



Minimum Requirements for the Reintroduction of Roulette at the Category 1 Gaming Establishments

Background:

On June 23, 2020, the Commission approved the “Minimum Requirements for the Initial Phase 3 Opening of Gaming Establishments” in the Commonwealth. Item 10.c. of those Minimum Requirements provides that no craps or roulette are to be allowed “until further notice.” The two Category 1 Gaming Licensees, Encore Boston Harbor and MGM Springfield, have renewed their requests to reintroduce roulette at their respective gaming establishments at this time.¹ If approved by the Commission, the reintroduction of roulette shall be accompanied by the health and safety measures set forth below. It is noted that the measures below correspond with those required by the Commission for blackjack style tables, which are currently in operation.

Minimum Requirements for Roulette:

- a. There shall be a maximum of 3 players per roulette table.
- b. Players are required to remain seated while gambling.
- c. No patrons are permitted to stand or congregate around roulette tables.
- d. Players shall be separated by plexiglass barriers not less than 6 feet high, with a minimum of 4 feet separating seats, measured from the center of each chair.
- e. The dealer at each roulette table shall be separated by a plexiglass barrier not less than 6 feet high, with a pass-through opening of approximately 8 to 10 inches at the bottom.
- f. The roulette tables shall be configured in a manner consistent with the guidelines for the blackjack style tables already in operation, including the installation of the plexiglass barriers and the distancing between seats.
- g. Chips shall be sanitized each time they go to the cage, at a minimum on a daily basis.
- h. Hand sanitizers shall be available at each table.
- i. No more than 16 roulette tables are permitted at Encore Boston Harbor (maximum of 48 players with 3 players per table). No more than 7 roulette tables are permitted at MGM Springfield (maximum of 21 players with 3 players per table).
- j. Compliance with layout requirements shall be approved by the IEB before becoming operational.
- k. No increase in overall permitted occupancy of the gaming establishment is allowed over the limit set by the Commission on June 23, 2020, despite the addition of the roulette gaming positions.

¹ The Commission considered the licensees’ requests to reintroduce roulette at its open meeting on August 13, 2020, but declined to approve it at that time.

Temporary Change to Rules of the Game:

The reintroduction of roulette is accompanied by the following rule: *As a temporary rule in conjunction with Covid-19-related health and safety measures, all bets must be placed prior to the spin and a sign shall be placed at the table stating that no bets are allowed once the ball is in motion. The dealer shall wave their hand over the roulette layout prior to the spin and say in a clear and concise voice, "No more bets." While the ball is still rotating in the track around the wheel, the dealer shall call "No More Bets."*