

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

3  
4 **Subtitle 05 TABLE GAMES**

5  
6 **Chapter .16 Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Rules**

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

10 **01. Definitions.**

11 A. In addition to the terms defined in COMAR 36.05.13, which have the same meaning in this  
12 chapter, in this chapter the following terms have the meaning indicated.

13  
14 B. Terms Defined.

15 (1) "Check" means to waive the right to place a Play Wager but remain in the round of  
16 play.

17  
18 (2) "Envy Bonus" means an additional fixed sum payout made to a player who placed a  
19 Progressive Payout Wager when another player at the Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker  
20 table is the holder of an Envy Bonus Qualifying Hand.

21  
22 (3) "Envy Bonus Qualifying Hand" means a player's five-card Poker hand with a rank of  
23 a straight flush or better.

24  
25 (4) "Fold" means the withdrawal of a player from a round of play by not making a Play  
26 Wager.

27  
28 (5) "Play Wager" means an additional wager that a player makes if the player opts to  
29 remain in competition against the dealer after the player reviews the player's hand.

30  
31 (6) "Progressive Payout Hand" means a player's five-card Poker hand with a rank of  
32 three-of-a-kind or better.  
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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

The proposed amendments to this chapter would update the regulations for changes to the rules of play and paytables for the Six Card Bonus identified by the owner of the game and related wagering.

1 (7) "Trips Wager" means the wager that a player is required to make prior to any cards  
2 being dealt to compete against a posted payable, regardless of the outcome of the  
3 player's hand against the dealer's hand.

4 **02. Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tables.**

5 A. Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker shall be played on a table having betting positions for no  
6 more than six players on one side of the table and a place for the dealer on the opposite side of  
7 the table.

8 B. The layout for an Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker table shall be submitted to the  
9 Commission and contain, at a minimum:

10 (1) The name or logo of the facility operator;

11 (2) Four separate betting areas designated for the placement of Ante, Blind, Play and  
12 Trips Wagers for each player, with the Blind Wager betting area located to the right of  
13 the Ante Wager betting area and separated by an equal symbol;

14 (3) A separate area designated for the placement of the five community cards located  
15 directly in front of the table inventory container;

16 (4) A separate area designated for the placement of the dealer's two cards;

17 (5) If a facility operator offers the optional Progressive Payout Wager, a separate area  
18 designated for the placement of the Progressive Payout Wager for each player;

19 **(6) If a facility operator offers the optional Six Card Bonus Wager authorized under**  
20 **Regulation .07 of this chapter, a separate area designated for the placement of the**  
21 **Six Card Bonus Wager for each player;**

22 ~~(6)~~ **(7)** Inscriptions that advise players of the payout odds or amounts for all permissible  
23 wagers offered by the facility operator, but if the payout odds or amounts are not  
24 inscribed on the layout, a sign identifying the payout odds or amounts for all permissible  
25 wagers shall be posted at each Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker table;

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1           ~~(7)~~ **(8)** Inscriptions indicating the following:

2                   (a) An Ante Wager will push if the dealer has less than a pair;

3                   (b) Depending on the paytable selected by the facility operator, a Blind Wager  
4 will push if the player's winning hand is not a straight or better or a flush or  
5 better;

6                   (c) The rules governing the required amount of a Play Wager as a multiple of the  
7 player's Ante Wager; and

8                   (d) The payout limit per hand established by the facility operator under  
9 Regulation .12 of this chapter or a generic inscription indicating that the game is  
10 subject to the posted payout limit; and

11           ~~(8)~~ **(9)** If the information required under subsection ~~(7)~~ **(8)** of this section is not inscribed  
12 on the layout, a sign which sets forth the required information shall be posted at each  
13 Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker table.

14 C. If a facility operator offers a Progressive Payout Wager under Regulation .07 of this chapter,  
15 a Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker table shall have a progressive table game system for the  
16 placement of Progressive Payout Wagers that shall include:

17                   (1) A wagering device at each betting position that acknowledges or accepts the  
18 placement of the Progressive Payout Wager; and

19                   (2) A device that controls or monitors the placement of Progressive Payout Wagers at the  
20 gaming table and includes a mechanism such as a lock-out button that prevents the  
21 recognition of any Progressive Payout Wager placed after the dealer has announced "no  
22 more bets."

23 D. Each Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker table shall have a:

24                   (1) Drop box and a tip box attached on the same side of the table as, but on opposite sides  
25 of, the dealer, as approved by the Commission; and

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- 1 (2) Discard rack securely attached to the top of the dealer's side of the table.
- 2 E. The Commission may approve an alternative location for the tip box when a card shuffling  
3 device or other table game equipment prevents the placement of the drop box and tip box on the  
4 same side of the gaming table as, but on opposite sides of, the dealer.

5 **03. Cards; Number of Decks.**

6 A. Except as provided in § B of this Regulation:

- 7 (1) Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker shall be played with one deck of cards;
- 8 (2) The cards of a deck shall be identical in appearance; and
- 9 (3) A deck shall contain two cover cards.

10 B. If an automated card shuffling device is utilized, Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker may be  
11 played with two decks of cards in accordance with the following requirements:

- 12 (1) The cards in each deck shall be of the same design;
- 13 (2) The backs of the cards in one deck shall be of a different color than the cards included  
14 in the other deck;
- 15 (3) One deck of cards shall be shuffled and stored in the automated card shuffling device  
16 while the other deck is being used to play the game;
- 17 (4) Both decks of cards shall be continuously alternated in and out of play, with each  
18 deck being used for every other round of play; and
- 19 (5) The cards from only one deck shall be placed in the discard rack at any given time.

20 C. The decks of cards used in Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker shall be changed at least every:

- 21 (1) Four hours if the cards are dealt by hand; and

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1 (2) Eight hours if the cards are dealt from a manual or automated dealing shoe.

2 **04. Opening a Table for Gaming.**

3 A. After receiving one or more decks of cards at the table, the dealer shall inspect the cards for  
4 any defects and a floorperson assigned to the table shall verify the inspection.

5 B. After the cards are inspected, the dealer shall spread out the cards face up, in horizontal fan  
6 shaped columns by deck according to suit and in sequence, on the table for visual inspection by  
7 the first player to arrive at the table.

8 C. After the first player arriving at the table has been afforded an opportunity to visually inspect  
9 the cards, the dealer shall:

10 (1) Turn the cards face down on the table;

11 (2) Mix the cards thoroughly by washing them; and

12 (3) Stack the cards.

13 D. After stacking the cards, the dealer shall shuffle the cards in accordance with Regulation .05  
14 of this chapter.

15 E. If an automated card shuffling device is utilized and two decks of cards are received at the  
16 table, each deck of cards shall be spread for inspection, mixed, stacked and shuffled in  
17 accordance with §§ A – C of this regulation.

18 F. If the decks of cards received at the table are preinspected and reshuffled, §§ A - D of this  
19 regulation do not apply.

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

21 A. Unless the cards were reshuffled, the dealer shall shuffle the cards so they are randomly  
22 intermixed, manually or with an automated card shuffling device:

23 (1) Immediately prior to commencement of play;

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- 1 (2) After each round of play has been completed; or
- 2 (3) When directed by a floorperson or above.
- 3 B. Upon completion of the shuffle, the dealer or automated shuffling device shall place the deck  
4 of cards in a single stack.
- 5 C. The facility operator may use an automated card shuffling device which, upon completion of  
6 the shuffling of the cards, inserts the stack of cards directly into a dealing shoe.
- 7 D. After the cards have been shuffled and stacked, the dealer shall:
- 8 (1) If the cards were shuffled using an automated card shuffling device, deal or deliver  
9 the cards in accordance with Regulations .08, .09 and .10 of this chapter; or
- 10 (2) If the cards were shuffled manually or were reshuffled, cut the cards in accordance  
11 with § F of this regulation.
- 12 E. The deck shall be removed from the table if an automated card shuffling device:
- 13 (1) Is being used which counts the number of cards in the deck after the completion of  
14 each shuffle and indicates whether 52 cards are present; and
- 15 (2) The device reveals that an incorrect number of cards are present.
- 16 F. If a cut of the cards is required, the dealer shall place the cover card in the stack at least ten  
17 cards in from the top of the stack.
- 18 (1) After the cover card has been inserted, the dealer shall take all cards above the cover  
19 card and the cover card and place them on the bottom of the stack.
- 20 (2) The stack of cards shall then be inserted into the dealing shoe for commencement of  
21 play.

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1 G. After the cards have been cut and before any cards have been dealt, a floorperson or above  
2 may require the cards to be recut if the floorperson determines that the cut was performed  
3 improperly or in any way that might affect the integrity or fairness of the game.

4 H. If there is no gaming activity at an Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker table which is open for  
5 gaming, the dealer shall:

6 (1) Unless a player requests that the cards be spread face up on the table, spread out the  
7 cards on the table face down; and

8 (2) After the first player arriving at the table is afforded an opportunity to visually inspect  
9 the cards, complete the procedures in Regulation .04 of this chapter.

10 I. If a facility operator utilizes a dealing shoe or other device that automatically reshuffles and  
11 counts the cards that was submitted to, and approved by, the Commission approved prior to its  
12 use in licensed facility, §§ D – F of this regulation do not apply.

13 **06. Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker Rankings.**

14 A. In order of highest to lowest rank, the rank of the cards used in Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em  
15 Poker is: ace, king, queen, jack, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3 and 2.

16 B. Notwithstanding § A of this regulation, an ace may be used to complete a straight flush or a  
17 straight formed with a 2, 3, 4 and 5 card but may not be combined with any other sequence of  
18 cards.

19 C. All suits are equal in rank.

20 D. In order of highest to lowest rank, the permissible five-card Poker hands at the game of  
21 Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker are:

22 (1) A royal flush, which is a hand consisting of an ace, king, queen, jack and 10 of the  
23 same suit;

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- 1 (2) A straight flush, which is a hand, other than a royal flush, consisting of five cards of  
2 the same suit in consecutive ranking, with king, queen, jack, 10 and 9 being the highest  
3 ranking straight flush and ace, 2, 3, 4 and 5 being the lowest ranking straight flush;
- 4 (3) A four-of-a-kind, which is a hand consisting of four cards of the same rank, with four  
5 aces being the highest ranking four-of-a-kind and four 2s being the lowest ranking four-  
6 of-a-kind;
- 7 (4) A full house, which is a hand consisting of a three-of-a-kind and a pair, with three  
8 aces and two kings being the highest ranking full house and three 2s and two 3s being the  
9 lowest ranking full house;
- 10 (5) A flush, which is a hand consisting of five cards of the same suit, not in consecutive  
11 order, with ace, king, queen, jack and 9 being the highest ranking flush and 2, 3, 4, 5 and  
12 7 being the lowest ranking flush;
- 13 (6) A straight, which is a hand consisting of five cards of more than one suit and of  
14 consecutive rank, with an ace, king, queen, jack and 10 being the highest ranking straight  
15 and an ace, 2, 3, 4 and 5 being the lowest ranking straight;
- 16 (7) A three-of-a-kind, which is a hand consisting of three cards of the same rank, with  
17 three aces being the highest ranking three-of-a-kind and three 2s being the lowest ranking  
18 three-of-a-kind;
- 19 (8) Two pairs, which is a hand consisting of two pairs, with two aces and two kings  
20 being the highest ranking two pair and two 3s and two 2s being the lowest ranking two  
21 pair; and
- 22 (9) A pair, which is a hand consisting of two cards of the same rank, with two aces being  
23 the highest ranking pair and two 2s being the lowest ranking pair.

24 E. When comparing two Poker hands that are of identical rank under § B of this regulation or  
25 that contain none of the hands listed in § B of this regulation:

- 26 (1) The hand that contains the highest ranking card under § A of this regulation which is  
27 not contained in the other hand is the higher ranking hand; or

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1 (2) If the hands are of identical rank after the application of this section, the hands are a  
2 tie.

3 **F. If a facility operator offers the optional Six Card Bonus Wager under Regulation .07 of**  
4 **this chapter, the five-card Poker hands eligible for a payout are:**

5 **(1) A royal flush, which is a hand consisting of an ace, king, queen, jack and 10 of**  
6 **the same suit;**

7 **(2) A straight flush, which is a hand consisting of five cards of the same suit in**  
8 **consecutive ranking;**

9 **(3) A four-of-a-kind, which is a hand consisting of four cards of the same rank,**  
10 **regardless of suit;**

11 **(4) A full house, which is a hand consisting of three-of-a-kind and a pair;**

12 **(5) A flush, which is a hand consisting of five cards of the same suit;**

13 **(6) A straight, which is a hand consisting of five cards of consecutive rank,**  
14 **regardless of suit;**

15 **(7) A three-of-a-kind, which is a hand consisting of three cards of the same rank,**  
16 **regardless of suit; or**

17 **(8) A Super Royal, if the facility operator selects this Paytable A or B in Regulation**  
18 **.12 of this chapter, which is a six-card Poker hand consisting of an ace, king, queen,**  
19 **jack, 10 and 9 of the same suit.**

20 **07. Wagers.**

21 A. A player shall make a wager at Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker by placing value chips or  
22 plaques on the appropriate areas of the table layout.

23 B. A verbal wager accompanied by cash may not be accepted.

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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- 1 C. Only a player who is seated at an Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker table may wager at the  
2 game.
- 3 (1) After a player has placed a wager and received cards, that player shall remain seated  
4 until the completion of the round of play.
- 5 (2) If a player leaves the table during a round of play, a wager made by the player may be  
6 considered abandoned and may be treated as a losing wager.
- 7 D. Except for the Play Wager, all wagers shall be placed prior to the dealer announcing "no  
8 more bets" in accordance with the dealing procedure in Regulations .08, .09 and .10 of this  
9 chapter.
- 10 E. Except as provided in Regulation .11 of this chapter, a wager may not be made, increased or  
11 withdrawn after the dealer has announced "no more bets."
- 12 F. The following wagers may be placed in the game of Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker:
- 13 (1) A player shall compete against the dealer's five-card Poker hand by placing both an  
14 Ante Wager and a Blind Wager in equal amounts, then a Play Wager, in accordance with  
15 Regulation .11 of this chapter.
- 16 (2) In addition to the Ante Wager and Blind Wager, a player may compete against a  
17 posted payable by placing a Trips Wager.
- 18 (3) If specified in its Rules Submission, a facility operator may offer to each player at an  
19 Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker table the option to make an additional Progressive  
20 Payout Wager that the player will receive a Progressive Payout Hand.
- 21 (a) After placing the Ante and Blind Wagers, a player may make the additional  
22 Progressive Payout Wager by placing a value chip onto the progressive wagering  
23 device designated for that player.
- 24 (b) A player is responsible for verifying that the player's Progressive Payout  
25 Wager has been accepted.

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1 **(4) If specified in its Rules Submission, a facility operator may offer to each player**  
2 **at a Ultimate Texas Hold’Em Poker table the option to make an additional Six Card**  
3 **Bonus Wager that the four cards dealt to the Six Card Bonus community card box**  
4 **and the two cards dealt to the player will form a five-card Poker hand with a rank**  
5 **of a three-of-a-kind or better.**

6 **(a) If the facility operator has selected Paytable A or B in Regulation .12 of**  
7 **this chapter, the four cards dealt to the Six Card Bonus community card box**  
8 **and the two cards dealt to the player shall be used to form a six-card Poker**  
9 **hand for purposes of the Super Royal payout.**

10 **(b) After placing an Ante Wager, Blind Wager and a Trips Bonus wager, a**  
11 **player may make the additional Six Card Bonus Wager by placing a value**  
12 **chip on the designated betting area prior to the dealer announcing “no more**  
13 **bets.”**

14 F. A player may not wager on more than one player position at an Ultimate Texas Hold ’Em  
15 Poker table.

16 **08. Procedure for Dealing Cards from a Manual Dealing Shoe.**

17 A. If a manual dealing shoe is used, it shall be located on the table in a location approved by the  
18 Commission.

19 B. After the procedures required under Regulation .05 of this chapter have been completed, the  
20 stacked deck of cards shall be placed in the dealing shoe by the dealer or by the automated card  
21 shuffling device.

22 C. Prior to dealing the cards, the dealer shall:

23 (1) Announce “no more bets;”

24 (2) If the Progressive Payout Wager is being offered, use the progressive table game  
25 system to prevent the placement of any additional Progressive Payout Wagers;

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1 (3) If any Progressive Payout Wagers have been made, collect the wagers and, on the  
2 layout in front of the table inventory container, verify that the number of value chips  
3 wagered equals the number of Progressive Payout Wagers accepted by the progressive  
4 table game system; and

5 (4) The dealer shall then place the value chips into the table inventory container.

6 D. The dealer shall:

7 (1) Remove each card from the dealing shoe with the hand of the dealer that is the closest  
8 to the dealing shoe and place it on the appropriate area of the layout with the opposite  
9 hand;

10 (2) Starting with the player farthest to the dealer's left and continuing around the table in  
11 a clockwise manner, deal one card at a time to each player who placed the required  
12 wagers in accordance with Regulation .07 of this chapter and to the dealer, under a cover  
13 card, until each player who placed the required wagers, and the dealer, have two cards;

14 (3) After dealing two cards to each player and to the area designated for the placement of  
15 the dealer's hand, deal the five community cards in accordance with Regulation .11 of  
16 this chapter; and

17 (4) After dealing all community cards, remove the stub from the manual dealing shoe  
18 and, except as provided in § F of this regulation, place the stub in the discard rack  
19 without exposing the cards.

20 E. If an automated card shuffling device described in Regulation .05E(1) of this chapter is not  
21 being used, the dealer shall count the stub at least once every 5 rounds of play to determine if the  
22 correct number of cards are still present in the deck by counting the cards face down on the  
23 layout.

24 F. If the count of the stub indicates that 52 cards are in the deck, the dealer shall place the stub in  
25 the discard rack without exposing the cards.

26 G. If the count of the stub indicates that the number of cards in the deck is incorrect, the dealer  
27 shall determine if the cards were misdealt.

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1 (1) If the cards were misdealt but 52 cards remain in the deck, all hands are void and the  
2 dealer shall return all wagers to the players.

3 (2) If the cards were not misdealt, all hands are void, and the dealer shall return all  
4 wagers to the players and remove the entire deck of cards from the table.

5 **09. Procedure for Dealing Cards from the Hand.**

6 A. If the cards are dealt from the dealer's hand, the following requirements shall be met:

7 (1) An automated shuffling device shall be used to shuffle the cards; and

8 (2) After the procedures required under Regulation .05 of this chapter have been  
9 completed, the dealer shall place the stacked deck of cards in either hand, and:

10 (a) After the dealer has chosen the hand in which he will hold the cards, the dealer  
11 shall continue to use that hand whenever holding the cards during that round of  
12 play; and

13 (b) The cards held by the dealer shall be kept over the table inventory container  
14 and in front of the dealer at all times.

15 (3) Prior to dealing any cards, the dealer shall announce "no more bets," and:

16 (a) If the Progressive Payout Wager is being offered, use the progressive table  
17 game system to prevent the placement of any additional Progressive Payout  
18 Wagers;

19 (b) If any Progressive Payout Wagers have been made, collect the wagers and, on  
20 the layout in front of the table inventory container, verify that the number of value  
21 chips wagered equals the number of Progressive Payout Wagers accepted by the  
22 progressive table game system; and

23 (c) Place the value chips into the table inventory container.

24 B. The dealer shall:

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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- 1 (1) Deal each card by holding the deck of cards in the chosen hand and use the other hand  
2 to remove the top card of the deck and place it face down on the appropriate area of the  
3 layout;
- 4 (2) Starting with the player farthest to the dealer's left and continuing around the table in  
5 a clockwise manner, deal one card at a time to each player who placed the required  
6 wagers in accordance with Regulation .07 of this chapter and to the dealer, under a cover  
7 card, until each player who placed the required wagers and the dealer have two cards;
- 8 (3) After dealing two cards to each player and to the area designated for the placement of  
9 the dealer's hand, deal the five community cards in accordance with Regulation .11 of  
10 this chapter; and
- 11 (4) Except as provided in § C of this regulation, after dealing all community cards, place  
12 the stub in the discard rack without exposing the cards.
- 13 C. If an automated card shuffling device described in Regulation .05E(1) of this chapter is not  
14 being used, the dealer shall count the stub at least once every 5 rounds of play to determine if the  
15 correct number of cards are still present in the deck by counting the cards face down on the  
16 layout.
- 17 D. If the count of the stub indicates that 52 cards are in the deck, the dealer shall place the stub  
18 in the discard rack without exposing the cards.
- 19 E. If the count of the stub indicates that the number of cards in the deck is incorrect, the dealer  
20 shall determine if the cards were misdealt.
- 21 (1) If the cards were misdealt but 52 cards remain in the deck, all hands are void and the  
22 dealer shall return all wagers to the players.
- 23 (2) If the cards were not misdealt, all hands are void, and the dealer shall return all  
24 wagers to the players and remove the entire deck of cards from the table.
- 25 **10. Procedure for Dealing Cards from an Automated Dealing Shoe or Shuffler.**

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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1 A. If the cards are dealt from an automated dealing shoe **or shuffler**, the following requirements  
2 shall be met:

3 (1) After the procedures required under Regulation .05 of this chapter have been  
4 completed, the cards shall be placed in the automated dealing shoe **or shuffler**; and

5 (2) Prior to the shoe **or shuffler** dispensing any stacks of cards, the dealer shall:

6 (a) Announce “no more bets;” and

7 (b) If the Progressive Payout Wager is being offered:

8 (i) Use the progressive table game system to prevent the placement of any  
9 additional Progressive Payout Wagers;

10 (ii) If any Progressive Payout Wagers have been made, collect the wagers  
11 and on the layout in front of the table inventory container, verify that the  
12 number of value chips wagered equals the number of Progressive Payout  
13 Wagers accepted by the progressive table game system; and

14 (iii) Place the value chips into the table inventory container.

15 B. The dealer shall **use the following procedures when dealing Ultimate Texas Hold ‘Em**:

16 ~~(1) Deliver the first stack of cards dispensed by the automated dealing shoe face down to~~  
17 ~~the player farthest to the dealer’s left who has placed the required wagers in accordance~~  
18 ~~with Regulation .07 of this chapter;~~

19 ~~(2) As the automated dealing shoe dispenses the remaining stacks to the dealer, moving~~  
20 ~~clockwise around the table, deliver a stack face down to each of the other players who~~  
21 ~~has placed a required wager in accordance with Regulation .07 of this chapter;~~

22 ~~(3) Deliver a stack of two cards face down under a cover card to the area designated for~~  
23 ~~the placement of the dealer’s cards;~~

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1 ~~(4) After each stack of two cards has been dispensed and delivered, remove the remaining~~  
2 ~~cards from the automated dealing shoe and, following the procedures in Regulation .09 of~~  
3 ~~this chapter, deal from the dealer's hand the five community cards in accordance with~~  
4 ~~Regulation .11 of this chapter; and~~

5 ~~(5) After dealing all five community cards, except as provided in §D of this regulation,~~  
6 ~~place the stub in the discard rack without exposing the cards.~~

7 **(1) Deliver the first four-card stack face down to the area designated for the Six**  
8 **Card Bonus Wager card box;**

9 **(2) Deliver the next five-card stack face down to the area designated for the**  
10 **placement of the community cards and spread them out, face down, in the middle of**  
11 **the table;**

12 **(3) Deliver to the dealer a set of two starting cards from the shuffler, and starting**  
13 **from the dealer's left and working clockwise around the table, deliver the next two-**  
14 **card stacks, face down to each player who placed an Ante and Blind Wager in**  
15 **accordance with Regulation .07 of this chapter; and**

16 **(4) After dispensing and delivering each two-card stack, remove the remaining**  
17 **cards from the automated dealing shoe or shuffler and place the stub in the discard**  
18 **rack without exposing the cards.**

19 C. If an automated card shuffling device described in Regulation .05E(1) of this chapter is not  
20 being used, the dealer shall count the stub at least once every 5 rounds of play to determine if the  
21 correct number of cards are still present in the deck by counting the cards face down on the  
22 layout.

23 D. If the count of the stub indicates that 52 cards are in the deck, the dealer shall place the stub  
24 in the discard rack without exposing the cards.

25 E. If the count of the stub indicates that the number of cards in the deck is incorrect, the dealer  
26 shall determine if the cards were misdealt.

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

The proposed amendments to this chapter would update the regulations for changes to the rules of play and paytables for the Six Card Bonus identified by the owner of the game and related wagering.

1 (1) If the cards were misdealt but 52 cards remain in the deck, all hands are void and the  
2 dealer shall return all wagers to the players.

3 (2) If the cards were not misdealt, all hands are void, and the dealer shall return all  
4 wagers to the players and remove the entire deck of cards from the table.

5 F. Notwithstanding the requirements in §§ B and C of this regulation, if a facility operator is  
6 utilizing an automated dealing shoe which automatically reshuffles the cards, the five community  
7 cards may be dispensed before the two cards are dispensed to each player and to the dealer. The  
8 community cards shall then be revealed in accordance with Regulation .11 of this chapter.

9 **11. Procedure for Completing a Round of Play.**

10 A. After the dealing procedures required under Regulations .08, .09 and .10 of this chapter have  
11 been completed, a player shall examine the player's cards subject to the following limitations:

12 (1) A player who wagers at Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker is responsible for the  
13 player's hand and no individual other than the dealer and the player to whom the cards  
14 were dealt may touch the cards of the player.

15 (2) A player shall keep the player's cards in full view of the dealer at all times.

16 B. After each player has examined the player's cards, beginning with the player farthest to the  
17 dealer's left and moving clockwise around the table, the dealer shall ask each player if the player  
18 wishes to place a Play Wager prior to the dealing of the Flop.

19 (1) The player may check or place a Play Wager in an amount equal to three or four times  
20 the amount of the player's Ante Wager.

21 (2) If a player:

22 (a) Places a Play Wager, the wager shall be placed in the area designated for the  
23 Play Wager; or

24 (2) Checks, the player shall remain in the game and defer the player's decision to  
25 place a Play Wager until after the Flop is dealt.

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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1 C. After all players have placed a Play Wager or checked, the dealer shall:

2 (1) **If dealing by hand, Burn burn** the next card; and

3 (2) Deal the Flop face up to the designated area for the community cards.

4 D. After dealing the Flop, beginning with the player farthest to the dealer's left and moving  
5 clockwise around the table the dealer shall ask each player who has not already placed a Play  
6 Wager if the player wishes to place a Play Wager prior to the dealing of the final two community  
7 cards.

8 (1) The player may check or place a Play Wager in an amount equal to two times the  
9 amount of the player's Ante Wager.

10 (2) If a player:

11 (a) Places a Play Wager, the wager shall be placed in the area designated for the  
12 Play Wager; or

13 (b) Checks, the player shall remain in the game and defer the player's decision to  
14 place a Play Wager until after the next two community cards are dealt.

15 E. After all players have placed a Play Wager or checked, the dealer shall:

16 (1) **If dealing by hand, Burn burn** the next card; and

17 (2) Deal the next two cards in the deck face up to the designated area for the community  
18 cards.

19 F. After dealing the final two community cards, beginning with the player farthest to the dealer's  
20 left and moving clockwise around the table, the dealer shall ask each player who has not already  
21 placed a Play Wager whether the player wishes to fold or place a Play Wager equal in amount to  
22 the player's Ante Wager, and if a player:

23 (1) Places a Play Wager, the wager shall be placed in the area designated for the Play  
24 Wager;

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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1 (2) Folds, the dealer shall collect the player's Ante and Blind Wagers and place them in  
2 the table inventory container; and

3 (3) If a player:

4 (a) Has also placed a Trips Wager, the dealer shall place the cards of the player  
5 face down underneath the player's Trips Wager pending its resolution at the  
6 conclusion of the round of play; ~~and~~

7 (b) Has not placed a Trips Wager, the dealer shall immediately collect the  
8 player's cards and place them in the discard rack. ;

9 **(c) Has also placed a Six Card Bonus Wager, the dealer shall place the cards**  
10 **of the player face down under the player's Six Card Bonus Wager pending**  
11 **its resolution at the conclusion of the round of play; and**

12 **(d) Has not placed a Six Card Bonus Wager, the dealer shall immediately**  
13 **collect the player's cards and place them in the discard rack.**

14 G. After each player has folded or placed a Play Wager, the dealer shall:

15 (1) Remove the cover card and turn the dealer's two cards face up on the layout;

16 (2) Select five cards from the dealer's two cards and the five community cards to form  
17 the highest ranking five-card Poker hand; and

18 (3) Announce the dealer's hand to the players.

19 H. If the dealer's highest ranking five-card Poker hand:

20 (1) Is lower than a pair, starting with the player farthest to the dealer's right who has  
21 placed a Play Wager and proceeding in a counterclockwise manner around the table, the  
22 dealer shall return each player's Ante Wager and resolve the Blind and Play Wagers in  
23 accordance with subsection (2) of this section;

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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1 (2) Is a pair or better, starting with the player farthest to the dealer's right who has placed  
2 a Play Wager and proceeding in a counterclockwise manner around the table, the dealer  
3 shall:

4 (i) Turn the two cards of each player who has placed a Play Wager face up on the  
5 layout;

6 (ii) Select five cards from the player's two cards and the five community cards to  
7 form the highest ranking five-card Poker hand;

8 (iii) Announce the player's hand; and

9 (iv) Regardless of outcome, resolve each player's wagers one player at a time; and

10 (3) If a player's five-card Poker hand:

11 (a) Is ranked lower than the dealer's five-card Poker hand, the dealer shall  
12 immediately collect the Ante, Blind and Play Wagers made by the player;

13 (b) Is ranked higher than the dealer's five-card Poker hand, the dealer shall pay  
14 the Ante, Blind and Play Wagers made by the player in accordance with the  
15 payout odds in Regulation .12 of this chapter;

16 (c) Depending on the payable selected by the facility operator, the dealer shall  
17 return the player's Blind Wager if the player's winning hand is not a straight or  
18 better or a flush or better; and

19 (d) Is equal in rank to the dealer's five-card hand, the dealer shall return the  
20 player's Ante, Blind and Play Wagers.

21 I. After settling a player's Ante, Blind and Play Wagers, the dealer shall:

22 (1) Settle any Trips Wager made by the player by determining whether the player's five-  
23 card Poker hand qualifies for a payout in accordance with Regulation .12 of this chapter;

24 ~~and~~

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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1 (2) Pay a winning Trips Wager regardless of whether the player's five-card Poker hand  
2 outranks the dealer's hand; ;

3 **(3) Settle any Six Card Bonus Wager made by the player by determining whether**  
4 **the player's five-card Poker hand qualifies for a payout in accordance with**  
5 **Regulation .12 of this chapter; and**

6 **(4) Pay a winning Six Card Bonus Wager regardless of whether the player's five-**  
7 **card Poker hand outranks the dealer's hand.**

8 J. The dealer shall then settle the Progressive Payout Wager, if offered by the facility operator.

9 (1) A winning Progressive Payout Wager shall be paid irrespective of whether the  
10 player's hand outranks the dealer's hand.

11 (2) If a player has won a progressive payout, the dealer shall:

12 (a) Verify that the hand is a winning hand;

13 (b) Verify that the appropriate light on the progressive table game system has  
14 been illuminated;

15 (c) Have a floorperson or above validate the progressive payout in accordance  
16 with the facility operator's approved internal control procedures;

17 (d) Pay the winning Progressive Payout Wager in accordance with the payout  
18 odds in Regulation .12 of this chapter;

19 (i) If a player has won a progressive payout that is a percentage of the  
20 jackpot amount on the progressive meter, the progressive payout may not  
21 be paid from the table inventory container; or

22 (ii) If a player has won a progressive payout that is not being paid from the  
23 table inventory container, the cards of that player must remain on the table  
24 until the necessary documentation has been completed; and

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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1 (e) Pay any Envy Bonus won in accordance with Regulation .12 of this chapter;

2 (i) Players making a Progressive Payout Wager shall receive an Envy  
3 Bonus when another player at the same Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker  
4 table is the holder of an Envy Bonus Qualifying Hand.

5 (ii) Players are entitled to multiple Envy Bonuses if more than one other  
6 player is the holder of an Envy Bonus Qualifying Hand.

7 (iii) A player is not entitled to an Envy Bonus for his own hand or the  
8 hand of the dealer.

9 K. After all wagers of the player have been settled, the dealer shall remove all remaining cards  
10 from the table and place them in the discard rack in a manner that permits the reconstruction of  
11 each hand in the event of a question or dispute.

12 **12. Payout Odds; Envy Bonus; Payout Limitation.**

13 A. A facility operator shall pay each winning Ante Wager and Play Wager at odds of 1 to 1.

14 B. A facility operator shall pay the player's winning Blind Wager in accordance with the odds in  
15 one of the following paytables selected by the facility operator in its Rules Submission:

16 (1) Paytable A:

17 (a) For a Royal Flush the payout is 500 to 1;

18 (b) For a Straight Flush the payout is 50 to 1;

19 (c) For Four-of-a-kind the payout is 10 to 1;

20 (d) For a Full house the payout is 3 to 1;

21 (e) For a Flush the payout is 3 to 2;

22 (f) For a Straight the payout is 1 to 1; or

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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1 (g) For less than a Straight the payout is a push;

2 (2) Paytable B:

3 (a) For a Royal Flush the payout is 500 to 1;

4 (b) For a Straight Flush the payout is 50 to 1;

5 (c) For Four-of-a-kind the payout is 10 to 1;

6 (d) For a Full house the payout shall be 3 to 1

7 (e) For a Flush the payout is 3 to 2; or

8 (f) For less than a Straight the payout is a push.

9 C. A player placing a Trips Wager shall be paid at the odds in one of the following paytables,  
10 selected by the facility operator in its Rules Submission:

11 (1) Paytable A:

12 (a) For a Royal Flush the payout is 50 to 1;

13 (b) For a Straight Flush the payout is 40 to 1;

14 (c) For Four-of-a-kind the payout is 30 to 1;

15 (d) For a Full house the payout is 9 to 1;

16 (e) For a Flush the payout is 7 to 1;

17 (f) For a Straight the payout is 4 to 1; or

18 (g) For Three-of-a-kind the payout is 3 to 1;

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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- 1 (2) Paytable B:
- 2 (a) For a Royal Flush the payout is 50 to 1;
- 3 (b) For a Straight Flush the payout is 40 to 1;
- 4 (c) For Four-of-a-kind the payout is 30 to 1;
- 5 (d) For a Full house the payout is 8 to 1;
- 6 (e) For a Flush the payout is 6 to 1;
- 7 (f) For a Straight the payout is 5 to 1; or
- 8 (g) For Three-of-a-kind the payout is 3 to 1;

- 9 (3) Paytable C:
- 10 (a) For a Royal Flush the payout is 50 to 1;
- 11 (b) For a Straight Flush the payout is 40 to 1;
- 12 (c) For Four-of-a-kind the payout is 30 to 1;
- 13 (d) For a Full house the payout is 8 to 1;
- 14 (e) For a Flush the payout is 7 to 1;
- 15 (f) For a Straight the payout is 4 to 1; or
- 16 (g) For Three-of-a-kind the payout is 3 to 1;

- 17 (4) Paytable D:
- 18 (a) For a Royal Flush the payout is 50 to 1;
- 19 (b) For a Straight Flush the payout is 40 to 1;

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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1 (c) For Four-of-a-kind the payout is 20 to 1;

2 (d) For a Full house the payout is 7 to 1;

3 (e) For a Flush the payout is 6 to 1;

4 (f) For a Straight the payout is 5 to 1; or

5 (g) For Three-of-a-kind the payout is 3 to 1.

6 D. If a facility operator offers the Progressive Payout Wager:

7 (1) A player placing a Progressive Payout Wager shall be paid at the following odds:

8 (a) For a Royal Flush the payout is 100% of meter;

9 (b) For a Straight Flush the payout is 10% of meter;

10 (c) For Four-of-a-kind the payout is 300 to 1;

11 (d) For a Full house the payout is 50 to 1;

12 (e) For a Flush the payout is 40 to 1;

13 (f) For a Straight the payout is 30 to 1; or

14 (g) For Three-of-a-kind the payout is 9 to 1;

15 (2) A player shall receive the payout for only the highest ranking five-card Poker hand  
16 formed;

17 (3) The facility operator's Rules Submission shall include the:

18 (a) Rate of progression for the meter used for the progressive payout in subsection  
19 (1) of this section; and

20 (b) The initial and reset amount, which shall be at least \$10,000;

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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1 (4) Winning Progressive Payout Hands shall be paid in accordance with the amount on  
2 the meter when it is the player's turn to be paid in accordance with Regulation .11 of this  
3 chapter; and

4 (5) Envy Bonus payouts shall be made according to the following payouts for Envy  
5 Bonus Qualifying Hands based upon the amount of the Progressive Payout Wager placed  
6 by the player receiving the Envy Bonus:

7 (a) \$1 Progressive Payout Wager:

8 (i) For a Royal flush the payout is \$1,000; and

9 (ii) For a Straight flush the payout shall be \$300; and

10 (b) \$5 Progressive Payout Wager:

11 (i) For a Royal flush the payout is \$5,000; and

12 (ii) For a Straight flush the payout is \$1,500.

13 **E. If a facility operator offers the Six Card Bonus Wager, the facility operator shall pay out**  
14 **winning Six Card Bonus Wagers at the amounts in the following paytables as selected by**  
15 **the facility operator in its Rules Submission:**

16 **(1) Paytable A:**

17 **(a) For a Super Royal of diamonds the payout is \$1,000,000;**

18 **(b) For a Super Royal of hearts, spades or clubs the payout is \$100,000;**

19 **(c) For a Royal flush the payout is 1,000 to 1;**

20 **(d) For a Straight flush the payout is 200 to 1;**

21 **(e) For a Four-of-a-kind the payout is 50 to 1;**

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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1 **(f) For a Full house the payout is 20 to 1;**

2 **(g) For a Flush the payout is 15 to 1;**

3 **(h) For a Straight the payout is 10 to 1; or**

4 **(i) For a Three-of-a-kind the payout is 5 to 1.**

5  
6 **(2) Paytable B:**

7 **(a) For a Super Royal of diamonds, hearts, spades or clubs the payout is**  
8 **\$100,000;**

9 **(b) For a Royal flush the payout is 1,000 to 1;**

10 **(c) For a Straight flush the payout is 200 to 1;**

11 **(d) For a Four-of-a-kind the payout is 50 to 1;**

12 **(e) For a Full house the payout is 20 to 1;**

13 **(f) For a Flush the payout is 15 to 1;**

14 **(g) For a Straight the payout is 10 to 1; or**

15 **(h) For a Three-of-a-kind the payout is 5 to 1.**

16 **E. F.** Notwithstanding the payout odds in §§ A – C of this regulation, in its Rules Submission a  
17 facility operator may establish a maximum amount that is payable to a player on a single hand.

18 (1) The maximum amount shall be at least \$50,000 or the maximum amount that one  
19 player could win per round when betting the minimum wager, whichever is greater.

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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1 (2) A maximum payout limit established by the facility operator shall apply only to  
2 payouts of Ultimate Texas Hold 'Em Poker Wagers placed under Regulation .07 of this  
3 chapter, but does not apply to payouts for Progressive Payout Wagers **or Six Card**  
4 **Bonus Wagers** placed under Regulation .07 of this chapter.

### 5 **13. Irregularities.**

6 A. A card that is found face up in the shoe or the deck while the cards are being dealt may not be  
7 used in that round of play and shall be placed in the discard rack.

8 B. If more than one card is found face up in the shoe or the deck during the dealing of the cards,  
9 all hands are void, and the dealer shall return all wagers to the players and reshuffle the cards.

10 C. Notwithstanding §§ A and B of this regulation, if the cards are found face up after each  
11 player and the dealer has received their initial two cards, the community cards shall be dealt and  
12 any Trips Wager shall be settled in accordance with the payout odds in Regulation .12 of this  
13 chapter.

14 D. A card drawn in error without its face being exposed shall be used as though it were the next  
15 card from the shoe or the deck.

16 E. If any player, the dealer or the area designated for the placement of the community cards is  
17 dealt an incorrect number of cards, all hands are void, and the dealer shall return all wagers to the  
18 players and reshuffle the cards.

19 F. If either of the dealer's cards is inadvertently exposed before each player has folded or placed  
20 a Play Wager as described in Regulation .11 of this chapter, all hands are void, and the dealer  
21 shall return all Ante, Blind and Play Wagers to the players and reshuffle the cards.

22 G. Notwithstanding § F of this regulation, if a player has placed a Trips Wager, the dealer shall  
23 deal the community cards and settle each Trips Wager in accordance with the payout odds in  
24 Regulation .12 of this chapter.

25 H. If an automated card shuffling device is being used and the device jams, stops shuffling  
26 during a shuffle or fails to complete a shuffle cycle, the dealer shall:

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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- 1 (1) Reshuffle the cards;
- 2 (2) Return all wagers to the players; and
- 3 (3) Remove any cards from the device and reshuffle them with any cards already dealt.
- 4 I. If an automated dealing shoe is being used and the device jams, stops dealing cards or fails to  
5 deal cards during a round of play, the round of play is void, and the dealer shall:
- 6 (1) Return all wagers to the players;
- 7 (2) Remove the cards from the device; and
- 8 (3) Reshuffle the cards with any cards already dealt.
- 9 J. If an automated card shuffling device or automated dealing shoe malfunctions and cannot be  
10 used, before any other method of shuffling or dealing may be utilized at that table, the automated  
11 card shuffling device or automated dealing shoe shall be:
- 12 (1) Covered; or
- 13 (2) Marked with a sign indicating that the automated card shuffling device or automated  
14 dealing shoe is out of order.

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For May 22, 2014 Commission.

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