

1 **Title 36 MARYLAND STATE LOTTERY AND GAMING CONTROL AGENCY**

2 **Subtitle 05 TABLE GAMES**

3 **Chapter 06 Poker Rules**

4 **Authority: State Government Article, §§9-1A-02(b) and 9-1A-04(d), Annotated Code of**
5 **Maryland**

6 **.05 Shuffling and Cutting the Cards.**

7 **A. Process. Unless the cards were preshuffled after each round of play has been completed**
8 **or when directed by the floorperson or above,** ~~Immediately~~ **immediately** prior to
9 commencement of play, ~~unless the cards were preshuffled after each round of play has been~~
10 ~~completed or when directed by the floorperson or above,~~ the dealer shall shuffle the cards, either
11 manually or by use of an automated card shuffling device, so that the cards are randomly
12 intermixed.

13 **B.** Upon completion of the shuffle, the dealer or device shall place the deck of cards in a single
14 stack.

15 **BC.** After the cards have been shuffled and stacked, and the dealer or device places the deck in a
16 single stack, the dealer shall:

17 (1) If the cards were shuffled using an automated card shuffling device, deal the cards in
18 accordance with Regulation .07 of this chapter;~~;~~

19 (2) If the cards were shuffled manually or were preshuffled, cut the deck by placing the
20 ~~cover cut~~ **card in the stack at least ten cards in from the top of the stack on the**
21 **table; and**

22 ~~(3) After the cover card has been inserted, the dealer shall take all cards above the~~
23 ~~cover card and the cover card and place them on the bottom of the stack.~~

24 **(3) Take at least half the deck and place it on the cut card and place the remaining**
25 **cards on top of the stack.**

26 **C.** After the cards have been cut and before any cards have been dealt, a floorperson or above
27 may require the cards to be recut if the floorperson determines that the cut was performed
28 improperly or in any way that might affect the integrity or fairness of the game.

For August 27, 2015 Commission. The amendment to this regulation makes procedures for shuffling and cutting the cards in Poker consistent with industry standards. The other amendments are required for compliance with the *Style Manual for Maryland Regulations*.

- 1 D. If there is no gaming activity at the Poker table which is open for gaming, each deck of cards
2 at the table shall be spread out on the table face up.
- 3 E. After the first two players who arrive at the table are afforded an opportunity to visually
4 inspect both decks, the procedures in Regulation .04 of this chapter and this regulation shall be
5 completed.
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