
Four-of-a-kind	\$500.00
Full House	\$100.00
Flush	\$ 50.00

(f) The rate of progression for the progressive meter used for the progressive payouts in (e) above shall be no less than 70 percent. The initial and reset amount shall be estab-

lished by each casino licensee and approved pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:45-1.39B.

(g) Winning progressive payout hands shall be paid in accordance with the amount on the meter when it is the player's turn to be paid in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.11; provided, however, if more than one player at a table has a royal flush progressive payout hand, each player shall share equally in the amount on the progressive meter when the first player with a royal flush is to be paid.

Amended by R.2001 d.89, effective March 19, 2001.
 See: 33 N.J.R. 26(a), 33 N.J.R. 1019(a).
 Rewrote (d).
 Petition for Rulemaking.
 See: 36 N.J.R. 228(b), 1245(d).

19:47-16.13 Irregularities

(a) If a hole card is exposed prior to the dealer announcing "No more bets" pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-16.7, all hands shall be void.

(b) A card that is found face up in the shoe or the deck while the cards are being dealt shall not be used in the game and shall be placed in the discard rack. If more than one card is found face up in the shoe or the deck during the dealing of the cards, all hands shall be void and the cards shall be reshuffled.

(c) A card drawn in error without its face being exposed shall be used as though it was the next card from the shoe or the deck.

(d) If any player is dealt an incorrect number of cards, that player's hand shall be void. If the dealer is dealt four cards of the five card hand, the dealer shall deal an additional card to complete the hand. Any other misdeal to the dealer shall result in all hands being void and the cards shall be reshuffled.

(e) If an automated card shuffling device is being used and the device jams, stops shuffling during a shuffle, or fails to complete a shuffle cycle, the cards shall be reshuffled in accordance with procedures approved by the Commission.

(f) If an automated dealing shoe is being used and the device jams, stops dealing cards, or fails to deal all cards during a round of play, the round of play shall be void and the cards shall be removed from the device and reshuffled with any cards already dealt, in accordance with procedures approved by the Commission.

(g) Any automated card shuffling device or automated dealing shoe shall be removed from a gaming table before any other method of shuffling or dealing may be utilized at that table.

SUBCHAPTER 17. DOUBLE DOWN STUD

19:47-17.1 Definitions

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

“Double down wager” means an additional wager made by a player, in an amount not to exceed the amount of the player’s original wager, after all cards for the round of play have been dealt but before the dealer exposes the hole card.

“Hand” means the five card stud hand formed for each player by combining the single card dealt to the player and the four cards dealt in front of the dealer.

“Hole card” means the card which has been dealt face down to the dealer.

“Push” means a tie, as defined in N.J.A.C. 19:47-17.10.

“Rank” or “ranking” means the relative position of a card or group of cards as set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-17.5.

“Round of play” or “round” means one complete cycle of play during all players then playing at the table have been dealt a hand, have wagered upon it, and have had their wagers paid off or collected in accordance with the rules of this subchapter.

“Suit” means one of the four categories of cards: diamond, spade, club or heart.