



Massachusetts Gaming Commission Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: March 26, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
Place: Massachusetts Gaming Commission
VIA CONFERENCE CALL NUMBER: 1-646-741-5292
PARTICIPANT CODE: 111 180 9988

The Commission conducted this public meeting remotely utilizing collaboration technology. Use of this technology was intended to ensure an adequate, alternative means of public access to the Commission's deliberations for any interested member of the public.

Commissioners Present:

Chair Jordan Maynard
Commissioner Eileen O'Brien
Commissioner Bradford Hill
Commissioner Nakisha Skinner
Commissioner Paul Brodeur

1. [Call to Order](#) (00:00)

Chair Maynard called to order the 585th Public Meeting of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission ("Commission"). Roll call attendance was conducted, and all five Commissioners were present for the meeting.

2. [Meeting Minutes](#) (00:32)

a. February 26, 2026

The February 26, 2026 meeting minutes were included in the Commissioners' Packet on pages 4 through 19.

Commissioner Brodeur moved that the Commission approve the meeting minutes from the February 26, 2026 public meeting as included in the Commissioners' Packet and discussed here today, subject to any corrections for typographical errors or any other non-material matters. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.
Commissioner Hill: Aye.
Commissioner Skinner: Aye.
Commissioner Brodeur: Aye.
Chair Maynard: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

3. Legal Division (01:28)

a. 205 CMR 250: Protection of Minors and Underage Youth from Sports Wagering - Discussion and Review of Regulation and Amended Small Business Impact Statement for Final Review and Adoption

Chief Deputy General Counsel Justin Stempeck presented amendments to 205 CMR 250 for final review and adoption. *A memorandum, a redline of the proposed amendments to 205 CMR 250, and the Amended Small Business Impact Statement were included in the Commissioners' Packet on pages 20 through 24.*

Commissioner Hill moved that the Commission approve the Amended Small Business Impact Statement and the draft of 205 CMR 250 as included in the Commissioners' Packet and discussed here today, and further, that staff be authorized to take the steps necessary to file the required documentation with the Secretary of the Commonwealth to finalize the regulation promulgation process. Commissioner O'Brien seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.
Commissioner Hill: Aye.
Commissioner Skinner: Aye.
Commissioner Brodeur: Aye.
Chair Maynard: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

b. 205 CMR 3.02: Definitions – Discussion and Review of Regulation and Small Business Impact Statement for possible emergency adoption, and/or authorization to begin the promulgation process (04:27)

Associate General Counsel Melanie Foxx presented proposed amendments to 205 CMR 3.02 for emergency adoption. *A memorandum, a redline of the proposed amendments to 205 CMR 3.02, and the Small Business Impact Statement were included in the Commissioners' Packet on pages 25 through 33.*

Commissioner Hill moved that the Commission approve the Small Business Impact Statement and the draft 205 CMR 3.02 as included in the Commissioners' Packet and discussed here today, and further moved that staff be authorized to take the steps necessary to file the required documentation with the Secretary of the Commonwealth by emergency and thereafter to begin the regulation promulgation process relative to this regulation, and further that staff shall be

authorized to modify chapter or section numbers or titles, to file additional regulation sections as reserved, or to make any other administrative changes as necessary to execute the regulation promulgation process. Commissioner Brodeur seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.

Commissioner Brodeur: Aye.

Chair Maynard: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

c. 205 CMR 3.28: Prohibited Practices– Discussion and Review of Regulation and Small Business Impact Statement for authorization to begin the promulgation process (08:20)

Associate General Counsel Foxx presented proposed amendments to 205 CMR 3.28 for initial review before the Commission. *A memorandum, a redline of the proposed amendments to 205 CMR 3.28, and the Small Business Impact Statement were included in the Commissioners' Packet on pages 25 through 38.*

Commissioner Skinner moved that the Commission approve the Small Business Impact Statement and the draft of 205 CMR 3.28 as included in the Commissioners' Packet and discussed here today, and further that staff be authorized to take the steps necessary to file the required documentation with the Secretary of the Commonwealth to begin the regulation promulgation process. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.

Commissioner Brodeur: Aye.

Chair Maynard: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

d. 205 CMR 3.29: Medications and Prohibited Substances – Discussion and Review of Regulation and Small Business Impact Statement for authorization to begin the promulgation process (10:19)

Associate General Counsel Foxx presented proposed amendments to 205 CMR 3.29 for initial review before the Commission. *A memorandum, a redline of the proposed amendments to 205 CMR 3.29, and the Small Business Impact Statement were included in the Commissioners' Packet on pages 25 through 41.*

Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission approve the Small Business Impact Statement and the draft of 205 CMR 3.29 as included in the Commissioners' Packet and discussed here today, and further that staff be authorized to take the steps necessary to file the

required documentation with the Secretary of the Commonwealth to begin the regulation promulgation process. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.

Commissioner Brodeur: Aye.

Chair Maynard: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

4. Racing Division (12:44)

a. Plainridge Park Racecourse Request for Approval of Racing Officials and Key Operating Personnel

Director of Racing and Chief Veterinarian Dr. Alexandra Lightbown presented Plainridge Park Casino's ("PPC") Request for Approval of Racing Officials and Key Operating Personnel.

PPC's Request for Approval of Racing Officials and Key Operating Personnel was included in the Commissioners' Packet on pages 42 through 43.

Director Lightbown noted that all individuals in PPC's request have previously been approved and licensed by the Commission. She stated that the Racing Division recommended approval of PPC's request pending completion of licensure and background checks.

Commissioner Hill moved that the Commission approve Plainridge Park Casino's request for approval of its Racing Officials and Key Operating Personnel as included in the Commissioners' Packet and discussed here today, pending satisfactory completion of licensure by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission's Division of Racing and satisfactory completion of their background checks by the Massachusetts State Police. Commissioner Brodeur seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.

Commissioner Brodeur: Aye.

Chair Maynard: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

5. Sports Wagering Division (16:46)

a. MGM Request to Payout Lost Wagers pursuant to 205 CMR 238.47

Sports Wagering Compliance and Operations Manager Andrew Steffen presented a request by MGM Springfield ("MGM") to payout three lost wagers to two patrons pursuant to 205 CMR

238.47. *MGM's request to payout lost wagers was included in the Commissioners' Packet on pages 44 through 46.* Manager Steffen stated that the Sports Wagering Division recommended approving the three requests.

Commissioner Brodeur moved that the Commission approve MGM Springfield's request to pay the two patrons for their lost sports wagering tickets pursuant to 205 CMR 238.47(1)(b), as included the Commissioners' Packet and discussed here today. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.

Commissioner Hill: Aye.

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.

Commissioner Brodeur: Aye.

Chair Maynard: Aye.

The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

6. Research and Responsible Gaming Division (19:35)

a. Discussion of Ad Hoc Sports Wagering Study for FY26 Research Agenda

Director of Research and Responsible Gaming Mark Vander Linden presented five potential topics for the Ad Hoc Sports Wagering Study for the FY26 Research Agenda. *A memorandum regarding the potential research topics was included in the Commissioners' Packet on pages 47 through 48.*

Director Vander Linden explained that the five potential topics for the Ad Hoc study were:

1. Underage access to Sports Wagering platforms and prevention methods;
2. Prediction markets, including consumer attitudes and behaviors & how consumer protections compare to state-licensed sports wagering operators;
3. Conversion of gaming to gambling, i.e. social casinos, video gaming, loot boxes, tournaments, free-play games, and tactics used by gaming companies, with a particular focus on impacts on youth and impacts on problem gambling;
4. Young adults' attitudes and behaviors around Esports; and
5. The economic impact on Massachusetts of gaming expansion in neighboring states.

Commissioner Brodeur expressed an interest in Topic #3. Commissioner Skinner noted that while prediction markets were a popular topic, she believed that the industry was too new for any study to be meaningful. She stated that she was interested in Topic #1 and Topic #3. She stated that Topic #3 would be beneficial in understanding what gateway activities to gambling exist.

Commissioner Hill asked if the Commission had to choose only one of the five topics. Director Vander Linden stated that only one topic could be chosen for the FY2026 Sports Wagering Ad Hoc study, but anything the Commission deemed a priority could be added to the FY2027 research agenda. Commissioner Hill stated that he agreed with Commissioner Skinner that a

study into prediction markets may not be ripe and could be better researched later. He stated that Topic #1 was his highest priority.

Chair Maynard stated that the Commission had taken a strong position on prediction markets, noting that the regulated industry has protections that prediction markets do not. Commissioner Brodeur stated that he was reluctant to have the Ad Hoc study address prediction markets given the rapid pace of change in those marketplaces.

Commissioner O'Brien stated that she was interested in Topic #3. She stated that the types of gaming included were access points that get young people into gambling. She stated that prediction markets were a similar access point and asked if prediction markets and underage access could be included within a study under Topic #3.

Chair Maynard stated that there appeared to be a consensus for Topic #3 for the FY2026 Ad Hoc Study while some of the other topics may be added to the FY2027 Agenda. He stated that prediction markets and underage gaming could also be considered when exploring Topic #3.

Chair Maynard asked if a vote was necessary. Chief Deputy General Counsel Stempeck stated that the consensus of the Commission was sufficient given the discussion and modification of the topic.

7. [IT Division](#) (42:35)

a. Request for approval of Technical Security Expert

I. C8 Secure request for waiver from 205 CMR 243.01(1)(x)(2)(c)

Gaming Technical Compliance Manager Cristian Taveras presented a request from C8 Secure to waive the five-year experience requirement outlined in 205 CMR 243.01(1)(x)(2)(c). *C8 Secure's waiver request and C8 Secure's request for approval as a Qualified Independent Technical Expert were included in the Commissioners' Packet on page 49 through 59.*

Commissioner Skinner sought clarification regarding the overlap of experience between iGaming and event wagering. C8 Secure's Managing Partner Patrick Gardner stated that there was a lot of overlap in cybersecurity and compliance between the GLI-19 and GLI-33 standards. He explained that C8 Secure had experience with auditing sportsbooks in other jurisdictions and that there were similarities in the architecture of iGaming and sports wagering platforms. He stated that they had similar hosting data center infrastructure, security controls, and testing methodologies.

Commissioner Skinner noted that C8 Secure did not have five years of sports wagering auditing experience and asked how much experience the vendor had. Mr. Gardner stated that Continent 8 had been around for 25 years, that C8 Secure launched in 2021, and that C8 Secure received technical resources from Continent 8. He stated that C8 Secure was authorized to conduct audits in 28 jurisdictions and had completed over 200 assessments.

Commissioner Skinner asked how many years of experience C8 Secure had across the 28 jurisdictions where it was authorized to conduct audits. Mr. Gardner stated that C8 Secure was first licensed to offer sports wagering auditing in 2022. Commissioner Skinner requested that the IT team provide a recommendation regarding C8 Secure's request.

Commissioner O'Brien expressed her understanding that the Commission's staff did not have an issue with a waiver for C8 Secure because while the entity did not have five years of experience, the staff of C8 Secure had more than five years of experience. Manager Taveras stated that her understanding was correct.

Commissioner O'Brien stated that an individual with more than five years of relevant experience should be part of the auditing team for Massachusetts. C8 Secure's Principal Compliance Officer Brian Borysewich stated that he appreciated the Commission's concerns and that he would be the principal auditor for Massachusetts.

Commissioner Skinner asked if any jurisdiction had denied C8 Secure's request for approval. Mr. Gardner stated that C8 Secure was approved in 28 jurisdictions and had not been denied anywhere. Acting Director of IT Services Kevin Gauvreau stated that after review of C8 Secure's request, he recommended that the waiver be approved. Commissioner Brodeur stated that while C8 Secure as an entity did not have the requisite experience, the depth of experience of its senior officials gave him confidence that the Commission should approve the waiver request.

Commissioner O'Brien asked if there was a set timeline for the waiver. Commissioner Skinner stated that C8 Secure would meet the five-year required experience with a one-year waiver. Chair Maynard expressed concern about conditioning the approval of C8 Secure's waiver as the Commission did not place conditions on past requests. Commissioner O'Brien proposed a condition that for a period of one-year, C8 Secure's team in Massachusetts would include at least one individual with five years of experience. Commissioner Skinner stated that she would be okay with that condition.

Chair Maynard stated that the Commission did not impose a condition on the last waiver request. Commissioner O'Brien stated that the facts were different between the two requests. Continent 8's Director of Regulatory Affairs Jeremie Kanter stated that should there be any changes to the team at C8 Secure, they would inform the Commission and reaffirm their commitment to all obligations.

Commissioner O'Brien moved that in accordance with 205 CMR 202.03(2), the Commission issue a waiver to Continent 8 LLC, d/b/a/ C8 Secure from the requirement outlined in 205 CMR 243.01(x)(2)(c), as granting the waiver meets the requirements specified in 205 CMR 102.03(4) and is consistent with the purposes of General Laws, Chapter 23N. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:

Commissioner O'Brien: *Aye.*

Commissioner Hill: *Aye.*

Commissioner Skinner: Aye.
Commissioner Brodeur: Aye.
Chair Maynard: Aye.
The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

II. C8 Secure request for approval as Qualified Independent Technical Expert in accordance with 205 CMR 205 CMR 243.01(1)(x) (1:03:57)

Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission approve Continent 8 LLC, d/b/a/ C8 Secure as a Qualified Independent Technical Expert in accordance with 205 CMR 243.01(1)(x)(2) as included in the Commissioners' Packet and discussed here today, further subject to requirement that for the first year from the date of today that the managing auditor have at least five years of experience. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:
Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.
Commissioner Hill: Aye.
Commissioner Skinner: Aye.
Commissioner Brodeur: Aye.
Chair Maynard: Aye.
The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

8. Legal Division (1:06:24)

a. Executive Session Minutes

Chair Maynard stated that he would take Agenda Items 9 and 10 before reading the executive session language as the Commission did not anticipate returning to the public meeting session after the executive session.

I. Executive Session (1:06:42)

Chair Maynard stated that the Commission anticipated that it would meet in executive session to review minutes from previous executive sessions as their discussion at an open meeting may frustrate the purpose for which the executive session was convened, pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) and G.L. c. 4, § 7(26)(f): May 8, 2023; G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(4): August 30, 2023 and September 13, 2023; G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(4) and (7) and G.L. c. 4, § 7(26)(n): September 21, 2023 at 9:30 A.M. and October 2, 2023 at 3:30 P.M.

Commissioner O'Brien moved that the Commission go into executive session on the matter and for the reasons just stated by the Chair. Commissioner Brodeur seconded the motion.

Roll call vote:
Commissioner O'Brien: Aye.
Commissioner Hill: Aye.
Commissioner Skinner: Aye.

Commissioner Brodeur: Aye.
Chair Maynard: Aye.
The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

9. [Commissioner Updates](#) (1:06:32)

Chair Maynard asked if there were any Commissioner updates and received no response.

10. [Other Business](#) (1:06:36)

Hearing no other business, the Commission returned to Agenda Item 8(a)(I).

List of Documents and Other Items Used

1. [Notice of Meeting and Agenda dated March 24, 2026.](#)
2. [Commissioner's Packet from the March 26, 2026, meeting \(posted on massgaming.com\).](#)