

collecting one-half of the wager and returning one-half of the wager to the player should the dealer not have blackjack.

(b) If the player has made an insurance wager and then elects to surrender, each wager will be settled separately as provided for above and in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.9 and one will have no bearing on the other.

(c) Each casino licensee may, at its discretion, offer its patrons the surrender option authorized in this section, except that when a casino licensee offers the rule variation multiple action blackjack pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.18, or on any blackjack table which offers the 6 to 5 blackjack variation or the progressive blackjack wager pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.19, the surrender option shall not be available. A casino licensee shall not initiate or terminate the use of the surrender option at a table unless the casino licensee complies with the notice requirements set forth at N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3.

New Rule, "Surrender," was adopted as R.1990 d.35, effective January 16, 1990.

See: 21 N.J.R. 3447(a), 22 N.J.R. 249(b).

A rule concerning blackjack surrender (originally adopted as R.1978 d.186. See: 10 N.J.R. 177(a), 10 N.J.R. 306(e)) was codified at this section, and was repealed, on an emergency basis, by R.1981 d.301, effective July 23, 1981. See: 13 N.J.R. 629(a). The repeal was readopted by R.1981 d.368, effective September 11, 1981. See: 13 N.J.R. 534(b), 13 N.J.R. 709(b). Prior rulemaking as follows:
Amended by R.1979 d.380, effective September 26, 1979.

See: 11 N.J.R. 420(a), 11 N.J.R. 600(a).

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).

Experimental 90-day implementation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 5:12-69, effective March 15, 1989 (expires June 13, 1989).

See: 21 N.J.R. 640(a).

Notice of Receipt of Petition for Rulemaking concerning the surrender option in the game of blackjack.

See: 23 N.J.R. 912(b).

Amended by R.1991 d.535, effective November 4, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 1783(a), 23 N.J.R. 3354(a).

Revised text in subsection (c) to specify "surrender" options.

Amended by 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.2006 d.36, effective January 17, 2006.

See: 37 N.J.R. 2159(a), 38 N.J.R. 842(b).

In (c), added "the 6 to 5 blackjack variation."

19:47-2.9 Insurance wagers

(a) Whenever the first card dealt to the dealer is an ace, each player shall have the right to make an insurance bet which, except as otherwise provided in N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.7(c), shall win if the dealer's second card is a King, Queen, Jack or 10 and shall lose if the dealer's second card is an ace, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9.

(b) An insurance bet may be made by placing on the insurance line of the layout an amount not more than half the amount staked on the player's initial wager, except that a player may bet an amount in excess of half the initial wager to the next unit that can be wagered in chips, when because of

the limitation of the value of chip denominations, half the initial wager cannot be bet. If a card reader device is not in use, all insurance wagers shall be placed immediately after the second card is dealt to each player and prior to any additional cards being dealt to any player at the table except, at the discretion of the casino licensee, a player may place an insurance wager immediately prior to such player indicating whether he or she wishes to double down, split pairs, stand, and/or draw as provided for in this subchapter and prior to any additional cards being dealt, provided that the casino licensee complies with the notice requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3. If a card reader device is in use, all insurance wagers shall be placed prior to the dealer inserting his or her hole card into the card reader device.

(c) All winning insurance wagers shall be paid at odds of 2 to 1.

(d) All losing insurance wagers shall be collected by the dealer immediately after he draws his second face up card or discloses his hole card and before he draws any additional cards.

(e) Insurance wagers shall not apply to the progressive blackjack wager permitted pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.19.

(f) An insurance wager does not apply to any of the additional wagers permitted pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.17(a).

As amended, R.1979 d.380, effective September 26, 1979.

See: 11 N.J.R. 420(a), 11 N.J.R. 600(a).

Amended by R.1986 d.442, effective October 20, 1986.

See: 18 N.J.R. 1361(a), 18 N.J.R. 3136(a).

Amended (b).

Amended by R.1989 d.590, effective December 4, 1989.

See: 21 N.J.R. 2441(a), 21 N.J.R. 3788(b).

Clarified that an insurance wager must be made prior to any player at the table receiving additional cards.

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

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

Card reader provisions added.

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).

Amended by R.1998 d.562, effective December 7, 1998.

See: 30 N.J.R. 3004(a), 30 N.J.R. 4260(a).

In (a), inserted "except as otherwise provided in N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.7(c);" and rewrote (b).

19:47-2.10 Doubling down

(a) Except for Blackjack or a point count of twenty-one in two cards, a player may elect to double down, that is, make an additional wager not in excess of the amount of the player's original wager, on the first two cards dealt to the player or the first two cards of any split pair on the condition that one and only one additional card shall be dealt to the hand on which the player has elected to double down.

(b) If a dealer obtains blackjack after a player doubles down, the dealer shall only collect the amount of the original

wager of such player and shall not collect the additional amount wagered in doubling down.

(c) Upon a player's election to double down as authorized by this section, the dealer shall deal the one additional card face upwards, or at the discretion of a casino licensee face down notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, and placed sideways on the layout. The casino licensee shall identify its choice of dealing procedure under this subsection in its approved gaming submission. If the one additional card is dealt face down, such card shall be turned face upward after the dealer has drawn additional cards to his or her hand in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.12(b) and at such time as the player's wagers are to be settled in rotation at the conclusion of the round of play.

(d) In the 6 to 5 blackjack variation, a casino licensee may prohibit doubling down after splitting pairs upon compliance with the notice requirements set forth at N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3.

Petition for Rulemaking.

See: 36 N.J.R. 3444(b), 4183(c).

Amended by R.2005 d.33, effective January 18, 2005.

See: 36 N.J.R. 4119(a), 37 N.J.R. 294(a).

In (a), neutralized gender references throughout and deleted the last sentence; added (c).

Amended by R.2006 d.36, effective January 17, 2006.

See: 37 N.J.R. 2159(a), 38 N.J.R. 842(b).

Added (d).

19:47-2.11 Splitting pairs

(a) Whenever the initial two cards dealt to a player are identical in value, the player may elect to split the hand into two separate hands provided that he makes a wager on the second hand so formed in an amount equal to his original wager.

(b) When a player splits pairs, the dealer shall deal a card to and complete the player's decisions with respect to the first incomplete hand on the dealer's left before proceeding to deal any cards to any other hand.

(c) After a second card is dealt to a split pair, the dealer shall announce the point total of such hand and the player shall indicate his decision to stand, draw or double down with respect thereto expect that:

1. A player may not split pairs again if the second card so dealt is identical in value to a card of the split pair; and
2. A player splitting aces shall have only one card dealt to each ace and may not elect to receive additional cards.

(d) If the dealer obtains blackjack after a player splits pairs, the dealer shall only collect the amount of the original wager of such player and shall not collect the additional amount wagered in splitting pairs.

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of (c)1 above, a casino licensee may, at its discretion, permit a player to split pairs up to three times (a total of four hands) at a blackjack table with up to six player boxes or twice (a total of three hands) at a

blackjack table with seven player boxes if notice of the option is provided as set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3, except that this option shall not be available in games in which the rule variation multiple action blackjack is available pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.18. If a casino licensee elects to offer the option of splitting pairs more than once, it may, at its discretion, prohibit a player from splitting a pair of aces more than once (a total of two hands) if notice is provided as set forth in N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.3. All other requirements of this section shall apply to each hand which is formed as a result of splitting pairs more than once.

(f) If a player has made the additional wager authorized by N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.17(a)3, is dealt two sevens as his or her initial two cards and elects to split the pair of sevens, the dealer shall announce that the player is splitting sevens and forfeiting any potential payout for three sevens. The player shall be paid for the additional winning wager prior to any additional cards being dealt to either of the split hands.

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

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

Amended by R.1991 d.537, effective November 4, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 1783(b), 23 N.J.R. 3354(b).

In (b): revised text regarding rules for splitting pairs.

Added new subsection (e).

Amended by R.1992 d.320, effective August 17, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1872(a), 24 N.J.R. 2925(c).

Text added to (e) requiring notice prior to limitation on splitting a pair of aces.

Amended by 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.316, effective July 15, 1996.

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

19:47-2.12 Drawing of additional cards by players and the dealer

(a) A player may elect to draw additional cards whenever his point count total is less than 21 except that:

1. A player having Blackjack or a hard or soft total of 21 may not draw additional cards;
2. A player electing to double down shall draw one and only one additional card;
3. A player splitting aces shall only have one card dealt to each ace and may not elect to receive additional cards.

(b) Except as provided in (c) and (d) below, a dealer shall draw additional cards to his hand until he has a hard or soft total of 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 at which point no additional cards shall be drawn.

(c) A dealer shall draw no additional cards to his hand, regardless of the point count, if decisions have been made on all players' hands and the point count of the dealer's hand will have no effect on the outcome of the round of play.

(d) In the 6 to 5 blackjack variation, a dealer shall draw additional cards to his hand until he has a hard total of 17 or a hard or soft total of 18, 19, 20 or 21, at which point no additional cards shall be drawn.

Amended by R.1981 d.388, effective November 2, 1981.

See: 13 N.J.R. 534(b), 13 N.J.R. 780(c).

(b): "Except as provided in (c) below" added.

(c) added.

Amended by R.1984 d.49, effective March 5, 1984.

See: 15 N.J.R. 1242(a), 16 N.J.R. 433(b).

"Soft total" of 21 added to prohibition against drawing additional cards.

Amended by R.2006 d.36, effective January 17, 2006.

See: 37 N.J.R. 2159(a), 38 N.J.R. 842(b).

In (b), added "and (d)"; added (d).

19:47-2.13 More than one player wagering on a box

(a) Unless otherwise directed by the Commission, a casino licensee may permit from one to three people to wager on any one box of the blackjack layout provided that the first person wagering on that box consent to additional players wagering on such box and provided further that the casino licensee adhere to such procedures and limitations imposed by the Commission as dictated by the particular circumstances. This option may not be used at any blackjack table which offers the progressive blackjack wager authorized by N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.19.

(b) Whenever more than one player wagers on a box, the player who is seated at that box shall have the exclusive right to call the decisions with regard to the cards dealt to such box. In the case of no seated player, the person with the highest wager in the box shall have such right.

(c) The player calling the decisions with respect to any box shall place his wager in that portion of the box closest to the dealer's side of the table and all other players wagering on such box shall place their wagers immediately behind and in a vertical line with the aforementioned wager.

(d) Whenever more than one player is wagering on a box and the player calling the decisions decides to double down, the other players may also double their wagers but shall not be required to do so. In any event, only one additional card shall be dealt to the hand that is subject to the double down decision.

(e) Whenever more than one player is wagering on a box and the player calling the decisions decides to split pairs, the other players shall either make an additional wager as provided for in N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.11 to cover each split pair or designate which of the split pairs they wish their initial wager to apply.

(f) Whenever more than one player is wagering on a box, each player shall have the right to make an insurance bet in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.9 regardless of whether the other players on that box make such a bet.

(g) The Commission and its agents shall have the discretion and authority to limit, control and regulate the implementation of this section as is appropriate under the circumstances which shall include, without limitation, the right to limit the number of tables at which this procedure is permitted, the right to limit the number of boxes at each table

on which more than one person can wager and the right to require the casino licensee to establish the ability of its dealers to implement this section.

Amended on an emergency basis as R.1981 d.301, effective July 23, 1981.

See: 13 N.J.R. 629(a).

Readopted as R.1981 d.368, effective September 11, 1981.

See: 13 N.J.R. 543(b), 13 N.J.R. 709(b).

(g): text deleted, (h) renumbered as (g).

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

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

19:47-2.14 A player wagering on more than one box

A player may only wager on one box at a Blackjack table unless the casino licensee, in its discretion, permits the player to wager on additional boxes.

Temporary Amendment: 90 days to test a blackjack layout with eight betting areas arranged in four sets of two.

See: 22 N.J.R. 2343(a).

Amended by R.1991 d.471, effective September 16, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 1784(a), 23 N.J.R. 2869(b).

Deleted text regarding Commission's authority to prohibit a patron from wagering on more than one box at a blackjack table.

Amended by R.1999 d.53, effective February 16, 1999.

See: 30 N.J.R. 4156(a), 31 N.J.R. 552(a).

Rewrote the section.

Law Review and Journal Commentaries

Casinos—Blackjack—Card Counters—Contracts—Discrimination—Jurisdiction. P.R. Chenoweth, 137 N.J.L.J. No. 6, 59 (1994).

Case Notes

Casino could not allow other blackjack players to play two hands while limiting patron to one hand. *Campione v. Adamar of New Jersey, Inc.*, 274 N.J.Super. 63, 643 A.2d 42 (L.1993).

Casinos have discretion in interpretation of rules and regulations. *Campione v. Adamar of New Jersey, Inc.*, 274 N.J.Super. 63, 643 A.2d 42 (L.1993).

19:47-2.15 Irregularities

(a) A card found turned face upwards in the shoe shall not be used in the game and shall be placed in the discard rack or in a segregated area of the double shoe.

(b) A card drawn in error without its face being exposed shall be used as though it were the next card from the shoe.

(c) After the initial two cards have been dealt to each player and a card is drawn in error and exposed to the players, such card shall be dealt to the players or dealer as though it were the next card from the shoe. Any player refusing to accept such card shall not have any additional cards dealt to him during such round. If the card is refused by the player and the dealer cannot use the card, the card shall be burned.

(d) If the dealer has seventeen and accidentally draws a card for himself, such card shall be burned.

(e) If the dealer misses dealing his first or second card to himself, the dealer shall continue dealing the first two cards

to each player, and then deal the appropriate number of cards to himself.

(f) If there are insufficient cards remaining in the shoe to complete a round of play, all the cards in the discard rack or in a segregated area of the double shoe shall be shuffled and cut according to the procedures outlined in N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.5, the first card shall be drawn face downwards and burned, and the dealer shall complete the round of play. For the 6 to 5 blackjack variation, if there are insufficient cards remaining in the deck in use to complete a round of play, all the discarded cards from the deck in use shall be shuffled by hand and cut according to the procedures outlined in N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.5, the first card shall be drawn face downwards and burned, and the dealer shall complete the round of play.

(g) If no cards are dealt to the player's hand, the hand is dead and the player shall be included in the next deal. If only one card is dealt to the player's hand, at the player's option, the dealer shall deal the second card to the player after all other players have received a second card.

(h) Any round of play drawn from the inappropriate side of a double shoe shall be treated as if it were drawn from the appropriate side of the shoe and concluded.

(i) If after receiving the first two cards and the dealer fails to deal an additional card(s) to a player who has requested such a card, then, at the player's option, the dealer shall either deal the additional card(s) after all other players have received their additional cards but prior to the dealer revealing his or her hole card, or call the player's hand dead and return the player's original wager.

(j) If the dealer inserts his or her hole card into a card reader device when the value of his or her first card is not an ace, king, queen, jack or 10, the dealer, after notification to a casino supervisor, shall:

1. If the particular card reader device in use provides any player with the opportunity to determine the value of the hole card, call all hands dead, collect the cards and return each player's wager; or

2. If the particular card reader device in use does not provide any player with the opportunity to determine the value of the hole card, continue play.

(k) If a card reader device malfunctions the dealer may only continue dealing the game of blackjack at that table using the dealing procedures applicable when a card reader device is not in use.

(l) If the dealer fails to move his or her original face up card to the area of the layout designated for the second or third hand of the round in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.18, the round shall continue as if the original face up card was moved to the appropriate area of the layout.

(m) If the dealer inadvertently picks up his or her original face up card and places it in the discard rack prior to the

completion of the second or third hand of multiple action blackjack, the dealer shall immediately notify a casino supervisor assigned to that table. The casino supervisor shall remove the appropriate cards from the discard rack and reconstruct the last hand of play so as to determine the dealer's original face up card. The original face up card shall be placed in the appropriate area on the layout, and the remaining cards shall be returned to the discard rack. Play shall resume in accordance with the rules of this chapter.

(n) If the light at a player's betting area on a blackjack table which offers the progressive blackjack wager is not operating properly, no progressive wager shall be permitted in that betting area.

(o) If the bonus blackjack system fails to select or display a payout amount when the bonus blackjack button is pressed, and the amount of the payout cannot be ascertained by a casino supervisor from the table controller or otherwise, the patron's wager shall be paid at 21-to-1.

(p) If a casino licensee implements the procedure by which one additional card is dealt face down to a hand on which a player has elected to double down pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.10(c) and the dealer inadvertently deals such card face upwards, play shall continue and the player's wagers shall be settled in rotation at the conclusion of the round of play.

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 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 ... "or in a segregated area of the double shoe" to (a) and (f).

Added (h).

Amended by R.1989 d.231, effective May 1, 1989.

See: 20 N.J.R. 3014(a), 21 N.J.R. 1155(a).

Added subsection (i) establishing procedure for blackjack dealers to remedy irregularities involving the dealing of additional card(s) to players.

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

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

Card reader provisions added at (j) and (k).

Amended by R.1993 d.461, effective September 20, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 2234(a), 25 N.J.R. 4508(c).

Administrative Correction.

See: 26 N.J.R. 4788(a).

Administrative Correction.

See: 27 N.J.R. 2265(a).

Amended by R.1995 d.497, effective September 5, 1995.

See: 27 N.J.R. 2128(a), 27 N.J.R. 3399(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.1999 d.9, effective January 4, 1999.

See: 30 N.J.R. 1217(a), 31 N.J.R. 57(a).

Added (o).

Petition for Rulemaking.

See: 36 N.J.R. 4183(c).

Amended by R.2005 d.33, effective January 18, 2005.

See: 36 N.J.R. 4119(a), 37 N.J.R. 294(a).

Added (p).

Amended by R.2006 d.36, effective January 17, 2006.

See: 37 N.J.R. 2159(a), 38 N.J.R. 842(b).

In (f), added the last sentence.