

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

3  
4 **Subtitle 05 TABLE GAMES**

5  
6 **Chapter 06 Poker Rules**

7  
8 **Authority: State Government Article, §§ 9-1A-02(b) and 9-1A-04(d), Annotated Code of**  
9 **Maryland**

10 **ALL NEW REGULATION**

11 **.21. Triple Draw Poker; Procedures for Dealing; Completion of Play.**

12 A. A facility operator that offers Triple Draw Poker shall follow the procedures in this  
13 regulation.

14 B. No more than seven players may participate in a Triple Draw Poker game.

15 (1) A player who elects to participate in a round of play may be required to place an Ante  
16 bet.

17 (2) The rules governing the placement of an Ante bet and the amount of the Ante bet, and  
18 the Kill or Half-kill option, shall be specified in the facility operator's Rules Submission  
19 under COMAR 36.05.03.19 and posted on a sign at each Poker table.

20 C. The dealer shall use a button to indicate the order in which the cards shall be dealt and the  
21 order in which players shall bet in accordance with the following procedures:

22 (1) At commencement of play, the dealer shall place the button in front of:

23 (a) The first player to the right of the dealer; or

24 (b) The player randomly determined by rank of a single card dealt.

25 (2) Thereafter, the dealer shall rotate the button around the table in a clockwise manner  
26 after each round of play.

27 D. Before any cards are dealt, the player to the immediate left of the button shall initiate the first  
28 betting round by placing a Blind Bet.

---

For March 26, 2015 Commission.

This all-new regulation would establish game rules for Triple Draw Poker.

*Updated March 18, 2015*

1 (1) A facility operator may require additional Blind Bets to be made immediately after  
2 the initial Blind Bet.

3 (2) The amount and number of all Blind Bets required must be specified in the facility  
4 operator's Rules Submission under COMAR 36.05.03.19 and posted on a sign at the  
5 table.

6 E. If the facility operator offers the Straddle Bet, the player to the left of the player who placed a  
7 Blind Bet may place a Straddle Bet.

8 (1) The rules governing the placement of a Straddle Bet and the amount of the Straddle  
9 Bet shall be specified in the facility operator's Rules Submission under COMAR  
10 36.05.03.19 and posted on a sign at each Poker table.

11 (2) No more than one Straddle Bet may be made during a round of play.

12 F. Starting with the player to the immediate left of the button and continuing around the table in  
13 a clockwise manner, the dealer shall deal five rounds of cards face down to each player so that  
14 the player with the button shall be the last player to receive a card each time.

15 G. After each player has been dealt five cards in accordance with § F of this regulation, each  
16 player, starting with the player to the left of the player or players who were required to place a  
17 Blind Bet or the player who placed a Straddle Bet, and continuing around the table in a  
18 clockwise manner, may fold, call or raise the bet.

19 (1) The option to raise also applies to a player who made a Blind Bet or Straddle Bet.

20 (2) After the last player has responded to the most recent bet, the betting is complete.

21 H. The dealer shall then burn the top card of the deck.

22 (1) Starting with the player to the immediate left of the button and continuing in a  
23 clockwise rotation, a player who has not folded may draw new cards.

24 (2) A player may keep the player's original hand or discard as many cards as the player  
25 chooses.

26 (3) The dealer shall replace a discarded card with a new card from the deck, and if an  
27 insufficient number of cards remain in the deck for a player to draw new cards, the dealer  
28 shall reshuffle the discarded cards and deal new cards to the player.

---

For March 26, 2015 Commission.

This all-new regulation would establish game rules for Triple Draw Poker.

*Updated March 18, 2015*

1 (4) The first player to the left of the button who has not folded shall commence the next  
2 betting round and may bet or check.

3 (5) In clockwise rotation, each subsequent player may fold, call, raise or, if preceding  
4 players have not made a bet, make an opening bet or check.

5 (6) After the last player has responded to the most recent bet, the second betting round is  
6 complete.

7 I. Upon completion of the second betting round, the dealer shall burn the top card of the deck,  
8 and commence and complete the next betting round as required under § H of this regulation.

9 J. Upon completion of the third betting round, the dealer shall burn the top card of the deck, and  
10 commence and complete the final betting round as required under § H of this regulation.

11 K. If more than one player remains in the round of play after the final betting round has been  
12 completed, the dealer shall use a showdown to determine the winner of the pot.

13 (1) Each player remaining in the game shall form a hand of five-cards from different  
14 suites and ranked in accordance with COMAR 36.05.06.06.

15 (2) The winner of the pot is the player with the highest ranking five-card low hand,  
16 counted from the highest card in the hand to the lowest card in the hand.

17 (3) If a tie exists between two or more players for the highest ranking low hand, the pot  
18 shall be divided equally among the tied players.

19 (4) If the pot cannot be divided equally among the tied players, the excess, which may  
20 not exceed \$1, shall be given to the player specified in the facility operator's Rules  
21 Submission under COMAR 36.05.03.21.

22 (5) In 2-7 Lowball Poker:

23 (a) An ace is used only as a high card.

24 (b) The best possible 2-7 Lowball Poker hand is 7, 5, 4, 3, 2 with all five cards not of  
25 the same suit.

26 (c) A straight, flush or pair shall be considered for purposes of determining a winning  
27 hand.

---

For March 26, 2015 Commission.

This all-new regulation would establish game rules for Triple Draw Poker.

*Updated March 18, 2015*

1 (6) In Ace-5 Lowball Poker:

2 (a) An ace is used only as a low card.

3 (b) The best possible A-5 Lowball Poker hand is a 5, 4, 3, 2, A, regardless of suit.

4 (c) A straight or flush shall not be considered for purposes of determining a winning  
5 hand.

6 L. Notwithstanding the requirements in § K of this regulation, if specified in its Rules  
7 Submission, the facility operator may offer Triple Draw Poker and split the pot awarded between  
8 players as follows:

9 (1) In 2-7 Lowball Poker, if Badeucey is being offered:

10 (a) Half of the pot shall be awarded to the highest ranking 2-7 Lowball Poker  
11 hand and the other half of the pot shall be awarded to the player with the best  
12 Badugi hand.

13 (b) For purposes of Badeucey, a Badugi hand is a hand in which four of the  
14 player's five cards are of a different suit from the others and rank in accordance  
15 with COMAR 36.05.06.06 with the best Badugi hand being a 2, 3, 4 and 5.

16 (b) If the pot cannot be split evenly, the excess, which may not exceed \$1, shall  
17 be given to the player with the highest 2-7 Lowball Poker hand.

18 (2) In A-5 Lowball Poker, if Badacey is being offered:

19 (a) Half of the pot shall be awarded to the highest ranking A-5 Lowball Poker  
20 hand and the other half of the pot shall be awarded to the player with the best  
21 Badugi hand.

22 (b) For purposes of Badacey, a Badugi hand is a hand in which four of the  
23 player's five cards are of a different suit from the others and rank in accordance  
24 with COMAR 36.05.06.06 with the best Badugi hand being an ace, 2, 3 and 4.

25 (b) If the pot cannot be split evenly, the excess, which may not exceed \$1, shall  
26 be given to the player with the highest A-5 Lowball Poker hand.

27  

---

For March 26, 2015 Commission.

This all-new regulation would establish game rules for Triple Draw Poker.

*Updated March 18, 2015*