

# BLACKJACK

## Rules

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### **1. Definitions**

The following words and terms, when used in this section, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

*Blackjack* - shall mean an ace and any card having a point value of 10 dealt as the initial two cards to a player or a dealer except that this shall not include an ace and a ten point value card dealt to a player who has split pairs.

*Card Reader* - Device is defined in equipment section (7) above.

*Dealer* - shall mean the person responsible for dealing the cards at a Blackjack table.

*Hard Total* - shall mean the total point count of a hand which contains no aces or which contains aces that are each counted as 1 in value.

*Pat hand* - shall mean a hand that has a value of hard 17 or better and does not require a hit.

*Soft Total* - shall mean the total point count of a hand containing an ace when the ace is counted as 11 in value.

### **2. Cards; number of decks; value of cards**

- (a) Blackjack shall be played with at least one deck of cards. All decks of cards used to play blackjack shall comply with the requirements of the gaming equipment regulations and, except as otherwise provided in this section, all decks of cards shall be identical in appearance. Blackjack shall also be played with one additional cut card which shall be opaque and in a solid color readily distinguishable from the color of the backs and edges of the playing cards in use at the table, as approved by the Commission. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the minimum number of decks used to play blackjack shall be:
- (1) Two, if the twenty point bonus wager authorized by Section 24 is offered;
  - (2) Four, if the additional wager authorized by Section 17(a)(3) or the '*progressive blackjack wager*' authorized by Section 19 is offered; or
  - (3) Six or eight, if the Match-the-Dealer wager authorized by Section 23 or the optional bonus wager authorized by Section 25 is offered.
- (b) The value of the cards contained in each deck shall be as follows:
- (1) Any card from 2 to 10 shall have its face value;
  - (2) Any Jack, Queen or King shall have a value of ten;
  - (3) An ace shall have a value of:

- (i) Eleven, unless that value would give a player or the dealer a score in excess of 21, in which case, it shall have a value of one; or
  - (ii) One, if the ace is one of the initial two cards dealt to a player in determination of the additional wager authorized by Section 17(a)(1); provided, however, that the value of such ace for all other purposes under this section shall be governed by (b)(3)(i) above.
- (c) If an automated card shuffling device is utilized, blackjack shall be played with at least two decks of cards in accordance with the following requirements:
- (1) The cards shall be separated into two batches, with an equal number of decks included in each batch;
  - (2) The cards in each batch shall be identical in appearance, but the backs of the cards in each batch shall be of a different color than the cards included in the other batch;
  - (3) One batch of cards shall be shuffled and stored in the automated card shuffling device while the other batch is being dealt or used to play the game;
  - (4) Both batches of cards shall be continuously alternated in and out of play, with each batch being used for every other dealing shoe; and
  - (5) The cards from only one batch shall be placed in the discard rack at any given time.

### **3. Wagers**

- (a) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player at the game of blackjack shall make a wager against the dealer which shall win if:
  - (1) The score of the player is 21 or less and the score of the dealer is in excess of 21;
  - (2) The score of the player exceeds that of the dealer without either exceeding 21; or
  - (3) The player has achieved a score of 21 in two cards and the dealer has achieved a score of 21 in more than two cards.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in Section 2(a)(2) above, a wager made in accordance with this section shall be void when the score of the player is the same as the dealer provided, however, that a player's wager shall be lost when the dealer has a blackjack and the player has a simple 21 which is not a blackjack.
- (c) Except as otherwise provided in this Section, no wager shall be made, increased or withdrawn after the first card of the respective round has been dealt.
- (d) All wagers at blackjack shall be made by placing gaming chips or plaques and, if applicable, a match play coupon on the appropriate areas of the blackjack layout, except that verbal wagers accompanied by cash may be accepted provided that they are confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor and that such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips or plaques in accordance with the internal control regulations.
- (e) After each round of play is complete, the dealer shall collect all losing wagers and pay off all winning wagers. All winning wagers made in accordance with (a) above shall be paid at odds of 1 to 1 with the exception of standard blackjack which shall be paid at odds of 3 to 2, or at odds of 6 to 5. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, a gaming

licensee may, in its discretion, offer one or more of the following payout odds for winning wagers made in accordance with (a) above, provided that the gaming licensee complies with the notice requirements set forth in 205 CMR 147.03:

- (1) Three cards consisting of the 6, 7 and 8 of the same suit shall be paid at odds of 2 to 1;
  - (2) Three cards consisting of three 7's of any suit shall be paid at odds of 3 to 2; and/or
  - (3) A single blackjack combination consisting of a specific ace and face card designated by the gaming licensee in accordance with 205 CMR 147.03 shall be paid at odds of 2 to 1;
  - (4) Five cards totaling 21 shall be paid at odds of 2 to 1.
- (f) Once the first card of any hand has been removed from the shoe by the dealer, no player shall handle, remove or alter any wagers that have been made until a decision has been rendered and implemented with respect to that wager except as explicitly permitted by these regulations.
- (g) Once a wager on the insurance line, a wager to double down or a wager to split pairs has been made and confirmed by the dealer, no player shall handle, remove or alter such wagers until a decision has been rendered and implemented with respect to that wager except as explicitly permitted by this Section.
- (h) No dealer or other gaming employee shall permit any player to engage in conduct that violates Section 3(f) or (g).
- (i) After the cards have been shuffled pursuant to Section 5, a gaming licensee may, in its discretion, prohibit any person, whether seated at the gaming table or not, who does not make a wager on a given round of play from placing a wager on the next round of play and any subsequent round of play at that gaming table unless the gaming licensee chooses to permit the player to begin wagering or until a reshuffle of the cards has occurred.
- (j) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section to the contrary, a player may, in accordance with Section 19, make a supplemental '*progressive blackjack wager*' at any blackjack table where that wager is offered either by depositing a \$1.00 gaming chip onto the acceptor device designated for that player or by redeeming a progressive wager coupon in accordance with the provisions of internal control regulations.

#### **4. Opening of table for gaming**

- (a) After receiving the one or more decks of cards at the table in accordance with the gaming equipment regulations, the dealer shall, as applicable, comply with the requirements of 205 CMR 146.
- (b) After the cards are inspected, the cards shall be spread out face upwards on the table for visual inspection by the first player or players to arrive at the table. The cards shall be spread out in horizontal fan shaped columns by deck according to suit and in sequence. The cards in each suit shall be laid out in sequence within the suit.

- (c) After the first player or players is afforded an opportunity to visually inspect the cards, the cards shall be turned face downward on the table, mixed thoroughly by a "washing" or a "chemmy shuffle" of the cards and stacked.
- (d) If an automated shuffling device is utilized, all the decks in one batch of cards shall be spread for inspection on the table separate from the decks in the other batch of cards. After the player or players is afforded an opportunity to visually inspect the cards, each batch of cards shall separately be turned face downward on the table and stacked.

## **5. Shuffle and cut of the cards**

- (a) Immediately prior to commencement of play, unless the cards were pre-shuffled pursuant to the gaming equipment regulations, after any round of play as may be determined by the gaming licensee and after each shoe of cards is dealt, the dealer shall shuffle the cards so that they are randomly intermixed.
- (b) After the cards have been shuffled, the dealer shall perform one of the following options. The dealer will offer the stack of cards, with backs facing away from them to the players to be cut, or at the casino's discretion, the dealer will cut the stack of cards for the table.
- (c) The player designated by subsection (e) of this section shall cut the cards by placing the cut card in the stack at least a deck in from either end.
- (d) Once the cut card has been inserted by the player or dealer, the dealer shall take all cards in front of the cut card and place them to the back of the stack. The dealer shall then take the entire stack of cards that was just shuffled and align them along the side of the dealing shoe which has the mark required by the gaming equipment regulations. Thereafter, the dealer shall insert the cut card in the stack at a position at least approximately one-quarter of the way in from the back of the stack. The stack of cards shall then be inserted into the dealing shoe for commencement of play.
- (e) The player to cut the cards shall be:
  - (1) The first player to the table if the game is just beginning;
  - (2) The player on whose box the cut card appeared during the last round of play;
  - (3) The player at the farthest point to the right of the dealer if the cut card appeared on the dealer's hand during the last round of play.
  - (4) The player at the farthest point to the right of the dealer if the reshuffle was initiated at the discretion of the gaming licensee.
- (f) If the player designated in subsection (e) of this section refuses the cut, the cards shall be offered to each other player moving counterclockwise around the table until a player accepts the cut. If no player accepts the cut, the dealer shall cut the cards.
- (g) After the cards have been cut and before any cards have been dealt, a casino supervisor may require the cards to be recut if he or she determines that the cut was performed improperly or in any way that might affect the integrity or fairness of the game. If a recut is required, the

cards shall be recut, at the gaming licensee's option, by the player who last cut the cards, or by the next person entitled to cut the cards, as determined by section (f) above.

- (h) A reshuffle of the cards in the shoe shall take place after the cut card is reached in the shoe as provided for in Section 6(k) except that, the gaming licensee may determine after each round of play that the cards should be reshuffled.
- (i) If there is no gaming activity at a blackjack table which is open for gaming, the cards shall be removed from the dealing shoe and the discard rack and spread out on the table for inspection.
  - (1) If there is no automated shuffling device in use, the cards shall be mixed thoroughly by a washing or chemmy shuffle of the cards, stacked, then shuffled and cut in accordance with this section.
  - (2) If an automated shuffling device is in use, the cards shall be stacked and placed into the automated shuffling device to be shuffled. The batch of cards already in the shuffler shall then be removed. Unless a player so requests, the batch of cards removed from the shuffler need not be spread for inspection and reshuffled prior to being dealt, if:
    - (i) The automated card shuffling device stores a single batch of shuffled cards inside the shuffler in a secure manner approved by the Commission; and
    - (ii) The shuffled cards have been secured, released, and prepared for play in accordance with procedures approved by the Commission.
- (j) A gaming licensee may submit to the IEB for approval proposed shuffle, cut card placement, number of cut cards (to include shuffle techniques without the use of any cut cards), location of where the shuffle takes place, who is responsible for shuffling, shuffling equipment (dealing shoes or other dealing devices) and burn card procedures.
- (k) When the licensee is using a manual shuffle, the following steps will be incorporated into their shuffle procedure.
  - (1) The “plug” is a method for inserting unused cards from behind the cut card into the cards in the discard tray. This is usually the first step.
  - (2) The “riffle” is when the cards are divided into two piles and interlaced.
  - (3) The “turn” involves dividing the shoe into two stacks and rotating one stack 180 degrees before riffling the stacks together.
  - (4) The “strip” also known as running cuts. The strip should not occur before at least two riffles have taken place.
  - (5) The “cut” is the final step before the cards are put back into the shoe. This ensures that the top card cannot be identified if it was accidentally exposed during the other steps.

## **6. Procedure for dealing of cards**

- (a) All cards used to game at blackjack shall be dealt from a dealing shoe specifically designed for such purpose.

- (b) Each dealer shall remove cards from the shoe with his left hand, turn them face upwards, and then place them on the appropriate area of the layout with his right hand, except that the dealer has the option to deal hit cards to the first two positions with their left hand. Cards will be dealt so as not to expose the hole card or any other face down cards in a manner that cannot be readily observed by someone attempting to ascertain their value.
- (c) After each full set of cards is placed in the shoe, the dealer shall remove the first card there from face downwards and place it in the discard rack. Each new dealer who comes to the table shall also burn one card as described herein before the new dealer deals any cards to the players. Each gaming licensee may, at its discretion, offer its patrons the option to not burn this card when a new dealer comes to the game. The burn card shall be disclosed if requested by the player.
- (d) At the commencement of each round of play and either burned or used as the player's first card, the dealer shall, starting on his left and continuing around the table, deal the cards in the following order:
  - (1) One card face upwards to each box on the layout in which a wager is contained;
  - (2) One card face upwards to himself;
  - (3) A second card face upwards to each box in which a wager is contained.
- (e) After two cards have been dealt to each player and the appropriate number to the dealer, the dealer shall, beginning from his left, announce the point total of each player. As each player's point total is announced, such player shall indicate whether he wishes to surrender, double down, split pairs, stand or draw, as provided for by this chapter.
- (f) As each player indicates his decision(s), the dealer shall deal face upwards whatever additional cards are necessary to effectuate such decision consistent with these regulations and shall announce the new point total of such player after each additional card is dealt.
- (g) After the decisions of each player have been implemented and all additional cards have been dealt, the dealer shall deal a second card face upward to himself provided, however, that such card shall not be removed from the dealing shoe until the dealer has first announced "Dealer's Card" which shall be stated by the dealer in a tone of voice calculated to be heard by each person at the table. Any additional cards authorized to be dealt to the hand of the dealer by Section 12(b) shall be dealt face upwards at this time after which the dealer shall announce his total point count. In lieu of the requirements of this paragraph, the procedures set forth in (i) or (j) below may be implemented.
- (h) At the conclusion of a round of play, all cards still remaining on the layout shall be picked up by the dealer in order and in such a way that they can be readily arranged to indicate each player's hand in case of question or dispute. The dealer shall pick up the cards beginning with those of the player to their far right and moving counterclockwise around the table. After all the players' cards have been collected the dealer shall pick up their cards against the bottom of the players' cards and place them in the discard rack.
- (i) In lieu of the procedures set forth in (g) above, a gaming licensee may permit a blackjack dealer to deal their hole card face downward after a second card in a manner as to not

disclose the value of the card and before additional cards are dealt to the players provided that said dealer not look at the face of their hole card until after all other cards requested by the players pursuant to those regulations are dealt to them. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a gaming licensee elects to utilize a card reader device and the dealer's first card is an ace, king, queen, jack or 10 of any suit, the dealer shall determine whether the hole card will give the dealer a blackjack prior to dealing any additional cards to the players at the table, in accordance with procedures approved by the Commission. The dealer shall insert the hole card into the card reader device by moving the card face down on the layout without exposing it to anyone, including the dealer, at the table.

- (1) If the dealer has a blackjack, no additional cards shall be dealt and each player's wager shall be settled in accordance with Sections 3, 7 and 20.
  - (2) The alternative dealing procedure described in this subsection shall not be used at any blackjack table which offers the '*progressive blackjack wager*' authorized by Section 19.
  - (3) If a gaming licensee offers the additional wager authorized by Section 17(a)(3) at a blackjack table that has a card reader device and the dealer has a blackjack, the dealer shall, starting from their left, offer any player that has been dealt two sevens as their initial two cards an additional card to complete the hand on which the additional wager has been made.
- (j) In lieu of the procedures set forth in (g) above, a gaming licensee may permit a blackjack dealer to deal their hole card face upward after a second card and before additional cards are dealt to the players, provided that the gaming licensee complies with the notice requirements set forth in 205 CMR 147.03. The alternative dealing procedure described in this subsection shall not be used at any blackjack table which offers the '*progressive blackjack wager*' authorized by Section 19. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the following rules shall apply whenever cards used to game at blackjack are dealt in accordance with this subsection:
- (1) Winning wagers shall be determined in accordance with Section 3(a) and (b), provided, however, that a player's wager shall be lost if the score of the player is the same as the dealer, except that a player's wager shall win if both the player and dealer have blackjack;
  - (2) Winning wagers shall be paid in accordance with Section 3(e), except that standard blackjack shall be paid at odds of 1 to 1;
  - (3) Surrender, pursuant to Section 8, and insurance wagers, pursuant to Section 9, shall not be available;
  - (4) A player may double down, pursuant to Section 10, only on a point count of 9, 10 or 11;
  - (5) Any player who elects to split cards of identical value, pursuant to Section 11, may not split pairs again if the second card so dealt is identical in value to a card of the split pair; and
  - (6) If the dealer has a blackjack, no additional cards shall be dealt and each player's wager shall be settled in accordance with Sections 3 and 7; provided however, if a casino elects to offer the additional wager authorized by Section 17(a)(3) and the dealer has blackjack, the dealer shall, starting from their left, offer each player that has been dealt two sevens as their initial two cards an additional card to complete the hand on which the additional wager has been made.
- (k) Whenever the cut card is reached in the deal of the cards, the dealer shall continue dealing

the cards until that round of play is completed after which the dealer shall:

- (1) Collect the cards as provided in (h) above;
  - (2) Prepare to shuffle the cards, as follows whenever a single dealing shoe is used, the dealer shall remove the cards remaining in the shoe and place them in the discard rack to ensure that no cards are missing.
- (m) No player or spectator shall handle, remove or alter any cards used to game at blackjack except as explicitly permitted by these regulations and no dealer or other gaming employee shall permit a player or spectator to engage in such activity.
- (n) Each player at the table shall be responsible for correctly computing the point count of their hand and no player shall rely on the point counts required to be announced by the dealer under this section without themselves checking the accuracy of such announcement.

### **7. Payment of blackjack; even-money payout option for certain insurance wagers**

- (a) If the first face up card dealt to the dealer is a 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9 and a player has blackjack, the dealer shall announce and pay the blackjack at odds of 3 to 2 or 6 to 5 and, unless the player has also made a blackjack bonus wager pursuant to Section 20, shall remove the player's cards before any player receives a third card.
- (b) If the first face up card dealt to the dealer is an Ace, King, Queen, Jack or Ten and a player has a blackjack, the dealer shall announce the blackjack but shall make no payment nor remove any cards until all other cards are dealt to the players and the dealer receives his second card. If, in such circumstances, the dealer's second card does not give them blackjack, the player having blackjack shall be paid at odds of 3 to 2 or 6 to 5. If, however, the dealer's second card gives them blackjack, the wager of the player having blackjack shall be void and constitute a standoff.
- (c) If the first face up card dealt to the dealer is an Ace and a player has blackjack, a gaming licensee may, notwithstanding (b) above and before any additional cards are dealt, offer the player the option to be paid at odds of 1 to 1 on the blackjack wager instead of making an insurance wager pursuant to Section 9. If the gaming licensee chooses to offer the even-money payout option authorized by this subsection, notice shall be provided by the gaming licensee in accordance with 205 CMR 147.03.
- (d) If the licensee chooses the option to pay a blackjack at odd of 6 to 5 then Section 7(c) above is void.

### **8. Surrender**

- (a) After the first two cards are dealt to the player and the player's point total is announced, the player may elect to discontinue play on his hand for that round by surrendering one-half their wager. All decisions to surrender shall be made prior to such player indicating as to whether they wish to double down, split pairs, stand, and/or draw as provided for in this section.



- (1) Should the first card dealt to the dealer be other than an ace or ten-value card, the dealer shall immediately collect one-half of the wager and return one-half to the player.
  - (2) Should the first card dealt to the dealer be an ace or ten-value card, the dealer will place the player's wager on top of the player's cards. When the dealer's second card is revealed, the hand will be settled by immediately collecting the entire wager should the dealer have blackjack or collecting one-half of the wager and returning one-half of the wager to the player should the dealer not have blackjack.
- (b) If the player has made an insurance wager and then elects to surrender, each wager will be settled separately as provided for above and in accordance with Section 9 and one will have no bearing on the other.
- (c) Each gaming licensee may, at its discretion, offer its patrons the surrender option authorized in this section, except that when a gaming licensee offers the rule variation multiple action blackjack pursuant to Section 18, or the '*progressive blackjack wager*' pursuant to Section 19, the surrender option shall not be available. A gaming licensee shall not initiate or terminate the use of the surrender option at a table unless the gaming licensee complies with the notice requirements set forth in 205 CMR 147.03.

## **9. Insurance wagers**

- (a) Whenever the first card dealt to the dealer is an ace, each player shall have the right to make an insurance bet which, except as otherwise provided in Section 7(c), shall win if the dealer's second card is a King, Queen, Jack or 10 and shall lose if the dealer's second card is an ace, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9.
- (b) An insurance bet may be made by placing on the insurance line of the layout an amount not more than half the amount staked on the player's initial wager, except that a player may bet an amount in excess of half the initial wager to the next unit that can be wagered in chips, when because of the limitation of the value of chip denominations, half the initial wager cannot be bet. If a card reader device is not in use, all insurance wagers shall be placed immediately after the second card is dealt to each player and prior to any additional cards being dealt to any player at the table except, at the discretion of the gaming licensee, a player may place an insurance wager immediately prior to such player indicating whether they wishes to double down, split pairs, stand, and/or draw as provided for in this section and prior to any additional cards being dealt, provided that the gaming licensee complies with the notice requirements set forth in 205 CMR 147.03. If a card reader device is in use, all insurance wagers shall be placed prior to the dealer inserting their hole card into the card reader device.
- (c) All winning insurance wagers shall be paid at odds of 2 to 1.
- (d) All losing insurance wagers shall be collected by the dealer immediately after they draw their second face up card or discloses their hole card and before they draw any additional cards.
- (e) Insurance wagers shall not apply to the '*progressive blackjack wager*' permitted pursuant to

Section 19.

- (f) An insurance wager does not apply to any of the additional wagers permitted pursuant to Section 17(a).

### **10. Doubling down**

- (a) Except for blackjack or a point count of twenty-one in two cards, a player may elect to double down, that is, make an additional wager not in excess of the amount of their original wager, on the first two cards dealt to them or the first two cards of any split pair on the condition that one and only one additional card shall be dealt to the hand on which they have elected to double down.
- (b) If a dealer obtains blackjack after a player doubles down, the dealer shall only collect the amount of the original wager of such player and shall not collect the additional amount wagered in doubling down.
- (c) Upon a player's election to double down as authorized by this section, the dealer shall deal the one additional card face upwards. Notwithstanding the foregoing or any other provision of this section, a gaming licensee may, at its discretion, require the dealer at one or more blackjack tables to deal the one additional card face down or, alternatively, permit a player to request that their one additional card be dealt face down. If the face down dealing procedure is implemented at a particular table upon the request of a player, the procedure shall, commencing with the next round of play, be offered to all players at that table. Regardless of the dealing procedure in effect, the one additional card shall be placed sideways on the layout. The gaming licensee shall post a notice of any optional dealing procedure in effect at a particular table and identify its choice of dealing procedure under this subsection in its approved gaming submission as either: face up at all tables, face down at designated table(s) or face down at the request of a player. If the one additional card is dealt face down, such card shall be turned face upward after the dealer has drawn additional cards to their hand in accordance with Section 12(b) and at such time as the player's wagers are to be settled in rotation at the conclusion of the round of play.

### **11. Splitting pairs**

- (a) Whenever the initial two cards dealt to a player are identical in value, the player may elect to split the hand into two separate hands provided that they makes a wager on the second hand so formed in an amount equal to their original wager.
- (b) When a player splits pairs, the dealer shall deal a card to and complete the player's decisions with respect to the first incomplete hand on the dealer's left before proceeding to deal any cards to any other hand.
- (c) After a second card is dealt to a split pair, the dealer shall announce the point total of such hand and the player shall indicate their decision to stand, draw or double down with respect

thereto except that:

- (1) A player may not split pairs again if the second card so dealt is identical in value to a card of the split pair; and
  - (2) A player splitting aces shall only have one card dealt to each ace and may not elect to receive additional cards.
- (d) If the dealer obtains blackjack after a player splits pairs, the dealer shall only collect the amount of the original wager of such player and shall not collect the additional amount wagered in splitting pairs.
- (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of (c)(1) above, a gaming licensee may, at its discretion, permit a player to split pairs up to three times (a total of four hands) at a blackjack table with up to six player boxes or twice (a total of three hands) at a blackjack table with seven player boxes if notice of the option is provided as set forth in 205 CMR 147.03, except that this option shall not be available in games in which the rule variation multiple action blackjack is available pursuant to Section 18. If a gaming licensee elects to offer the option of splitting pairs more than once, it may, at its discretion, prohibit a player from splitting a pair of aces more than once (a total of two hands) if notice is provided as set forth in 205 CMR 147.03. All other requirements of this section shall apply to each hand which is formed as a result of splitting pairs more than once.
- (f) If a player has made the additional wager authorized by Section 17(a)(3), is dealt two sevens as their initial two cards and elects to split the pair of sevens, the dealer shall announce that the player is splitting sevens and forfeiting any potential payout for three sevens. The player shall be paid for the additional winning wager prior to any additional cards being dealt to either of the split hands.

## **12. Drawing of additional cards by players and the dealer**

- (a) A player may elect to draw additional cards whenever his point count total is less than 21 except that:
- (1) A player having blackjack or a hard or soft total of 21 may not draw additional cards;
  - (2) A player electing to double down shall draw one and only one additional card;
  - (3) A player splitting aces shall only have one card dealt to each ace and may not elect to receive additional cards.
- (b) Except as provided in (c) below, a dealer shall draw additional cards to their hand in accordance with one of the following options:
- (1) The dealer shall draw additional cards until they have a hard or soft total of 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21; or
  - (2) The dealer shall draw additional cards until they have:
    - (i) A hard total of 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21; or
    - (ii) A soft total of 18, 19, 20 or 21.

- (c) Except as provided in Section 25(d), a dealer shall draw no additional cards to their hand, regardless of the point count, if decisions have been made on all players' hands and the point count of the dealer's hand will have no effect on the outcome of the round of play.

### **13. More than one player wagering on a box**

- (a) Unless otherwise directed by the Commission, a gaming licensee may permit from one to three people to wager on any one box of the blackjack layout provided that the first person wagering on that box consent to additional players wagering on such box and provided further that the gaming licensee adhere to such procedures and limitations imposed by the Commission as dictated by the particular circumstances. This option may not be used at any blackjack table which offers the progressive blackjack wager authorized by Section 19.
- (b) Whenever more than one player wagers on a box, the player who is seated at that box shall have the exclusive right to call the decision with regard to the cards dealt to such box. In the case of no seated player, the person with the highest wager in the box shall have such right.
- (c) The player calling the decisions with respect to any box shall place their wager in that portion of the box closest to the dealer's side of the table and all other players wagering on such box shall place their wagers immediately behind and in a vertical line with the aforementioned wager.
- (d) Whenever more than one player is wagering on a box and the player calling the decisions decides to double down, the other players may also double their wagers but shall not be required to do so. In any event, only one additional card shall be dealt to the hand that is subject to the double down decision.
- (e) Whenever more than one player is wagering on a box and the player calling the decisions decides to split pairs, the other players shall either make an additional wager as provided for in Section 11 to cover each split pair or designate which of the split pairs they wish their initial wager to apply.
- (f) Whenever more than one player is wagering on a box, each player shall have the right to make an insurance bet in accordance with Section 9 regardless of whether the other players on that box make such a bet.
- (g) The Commission and its agents shall have the discretion and authority to limit, control and regulate the implementation of this section as is appropriate under the circumstances which shall include, without limitation, the right to limit the number of tables at which this procedure is permitted, the right to limit the number of boxes at each table on which more than one person can wager and the right to require the gaming licensee to establish the ability of its dealers to implement this section.

### **14. A player wagering on more than one box**

A player may only wager on one box at a blackjack table unless the gaming licensee, in its

discretion, permits the player to wager on additional boxes.

## **15. Irregularities**

- (a) In any table game when a card is delivered incorrectly the card will not under any circumstances be placed backwards on the game. As stated in the irregularities sections of the specific game the card will move forward or then be used as the dealer's next card or burned. The licensee will have the option to allow one or more players out of the hand when the dealer is found to make this error.
- (b) A card found turned face upwards in the shoe shall not be used in the game and shall be placed in the discard rack.
- (c) A card drawn in error without its face being exposed shall be used as though it were the next card from the shoe.
- (d) After the initial two cards have been dealt to each player and a card is drawn in error and exposed to the players, such card shall be dealt to the players or dealer as though it were the next card from the shoe. Any player refusing to accept such card shall not have any additional cards dealt to them during such round. If the card is refused by the players and the dealer cannot use the card, the card shall be burned.
- (e) If the dealer has a pat hand and accidentally draws a card for themselves, such card shall be burned.
- (f) If the dealer misses dealing their first or second card to themselves, the dealer shall continue dealing the first two cards to each player, and then deal the appropriate number of cards to themselves.
- (g) If there are insufficient cards remaining in the shoe to complete a round of play, all of the cards in the discard rack shall be shuffled and cut according to the procedures outlined in Section 5, the first card shall be drawn face downwards and burned, and the dealer shall complete the round of play.
- (h) If no cards are dealt to the player's hand, the hand is dead and the player shall be included in the next deal. If only one card is dealt to the player's hand, at the player's option, the dealer shall deal the second card to the player after all other players have received a second card.
- (i) If after receiving the first two cards and the dealer fails to deal an additional card(s) to a player who has requested such a card, then, at the player's option, the dealer shall either deal the additional card(s) after all other players have received their additional cards but prior to the dealer revealing their hole card, or call the player's hand dead and return the player's original wager.
- (j) If the dealer inserts their hole card into a card reader device when the value of their first card is not an ace, king, queen, jack or 10, the dealer, after notification to a casino supervisor,

shall:

- (1) If the particular card reader device in use provides any player with the opportunity to determine the value of the hole card, call all hands dead, collect the cards and return each player's wager; or
  - (2) If the particular card reader device in use does not provide any player with the opportunity to determine the value of the hole card, continue play.
- (k) If a card reader device malfunctions the dealer may only continue dealing the game of blackjack at that table using the dealing procedures applicable when a card reader device is not in use.
- (l) If the dealer fails to move their original face up card to the area of the layout designated for the second or third hand of the round in accordance with Section 18, the round shall continue as if the original face up card was moved to the appropriate area of the layout.
- (m) If the dealer inadvertently picks up their original face up card and places it in the discard rack prior to the completion of the second or third hand of multiple action blackjack, the dealer shall immediately notify a casino supervisor assigned to that table. The casino supervisor shall remove the appropriate cards from the discard rack and reconstruct the last hand of play so as to determine the dealer's original face up card. The original face up card shall be placed in the appropriate area on the layout, and the remaining cards shall be returned to the discard rack. Play shall resume in accordance with the rules of this chapter.
- (n) If the light at a player's betting area on a blackjack table which offers the progressive blackjack wager is not operating properly, no progressive wager shall be permitted in that betting area.
- (o) If the bonus blackjack system fails to select or display a payout amount when the bonus blackjack button is pressed, and the amount of the payout cannot be ascertained by a casino supervisor from the table controller or otherwise, the patron's wager shall be paid at 21-to-1.
- (p) If a gaming licensee implements the procedure by which one additional card is dealt face down to a hand on which a player has elected to double down pursuant to Section 10(c) and the dealer inadvertently deals such card face upwards, play shall continue and the player's wagers shall be resolved in completion of the round of play.
- (q) If the dealer mistakenly forgets to burn a card the hand will continue as if no mistake had been made.

#### **16. Five cards totaling 21 rule**

- (a) Whenever a player has achieved a score of 21 in five cards and the dealer has not achieved a blackjack or a score of 21, the winning hand shall be paid at odds of 2 to 1.
- (b) If the player has achieved a score of 21 in five cards and the dealer has blackjack, the player's wager shall be settled in accordance with Section 3(b). If the player has achieved a score of

21 in five cards and the dealer has achieved a score of 21 in three or more cards, the player's wager shall be considered void and said wager shall be returned to the player.

- (c) A gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer to all patrons at a blackjack table the five cards totaling 21 option authorized in this section, provided that the gaming licensee complies with the notice requirements set forth in 205 CMR 147.03 prior to withdrawing the offer of this option.

### **17. Permissible additional wagers**

- (a) A gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer to all players at a blackjack table that does not offer the '*progressive blackjack wager*' authorized by Section 19 the option to make one of the following additional wagers provided that the gaming licensee complies with the notice requirements set forth in 205 CMR 147.03 prior to withdrawing the offer of this option:
  - (1) A wager on whether the player's initial two cards shall have a point total either greater than or less than 13;
  - (2) A wager on whether the player's initial two cards shall be of the same suit; or
  - (3) A wager on whether one or more of the player's initial three cards shall be a seven. The additional wager shall be \$1.00.
- (b) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player shall make a wager against the dealer as required by Section 3(a) and (d) and, if given an option to make an additional wager, shall also indicate whether they wish to wager, as applicable, that:
  - (1) The point total of the player's initial two cards shall exceed 13, which wager shall win if the point total does exceed 13;
  - (2) The point total of the player's initial two cards shall be less than 13, which wager shall win if the point total is less than 13;
  - (3) The player's initial two cards shall be of the same suit, which wager shall win if the initial two cards are of the same suit; or
  - (4) One or more of the player's initial three cards shall be a seven, which wager shall win if one or more of the initial three cards dealt to the player is a seven.
- (c) An additional wager made pursuant to (a)(1) above shall be lost when the point total of the player's initial two cards equals 13.
- (d) All losing additional wagers shall be collected by the dealer immediately after the second card is dealt to each player and prior to any additional cards being dealt to any player at the table,
- (e) All winning additional wagers shall be paid immediately after the second card is dealt to each player and prior to any additional cards being dealt to any player at the table. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a wager authorized by (a)(3) above is a winning wager because the player has received two sevens as the initial two cards dealt to their hand, the winning wager shall be paid immediately after the player elects to draw an additional card, surrender, stand, double down or split pairs. All winning additional wagers shall be paid at the following odds:

- (1) For wagers made pursuant to Section 17(a)(1) above, one to one; or
- (2) For wagers made pursuant to Section 17(a)(2) above, depending on the number of decks in use at the table and the cards received by the player, in accordance with one of the following options as selected by the gaming licensee; provided, however, that notice of the payout option selected by the gaming licensee or any change thereto shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of 205 CMR 147.03; and provided further, however, that the same payout option shall be used by a gaming licensee at all blackjack tables which use the same number of decks of cards:

(i) Single Deck Blackjack Tables:

<b>Initial Two Cards</b>	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>	<b>Option 3</b>	<b>Option 4</b>
<b>King and queen</b>	50 to 1	10 to 1	5 to 1	25 to 1
<b>Any two cards</b>	2.5 to 1	3 to 1	3 to 1	2.5 to 1

(ii) Two Deck Blackjack Tables:

<b>Initial Two Cards</b>	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>	<b>Option 3</b>	<b>Option 4</b>
<b>King and queen</b>	10 to 1	5 to 1	25 to 1	20 to 1
<b>Any two cards</b>	3 to 1	3 to 1	2.5 to 1	2.5 to 1

(iii) Four Deck Blackjack Tables:

<b>Initial Two Cards</b>	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>	<b>Option 3</b>	<b>Option 4</b>
<b>King and queen</b>	5 to 1	25 to 1	20 to 1	50 to 1
<b>Any two cards</b>	3 to 1	2.5 to 1	2.5 to 1	2 to 1

(iv) Six Deck Blackjack Tables:

<b>Initial Two Cards</b>	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>	<b>Option 3</b>	<b>Option 4</b>
<b>King and queen</b>	5 to 1	25 to 1	20 to 1	15 to 1
<b>Any two cards</b>	3 to 1	2.5 to 1	2.5 to 1	2.5 to 1

(v) Eight Deck Blackjack Tables:

<b>Initial Two Cards</b>	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>	<b>Option 3</b>
<b>King and queen</b>	5 to 1	25 to 1	50 to 1
<b>Any two cards</b>	3 to 1	2.5 to 1	2 to 1

- (3) For wagers made pursuant to (a)(3) above, the player shall be paid only for the highest winning payout below:



Hand	Payout Odds
<b>Three sevens of the same suit</b>	5000 to 1
<b>Three sevens of any suit</b>	500 to 1
<b>Two sevens of the same suit (initial two cards)</b>	100 to 1
<b>Two sevens of any suit (initial two cards)</b>	50 to 1
<b>One seven (initial card)</b>	3 to 1

- (f) An additional wager shall be made by placing gaming chips or plaques and, if applicable, a match play coupon on the appropriate area of the blackjack layout, except that a verbal wager accompanied by cash may be accepted provided that it is confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor at the table prior to the first card being dealt to any player and such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips or plaques in accordance with internal control regulations.
- (g) Any additional wager made pursuant to this section shall not exceed the lesser of:
- (1) The amount of the blackjack wager made by the player pursuant to Section 3(a) and (d);  
or
  - (2) A maximum limit established by the gaming licensee.
- (h) A gaming licensee shall post the maximum limit of the additional wager, as established in (g) above, in accordance with 205 CMR 147.03.
- (i) An additional wager shall have no bearing on any other wager made by the player at the game of blackjack.

### **18. Multiple action blackjack rule**

- (a) A gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer to every player at a blackjack table the option to make either two or three separate wagers on the outcome of the players hand against either two or three separate hands of the dealer which shall be formed with the dealer's original face up card, provided that the gaming licensee complies with the notice requirements set forth in 205 CMR 147.03 prior to withdrawing the offer of this option. This option may not be used at any blackjack table which offers the progressive blackjack wager authorized by Section 19, the blackjack bonus wager authorized by Section 20, the streak wager authorized by Section 22, the Match-the-Dealer wager authorized by Section 23, the twenty point bonus wager authorized by Section 24, or the optional bonus wager authorized by Section 25, or the in-between wager authorized by Section 26, or the 21+3 wager authorized by Section 28, or the king's bounty sidebet wager authorized by Section 29.
- (b) Prior to the first card being dealt for the first of the three rounds of play, each player shall be required to make two or three wagers against the dealer as required by Section 3(a) and (d) by placing the wagers in the designated betting areas on the layout. A gaming licensee may, in its discretion, require every player to place a wager against all three of the dealer's hands.

The minimum number of wagers required and the minimum and maximum limits for each wager shall be posted at the table in accordance with 205 CMR 147.03.

- (c) After all wagers have been placed, the dealer shall deal the cards in accordance with Section 6(e). As each player's point total is announced, the player shall indicate whether they wish to double down, split pairs, stand or draw as provided for by this section, except that, a decision to double down or split pairs shall require an additional wager for each wager placed by the player in accordance with (b) above.
- (d) Any player may elect to make an insurance wager pursuant to Section 9 on any or all of their wagers made in accordance with (b) above. Such wager or wagers shall be decided individually based on the second card dealt to each of the dealer's hands.
- (e) After the decisions of all players have been implemented and all additional cards have been dealt, the dealer shall deal a second card to their original face up card in accordance with Section 6(h) and any additional cards required by Section 12(b).
- (f) Once all wagers on the dealer's first hand have been decided, the dealer shall collect all losing wagers and pay off all winning wagers based on wagers placed in the first spot of each player's betting area, except that all of a player's wagers shall be collected along with their cards when that player's hand exceeds a hard total of 21. The dealer shall collect all of their cards and place them face down in the discard rack in accordance with one of the following:
  - (1) If the hand of each player at the table has exceeded a hard total of 21, the dealer shall draw no additional cards pursuant to Section 12 and the dealer shall collect all of their cards including their original face up card; or
  - (2) If a wager remains on the second or third spot of a player's betting area, the dealer shall then collect all of their cards except their original face up card.
- (g) If the dealer's cards have been collected and discarded in accordance with (f)(2) above, the dealer shall move their original face up card to the area of the layout designated for the dealer's second hand and shall deal a second card to their original face up card in accordance with Section 6(h) and any additional cards required by Section 12(b).
- (h) Once all wagers on the dealer's second hand have been decided, the dealer shall collect all losing wagers and pay off all winning wagers based on wagers placed in the second spot of each player's betting area. The dealer shall then collect all of their cards except their original face up card and place them face down in the discard rack. The dealer shall then move their original face up card to the area of the layout designated for the dealer's third hand and shall deal a second card to their original face up card in accordance with Section 6(g) and any additional cards required by Section 12(b), except that if no player has made a third wager the round shall be concluded in accordance with (j) below.
- (i) Once all wagers on the dealer's third hand have been decided, the dealer shall collect all losing wagers and pay off all winning wagers based on wagers placed in the third spot of each player's betting area.

- (j) At the conclusion of the third hand, all cards still remaining on the layout shall be picked up in accordance with Section 6(h).

**19. Progressive blackjack wager payouts; Super 4 Progressive Blackjack Wager Stax; Super 4 Progressive Blackjack Wager; Blazing 7's Progressive rules**

Please **note** there is a '*progressive blackjack wager*' that has been reference previously in the rules of the game of blackjack. This wager which is italicized previously is a specific progressive with the name '*progressive blackjack wager*' and is not referencing all other progressive blackjack wagers that are listed in this section.

- (a) If a blackjack table includes the equipment that is required by internal control submission and the gaming equipment regulations to offer the '*progressive blackjack wager*', a gaming licensee may give each player at that blackjack table the option to make an additional one dollar wager on whether the player will be dealt any of the designated series of cards set forth in (d) below. This wager shall be known as the '*progressive blackjack wager*'.
- (b) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player may make a '*progressive blackjack wager*' by placing a one-dollar gaming chip in the designated chip acceptor device at their betting position. Once such wagers have been placed, a light shall then illuminate at each betting position at which a '*progressive blackjack wager*' has been made. In accordance with the gaming equipment regulations the dealer shall ensure that only one '*progressive blackjack wager*' has been made for each light that is illuminated and shall verify that the number of gaming chips wagered equals the number of lights illuminated. The dealer shall then announce, "no more bets" and register the progressive wagers on the progressive meter and reset meter, if applicable. The dealer shall then deal the hand to all players in accordance with Section 6.
- (c) A player who has placed a '*progressive blackjack wager*' shall win the specified payout if they receive any of the following combinations of cards:

Winning Hand	Payout
Four black or four red aces in the first four cards	100% of the progressive meter amount
Three aces of the same suit in the first three cards	\$2,500.00
Any three aces in the first three cards	\$250.00
Two aces of the same suit in the first two cards	\$100.00
Any two aces in the first two cards	\$25.00

- (d) A '*progressive blackjack wager*' shall have no bearing on any other wager made by a player at the game of blackjack and shall be paid irrespective of the point total of the hand of the dealer.
- (e) A winning player shall receive the payout for only the highest possible progressive blackjack hand.

- (f) A player shall only be permitted to make a ‘*progressive blackjack wager*’ if they have placed a blackjack wager in compliance with Section 3(a) and (d).
- (g) Prior to making a payout for a winning ‘*progressive blackjack wager*’, the dealer shall:
- (1) Verify that the player has received a winning combination of cards;
  - (2) Verify that the appropriate light on the acceptor device has been illuminated; and
  - (3) Have a casino supervisor validate the progressive blackjack payout pursuant to approved internal control procedures.
- (h) All winning ‘*progressive blackjack wagers*’ shall be paid in accordance with the amount on the primary meter when the player's regular blackjack wager is settled pursuant to Section 3(e), provided, however, if more than one player at a table has four black or four red aces on the first four cards, each player shall share equally in the amount on the progressive meter when the first player with four aces is to be paid. If a player has won a progressive payout which is not being paid from the table inventory container, the cards of that player shall not be collected until the necessary documentation has been completed pursuant to internal control regulations.
- (i) The rate of progression for the progressive meter or, if applicable, the reset meter and progressive meter combined, shall be no less than 70 percent for the ‘*progressive blackjack wagers*’. The initial amount placed on the progressive meter by the gaming licensee and the portion of the reset amount funded by the gaming licensee shall be established by each gaming licensee and approved pursuant to internal control regulations. In no instance shall the initial amount on the progressive meter or the reset amount funded by the gaming licensee be less than \$5,000.
- (j) A gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer to all players at a blackjack table that does not offer the ‘*progressive blackjack wager*’ authorized above the option to wager on a Super 4 Progressive Blackjack Wager Stax, or any other approved progressive wager. Super 4 Progressive Blackjack Wager Stax is a side bet for Blackjack games configured with one, two, four, six, or eight decks and at tables that seat up to seven players. At the beginning of each game, the player must place the underlying blackjack wager and may optionally place the Super 4 Progressive Blackjack Wager Stax bet.
- (k) If the dealer’s hand is a blackjack, the player’s two-card hand and the dealer’s blackjack forms a four-card hand. This hand is then evaluated based on one of the configured pay tables the licensee uses below.

Paytable 1 - 3 Level Progressive		Reseed	Contribution
Royal Flush in Chosen Suit	100% Star Progressive	<i>*Options</i>	<i>*Options</i>
Royal Flush (Any other suit)	100% Spade Progressive	\$5,000	7%
Three of a Kind	100% Heart Progressive	\$500	7%
Straight		\$750	
Flush		\$250	

Two Pair	\$200
All Cards Same Color	\$100
Pair	\$50
Any Hand (nothing)	\$25
Dealer Ace Up (No Blackjack)	\$10

Paytable 2 - 4 Level Progressive*		Reseed	Contribution
Royal Flush in Chosen Suit	100% Star Progressive	<i>*Options</i>	<i>*Options</i>
Royal Flush (Any other suit)	100% Spade Progressive	\$5,000	5%
Three of a Kind	100% Heart Progressive	\$500	3%
	100% Diamond		
Straight	Progressive	\$300	3%
Flush	\$250		
Two Pair	\$200		
All Cards Same Color	\$100		
Pair	\$50		
Any Hand (nothing)	\$25		
Dealer Ace Up (No Blackjack)	\$10		

Paytable 3 - 5 Level Progressive		Reseed	Contribution
Royal Flush in Chosen Suit	100% Star Progressive	<i>*Options</i>	<i>*Options</i>
Royal Flush (Any other suit)	100% Spade Progressive	\$5,000	2%
Three of a Kind	100% Heart Progressive	\$500	3%
	100% Diamond		
Straight	Progressive	\$300	3%
Flush	100% Club Progressive	\$250	3%
Two Pair	\$200		
All Cards Same Color	\$100		
Pair	\$50		
Any Hand (nothing)	\$25		
Dealer Ace Up (No Blackjack)	\$10		

Star Progressive (top prize) Options		
	Reseed	Contribution
Option 1*	\$50,000	6%
Option 2	\$25,000	7%

Option 3	\$10,000	7.50%
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\*Recommended option

- (l) Additionally, if the dealer has an Ace up and does not have a blackjack, the player qualifies for one of the pays listed in the paytable. If the dealer's hand is not a blackjack and is not showing an ace, the bet loses.
- (m) If the licensee is using the Must Hit Progressive for Stax, the dealer hitting end-round will determine if there is a random winner from those that participated in the Super 4 Progressive Blackjack optional side bet. This will be indicated with the light-up bet sensor at that player spot as well as being indicated to the dealer on the dealer touch interface and the double-sided progressive display at the table. Table 1 below describes the optional Must Hit Progressive configurations:

**Table 1. Must Hit Progressive Configurations**

Configuration #	Reset Value	Max Value	Increment Rate
1	\$250	\$1,000	5.00%
2	\$100	\$500	5.00%
3	\$100	\$200	2.00%

- (n) Massachusetts licensees can opt for the updated pay table for the *Super 4 Progressive Blackjack*. Pay tables below are for gaming tables using an eight-deck configuration.

Hand	Standard Pay	Envy Pay
Royal Flush in Chosen Suit (A, K, Q, J, all in operator selected suit)	100% Progressive	\$3,000
Royal Flush (Any other suit)	10% Progressive	\$1,000
Three of a Kind	\$750	N/A
Straight	\$400	N/A
Flush	\$300	N/A
Two Pair	\$200	N/A
All Cards Same Color (all black or all red)	\$100	N/A
Pair	\$50	N/A
Any Hand (nothing)	\$25	N/A
Dealer Ace Up (No BJ)	\$10	N/A
Dealer Does Not Have Face Up Ace	Loss	N/A

- (o) Blazing 7's Progressive is an optional progressive side bet for blackjack.
- (p) Players must make a standard blackjack bet in order to make a Blazing 7's progressive bet.
- (q) The Blazing 7's Progressive considers both the player's initial two cards and the dealer's up card. If the player does not have at least one 7 in the player's initial two cards, the progressive bet will lose.

(f) Sample paytables:

Hand	Payouts	Hand	Payouts
3 suited 7's	100%	3 7's – Diamonds	100%
3 same color 7's	10%	3 7's – Other	10%
Three 7's	200 for 1	3 7's – Same Color	500 for 1
First two Cards – 7's	25 for 1	3 7's	200 for 1
First two cards – one 7	2 for 1	First two cards – 7's	25 for 1
		First two cards – one 7	2 for 1

\*The meter will be reseeded when the 100% award hits. The cost of the reseed has been factored into the gaming establishment's mathematical advantage.

- (s) To begin each round, players must make their standard blackjack wager. They may also place an optional progressive wager. Players must place the progressive wagers on the sensor in front of their betting position. The sensor will light up.
- (t) Once all players place their bets, the dealer will press "START GAME" on the keypad. The sensor will then light up, indicating a progressive wager. The dealer will remove all progressive bets on the table.
- (u) The dealer will then follow standard dealing procedures for blackjack.
- (v) The player's Blazing 7's wager will win if the player has any 7's in their initial two cards (see payable).
- (w) If the player has two 7's in the first two cards and the dealer's up card is a 7, the player will qualify for one of the three 7's payouts.
  - a. Note – the "Two 7's" payout is based only upon the player's first two cards.
- (x) After the dealer has completed the initial deal and revealed their up card, they may resolve the progressive wager immediately.
- (y) Once all bets have been reconciled the dealer will hit "END GAME."
- (z) Paying a progressive winner:
  - a. The percentage pays (%) are paid from the progressive jackpot shown on the progressive meter.
  - b. When a player has a winning percentage pays (%), the dealer shall press the appropriate hand button on the keypad.
  - c. The dealer will contact a supervisor.
  - d. Once the casino verifies the progressive win, the supervisor will press the confirm button. To complete the action, a supervisor or executive card (depending on jackpot level) swipe is required. This records the win onto the Game Manager computer and adjusts the meter appropriately for the prize won. House procedures are then followed for paying the prize.

- e. When the dealer reconciles all action, he presses “END GAME.” This resets the system to begin the next hand.

## **20. Blackjack bonus wager**

- (a) If a blackjack table includes the equipment required by the gaming equipment regulations to offer a blackjack bonus wager, a gaming licensee may offer each player at that blackjack table the option to make an additional wager of \$1.00 or \$5.00, as to whether the player will be dealt a blackjack in the first two cards. This wager shall be known as a blackjack bonus wager.
- (b) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player may make a blackjack bonus wager by placing gaming chips in the designated betting area on the layout, except that a verbal wager accompanied by cash may be accepted, provided that it is confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor at the table prior to the first card being dealt and such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips in accordance with internal control regulations. The dealer shall then announce, “No more bets” and deal the hand to all players in accordance with Section 6.
- (c) A player shall be permitted to make a blackjack bonus wager only if they have first placed a blackjack wager in compliance with Section 3(a) and (d).
- (d) A player who has placed a blackjack bonus wager shall win if the player receives a blackjack in the first two cards.
- (e) After the second card is dealt to all players at the table, and prior to any additional cards being dealt to any player or the dealer:
  - (1) All losing blackjack bonus wagers shall be collected by the dealer; and
  - (2) The cards of any player with a winning blackjack bonus wager shall be placed underneath that player’s blackjack bonus wager by the dealer.
- (f) The dealer shall then proceed to complete the round of play, collecting any other losing wagers and paying off any other winning wagers in accordance with Section 6. After all such wagers have been settled, the dealer, starting on their left and continuing around the table, shall place the blackjack bonus button in front of each player with a winning blackjack bonus wager. Each winning blackjack bonus player shall press the blackjack bonus button once, causing the bonus amount payable to that player to be displayed on the blackjack bonus display.
- (g) Prior to making a payout for a winning blackjack bonus wager, the dealer shall:
  - (1) Verify that the player has received a winning combination of cards;
  - (2) Verify the amount of the blackjack bonus payout shown on the blackjack bonus display at the table;



- (3) In a tone of voice calculated to be heard by the patron who won it and the casino supervisor assigned to the table, verbally announce the amount of the blackjack bonus payout, if it is less than \$100.00; and
- (4) Have a casino supervisor confirm and verify the amount of the blackjack bonus payout, if it is \$100.00 or more.
- (h) After all winning blackjack bonus wagers have been paid, the dealer shall remove all cards and wagers remaining on the layout, in accordance with Section 6(h).
- (i) A blackjack bonus wager shall have no bearing upon any other wager made by a player at the game of blackjack and shall be paid regardless of the point total of the dealer's hand.
- (j) A gaming licensee shall pay winning blackjack bonus wagers at no less than the amounts listed below:

Blackjack bonus wager	Blackjack bonus payout
<b>\$1.00</b>	\$5.00 minimum to \$1,000 maximum
<b>\$5.00</b>	\$50.00 minimum to \$5,000 maximum

- (k) Notwithstanding any minimum or maximum payoff amounts in (i) above, the house advantage for blackjack bonus wagers shall not exceed 30 percent or be less than zero. Additionally, although the house advantage may vary for different denominations of the wager, the house advantage for a blackjack bonus wager of any given denomination shall be the same in all blackjack games offered by that gaming licensee at any given time.
- (l) The blackjack bonus wager may not be offered at a blackjack table which offers multiple action blackjack wagers pursuant to Section 18, a progressive blackjack wager pursuant to Section 19, a streak wager pursuant to Section 22, a twenty point bonus wager pursuant to Section 24, or an optional bonus wager pursuant to Section 25, or the in-between wager authorized by Section 26, or the 21+3 wager authorized by Section 28.

**21. Continuous shuffling shoe or device**

In lieu of the dealing and shuffling requirements set forth in Sections 5 and 6, a gaming licensee may utilize a dealing shoe or other device designed to automatically reshuffle the cards provided that such shoe or device and the procedures for dealing and shuffling the cards through use of this device are approved by the Commission or its authorized designee.

**22. Streak wager**

- (a) If a blackjack table includes the information and equipment required by the gaming equipment regulations, a gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer each player at that blackjack table the option to make an additional wager that the player will win either two, three, four or five consecutive hands of blackjack. This wager shall be known as a streak wager.

- (b) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, any player who has placed a blackjack wager in compliance with Section 3(a) and (d), may make a streak wager by placing gaming chips in the appropriate designated betting area of the layout.
- (c) Once the round of play has been dealt, the dealer shall, starting with the player farthest to their right and continuing counterclockwise around the table, collect all losing blackjack and streak wagers and place them in the table inventory container, pay off all winning blackjack and streak wagers, place any necessary streak lammer in accordance with (d) below, and then collect the cards and place them in the discard rack in accordance with Section 6.
- (d) When any player making an optional streak wager has won an initial blackjack hand, the dealer shall place a lammer button or other marker device approved by the Commission in the player's streak betting area labeled "2," to indicate that the player has one winning blackjack hand and is attempting to obtain a second consecutive winning hand.
  - (1) If a player had placed a streak wager on the designated betting area labeled "2" and the player wins the next consecutive blackjack hand, the player shall win the streak wager in addition to the basic blackjack wager.
  - (2) If a player had placed a streak wager on the designated betting area labeled "3," the player must win the next two consecutive blackjack hands. If the player wins the second consecutive blackjack hand, the dealer shall move the lammer button onto the designated betting area labeled "3" to indicate that the player has won two consecutive hands and is attempting to obtain a third consecutive winning hand. If the player wins the third consecutive blackjack hand, the player shall win the streak wager in addition to the basic blackjack wager.
  - (3) If a player had placed a streak wager on the designated betting area labeled "4" the player must win the next three consecutive blackjack hands. With each consecutive win, the dealer shall move the lammer button onto the designated betting area labeled "3," and then onto "4". If the player wins the fourth consecutive blackjack hand, the player shall win the streak wager in addition to the basic blackjack wager.
  - (4) If a player had placed a streak wager on the designated betting area labeled "5" the player must win the next four consecutive blackjack hands. With each consecutive win, the dealer shall move the lammer button onto the designated betting area labeled "3," then onto "4," and then onto "5". If the player wins the fifth consecutive blackjack hand, the player shall win the streak wager in addition to the basic blackjack wager.
- (e) If a player loses a blackjack hand during the pendency of a streak wager, the streak wager shall lose and the dealer shall collect the losing streak wager and the losing blackjack wager from that player.
- (f) If a player makes a streak wager in conjunction with a blackjack hand, and thereafter fails or refuses to complete the underlying blackjack hand or any successive blackjack hands required to satisfy the streak wager, the streak wager shall be deemed abandoned and lost.
- (g) A push shall not advance or lose a streak wager.

- (h) A player who elects to split pairs on any hand during the pendency of a streak wager must win a majority of the split hands to advance the consecutive winning streak; otherwise the streak wager is lost. If a player wins and loses the same number of split hands, the streak wager is not advanced or lost. A push on a split hand shall not advance or lose a streak wager.
- (i) A streak wager shall have no bearing upon any other wager made by a player at the game of blackjack.
- (j) A gaming licensee shall pay winning streak wagers at no less than the amounts listed below:

<b>Streak wager</b>	<b>Streak payout</b>
<b>Two consecutive winning hands</b>	3 to 1
<b>Three consecutive winning hands</b>	7 to 1
<b>Four consecutive winning hands</b>	17 to 1
<b>Five consecutive winning hands</b>	37 to 1

- (k) A player may make more than one streak wager at a time on a blackjack hand, provided that:
  - (1) All such streak wagers are placed simultaneously (that is, placing streak wagers on designated betting areas “3” and “4” at the same time) and prior to any cards being dealt for that hand;
  - (2) A player who makes a multiple streak wager may not place any additional streak wagers until all prior streak wagers made by that player have been determined; and
  - (3) When multiple streak wagers are in play, the dealer shall move the lammer to the next applicable streak betting area, if any, prior to paying any winning streak wager.
- (l) The streak wager may not be offered at a blackjack table which offers multiple action blackjack wagers pursuant to Section 18, a progressive blackjack wager pursuant to Section 19, a blackjack bonus wager pursuant to Section 20, a twenty point bonus wager pursuant to Section 24, or an optional bonus wager pursuant to Section 25, or the in-between wager authorized by Section 26, or the 21+3 wager authorized by Section 28, or the king’s bounty sidebet wager authorized by Section 29.

**23. Match-the-Dealer wagers**

- (a) A gaming licensee may, at its discretion, offer players at a blackjack table the option to make an additional Match-the-Dealer wager. The Match-the-Dealer wager of a player shall win if either of the player’s initial two cards matches the dealer’s initial card. For purposes of the Match-the-Dealer wager, any card with a face value of 10 or a point value of 10 (jack, queen, king) shall only match a card of identical ascription without regard to value.
  - (1) A winning Match-the-Dealer wager shall be paid in accordance with (f) below.
  - (2) If both of the initial cards dealt to a player match the dealer’s initial card, the player shall be paid for each card.

- (b) A Match-the-Dealer wager shall have no bearing on any other wager made by a player at the game of blackjack.
- (c) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, a player who has placed the basic wager required by Section 3(a) may make a Match-the-Dealer wager. The minimum and maximum Match-the-Dealer wagers permitted by a gaming licensee shall be posted in accordance with 205 CMR 147.03.
- (d) A Match-the-Dealer wager shall be made by placing gaming chips, plaques or, if applicable, a match play coupon on the appropriate area of the blackjack layout, except that a verbal wager accompanied by cash may be accepted provided that it is confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor at the table prior to the first card being dealt to any player, and that such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips or plaques in accordance with internal control regulations.
- (e) Immediately after the second card is dealt to each player, and prior to any additional cards being dealt to any player at the table or the dealer and before any card reader device is utilized, all losing Match-the-Dealer wagers shall be collected by the dealer, and then all winning Match the Dealer wagers shall be paid in accordance with (f) below.
- (f) All winning Match-the-Dealer wagers shall be paid at no less than the following odds chart for each card that matches the dealer’s initial card:

**Table 1. Pays — Match the Dealer**

<b>Event</b>	<b>2-deck</b>	<b>2-deck (alt. 1)</b>	<b>2-deck (alt. 2)</b>	<b>3-deck</b>	<b>3-deck (alt.)</b>
2 Suited Matches	-	-	-	100 to 1	100 to 1
1 Suited and 1 Unsuited Match	23 to 1	27 to 1	26 to 1	17 to 1	15 to 1
1 Suited Match	19 to 1	24 to 1	23 to 1	13 to 1	11 to 1
2 Unsuited Matches	8 to 1	6 to 1	6 to 1	8 to 1	8 to 1
1 Unsuited Match	4 to 1	3 to 1	3 to 1	4 to 1	4 to 1

**Table 2. Pays — Match the Dealer (Cont.)**

<b>Event</b>	<b>4-deck</b>	<b>5-deck</b>	<b>6-deck</b>	<b>6-deck (alt.)</b>	<b>8-deck</b>	<b>8-deck (alt.)</b>
2 Suited Matches	24 to 1	30 to 1	22 to 1	20 to 1	28 to 1	20 to 1
1 Suited and 1 Unsuited Match	16 to 1	18 to 1	15 to 1	14 to 1	17 to 1	14 to 1
1 Suited Match	12 to 1	15 to 1	11 to 1	10 to 1	14 to 1	10 to 1
2 Unsuited Matches	8 to 1	6 to 1	8 to 1	8 to 1	6 to 1	8 to 1
1 Unsuited Match	4 to 1	3 to 1	4 to 1	4 to 1	3 to 1	4 to 1

- (g) The Match-the-Dealer wager may not be offered at a blackjack table that offers an optional bonus wager pursuant to Section 25.

## **24. Twenty point bonus wager**

- (a) A gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer each player at a blackjack table the option to make an additional wager that the player will be dealt a point count of twenty in the first two cards. For the purposes of these rules, this wager shall be known as the twenty point bonus wager.
- (b) A twenty point bonus wager shall have no bearing on any other wager made by a player at the game of blackjack.
- (c) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player who has placed a blackjack wager in compliance with Section 3(a) may make a twenty point bonus wager by placing gaming chips, plaques or, if applicable, a match play coupon on the appropriate area of the blackjack layout, except that a verbal wager accompanied by cash may be accepted, provided that it is confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor at the table prior to the first card being dealt and such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips or plaques in accordance with internal control regulations. The minimum and maximum twenty point bonus wagers permitted by a gaming licensee shall be posted in accordance with 205 CMR 147.03.
- (d) The dealer shall then announce “No more bets” and deal the initial two cards to all players and the dealer in accordance with Section 6(d) and (i). Prior to any additional cards being dealt to any player at the table, the dealer shall, starting with the player farthest to their right and continuing counterclockwise around the table, settle in succession, except as provided in (e) below, all twenty point bonus wagers by collecting all losing wagers and paying all winning wagers in accordance with (f) below.
- (e) If the up card of the dealer is a ten, jack, queen, king or ace and a player who has placed a twenty point bonus wager has two queens of hearts, that player’s twenty point bonus wager shall be settled after all other twenty point bonus wagers. Upon notification to and in the presence of a floorperson, the dealer shall settle all such twenty point bonus wagers as follows:
  - (1) If the gaming licensee utilizes a card reader device pursuant to Section 6(i) and the dealer:
    - (i) Has a blackjack, the player shall be paid in accordance with (f) below when the player’s blackjack wager is settled; or
    - (ii) Does not have a blackjack, the player shall be paid in accordance with (f) below before any other cards are dealt; or
  - (2) If the gaming licensee does not utilize a card reader device, the player shall be paid in accordance with (f) below when the player’s blackjack wager is settled.
- (f) All winning twenty point bonus wagers shall be paid once for the highest qualifying hand and at no less than the odds in the following pay table selected by the gaming licensee and posted at the table pursuant to 205 CMR 147.03:

<b>Winning Hand</b>	<b>Paytable A</b>	<b>Paytable B</b>
<b>Queen of hearts pair and dealer blackjack</b>	1000 to 1	1000 to 1
<b>Queen of hearts pair</b>	125 to 1	200 to 1
<b>Matched 20</b>	19 to 1	25 to 1
<b>Suited 20</b>	9 to 1	10 to 1
<b>Any 20</b>	4 to 1	4 to 1

- (g) For purposes of (f) above, the following definitions shall apply:
- (1) “Matched 20” – Two identical cards with a total value of 20, except for a queen of hearts pair (for example, two kings of diamonds).
  - (2) “Suited 20” – Two cards of the same suit with total value of 20 (for example, one king of diamonds and one jack of diamonds).
  - (3) “Any 20” – Two cards of different suits with a total value of 20 (for example, one king of diamonds and one king of hearts, or one king of diamonds and one jack of hearts).
- (h) Notwithstanding the minimum payout odds required in (f) above for a winning hand of queen of hearts pair and dealer blackjack, a gaming licensee may establish a maximum amount as approved by the Commission that is payable to all such winning hands in the aggregate on a single round of play, which amount shall be at least \$25,000 or the maximum amount that one patron could win per round when betting the minimum permissible wager, whichever is greater. Pursuant to any such established maximum payout limit, if more than one player at a table has a winning hand of queen of hearts pair and dealer blackjack, each player shall share the maximum payout amount proportionately to the amount of their respective wagers. The payout limit and the proportionate allocation between two or more players with such winning hands shall either be included on the layout or posted at the table pursuant to the gaming equipment regulations). If the payout limit is not included on the layout, each gaming licensee shall provide notice of any decrease in the payout limit in accordance with 205 CMR 147.03.
- (i) The twenty point bonus wager may not be offered at a blackjack table that offers multiple action blackjack wagers pursuant to the gaming equipment regulations, a progressive blackjack wager pursuant to Section 19, a blackjack bonus wager pursuant to Section 20, a streak wager pursuant to Section 22, or an optional bonus wager pursuant to Section 25, or the in-between wager authorized by Section 26, or the 21+3 wager authorized by Section 28, or the king’s bounty sidebet wager authorized by Section 29.

## **25. Optional bonus wagers**

- (a) A gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer each player at a blackjack table the option to make an additional wager that the dealer shall be required to draw a third card and that the third card will result in the dealer’s hand having a point total greater than 21.
- (b) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player who has placed a blackjack wager in compliance with Section 3(a) may make the bonus wager authorized by

this section by placing their wager on the appropriate area of the blackjack layout. A verbal wager accompanied by cash may be accepted provided that it is confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor at the table prior to the first card being dealt to any player, and that such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips or plaques in accordance with internal control regulations.

- (c) The amount of an optional bonus wager shall be at least \$1.00 but shall not exceed the lesser of the player's wager pursuant to Section 3(a) or any maximum amount established by the gaming licensee and posted in accordance with 205 CMR 147.03.
- (d) The optional bonus wager of a player shall lose if the dealer's first two cards have a point count of 17 or higher or, if the dealer is required to draw a third card, the dealer's first three cards have a point count of 21 or less. The optional bonus wager of a player shall win if the dealer is required to draw a third card and the third card results in the dealer's hand having a point total of greater than 21. If the dealer's first two cards have a point total of less than 17 and any player has placed an optional bonus wager under this section, the dealer shall be required to draw a third card regardless of whether all players have been dealt blackjack.
- (e) Immediately after the dealer either determines their first two cards have a point count of 17 or higher or deals a third card to their hand, the dealer shall, before any other wagers are settled, settle all optional bonus wagers. Starting with the player farthest to the dealer's right who has placed an optional bonus wager and proceeding around the table in a counterclockwise direction, the dealer shall collect all losing optional bonus wagers and pay all winning optional bonus wagers based upon the value of the third card drawn by the dealer as set forth in the following pay table:

<b>Dealer's Third Card Value</b>	<b>Payout Odds</b>
<b>Ten</b>	3 to 1
<b>Nine</b>	5 to 1
<b>Eight</b>	7 to 1
<b>Seven</b>	9 to 1
<b>Six</b>	15 to 1

- (f) Notwithstanding (e) above, if the dealer is required to draw three cards during a round of play and all three cards have a value of eight and are of the same color or suit, a gaming licensee shall pay each player who has placed an optional bonus wager as follows:

<b>Optional bonus wager</b>	<b>Payout Odds</b>
<b>Three eights of the same color</b>	50 to 1
<b>Three eights of the same suit</b>	200 to 1

- (g) The optional bonus wager shall have no bearing on any other wager made by a player at the

game of blackjack.

- (h) The optional bonus wager authorized by this section may not be offered at a blackjack table that offers multiple action blackjack wagers pursuant to the gaming equipment regulations, a progressive blackjack wager pursuant to Section 19, a blackjack bonus wager pursuant to Section 20, a streak wager pursuant to Section 22, a Match-the-Dealer wager pursuant to Section 23, or a twenty point bonus wager pursuant to Section 24, or the in-between wager authorized by Section 26, or the 21+3 wager authorized by Section 28, or the king's bounty sidebet wager authorized by Section 29.

## **26. In-Between Wager**

- (a) A gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer players at a blackjack table the option to make an additional wager that, when "ranking" the initial two cards dealt to the player, one card will have a rank higher than and one card will have a rank lower than the first face up card dealt to the dealer (the rank of the dealer's card is "in-between").
- (b) Notwithstanding the value assigned to each card in Section 2(b), the rank of each card for purposes of determining a winning In-Between wager, in order of lowest to highest rank, shall be: two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, 10, jack, queen, king, and ace.
- (c) An In-Between wager shall have no bearing on any other wager made by a player at the game of blackjack.
- (d) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player who has placed a blackjack wager in compliance with Section 3(a) may make an In-Between wager by placing gaming chips, plaques or, if applicable, a match play coupon on the appropriate area of the blackjack layout, except that a verbal wager accompanied by cash may be accepted provided that it is confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor at the table prior to the first card being dealt to any player and such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips or plaques. The minimum and maximum in between wagers permitted by a gaming licensee shall be posted in accordance with 205 CMR 147.03.
- (e) The dealer shall then announce, "No more bets" and deal the initial two cards to all players and the dealer in accordance with Section 6(d), (i), or (j). Prior to any additional cards being dealt to any player at the table and before any card reader device is utilized, the dealer shall, starting with the player farthest to their right and continuing counterclockwise around the table, settle in succession all In-Between wagers by collecting all losing wagers and paying all winning wagers in accordance with (f) below.
- (f) All winning In-Between wagers shall be paid at no less than the odds in one of the following pay tables pre-selected by the gaming licensee and posted at the table pursuant to 205CMR 147.03.



	Table A	Table B	Table C	Table D
<b>Triple match</b>	30 to 1	30 to 1	30 to 1	40 to 1
<b>One-card spread</b>	12 to 1	10 to 1	10 to 1	10 to 1
<b>Two-card spread</b>	6 to 1	6 to 1	5 to 1	5 to 1
<b>Three-card spread</b>	4 to 1	4 to 1	3 to 1	3 to 1
<b>All other spreads</b>	1 to 1	1 to 1	1 to 1	1 to 1

(g) For purposes of (f) above, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) “Triple match” – The dealer’s face up card has the same rank as each of the player’s initial two cards (for example, three jacks).
- (2) “One-card spread” – The dealer’s face up card is one rank higher than one of the player’s initial two cards and one rank lower than the other of the player’s initial two cards (for example, dealer’s card is a five and the player’s cards are a four and a six).
- (3) “Two-card spread” – The dealer’s face up card is one of two consecutively ranked cards, each of which is ranked higher than one of the player’s initial two cards and lower than the other of the player’s initial two cards (for example, dealer’s card is a five or six and the player’s cards are a four and a seven).
- (4) “Three-card spread” – The dealer’s face up card is one of three consecutively ranked cards, each of which is ranked higher than one of the player’s initial two cards and lower than the other of the player’s initial two cards (for example, dealer’s card is a five, six, or seven and the player’s cards are a four and an eight).
- (5) “All other spreads” – The dealer’s face up card is one of four or more consecutively ranked cards, each of which is ranked higher than one of the player’s initial two cards and lower than the other of the player’s initial two cards (for example, dealer’s card is a jack and the player’s cards are a four and an ace).

(h) The In-Between wager may not be offered at a blackjack table that offers multiple action blackjack wagers pursuant to Section 18, a progressive blackjack wager pursuant to Section 19, a blackjack bonus wager pursuant to Section 20, a streak wager pursuant to Section 22, a Match-the-Dealer wager pursuant to Section 23, a 20 point bonus wager pursuant to Section 24, or an optional bonus wager pursuant to Section 25, or the 21+3 wager authorized by Section 28, or the king’s bounty sidebet wager authorized by Section 29.

## **27. Buster Blackjack**

(a) A gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer each player at a blackjack table the option to make an additional wager called a Buster Blackjack bet that the dealer, who may be required to draw such additional cards as necessary to complete their hand, regardless of the outcome of all wagers placed pursuant to the rules otherwise applicable under this section to determine blackjack wagers, including insurance wagers, will “bust,” that is, have a point total greater than 21.

- (b) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player who has placed a wager in compliance with Section 3(a), may make the wager authorized by Section 27(a) (hereafter, the Buster Blackjack Wager) the by placing a wager on the designated betting area of the blackjack layout. Any player playing multiple hands may make a Buster Blackjack Wager on each or any hand he or she is playing.
- (c) The amount of the Buster Blackjack Wager shall be at least \$1.00, but shall not exceed the lesser of the player's wager pursuant to Section 3(a) or any maximum amount established by the gaming licensee and posted in accordance with 205 CMR 147.03.
- (d) The Buster Blackjack Wager shall lose if:
  - (1) The dealer has a blackjack;
  - (2) The dealer's completed hand, dealt in accordance with subsection (f) of this section, does not exceed 21.
- (e) The Buster Blackjack Wager shall win and be payable in accordance with subsection (g) of this section if the dealer's completed hand exceeds 21.
- (f) The procedures for dealing of cards to players who have made a Buster Blackjack Wager shall comport with Section 6 (procedure for dealing out of a shoe), and Section 9 (insurance wagers), as may be applicable, except as follows:
  - (1) If a player who made a Buster Blackjack Wager has a blackjack and the dealer does not have a blackjack, the dealer must pay the blackjack and thereafter place the player's two cards face up under the player's Buster Blackjack Wager to indicate that the Buster Blackjack Wager remains in play, and separated so that both cards are visible.
  - (2) If a player who made a Buster Blackjack Wager busts, the dealer shall collect the blackjack wager and thereafter collect and place the player's cards face up under the player's Buster Blackjack Wager to indicate that the Buster Blackjack Wager remains in play.
  - (3) If any Buster Blackjack Wager remains in play after the determination of all players' blackjack wagers, the dealer shall complete his hand by drawing additional cards until he or she has:
    - (i) Either a hard total of 17, 18, 19, 20, or 21;
    - (ii) A soft total of 18, 19, 20, or 21; or
    - (iii) The dealer's hand is a bust.
- (g) A gaming licensee shall pay winning Buster Blackjack Wagers based on the number of cards in the dealer's completed hand at no less than the amounts listed below, using one of the following pay tables (all pays "to 1"):

<b>Cards</b>	Paytable A	Paytable B	Paytable C	Paytable D	Paytable E	Paytable F
<b>8 or more</b>	250	200	250	200	250	250
<b>7</b>	50	50	50	50	50	50
<b>6</b>	15	15	12	12	12	20
<b>5</b>	4	4	4	4	3	8
<b>4</b>	2	2	2	2	2	2
<b>3</b>	2	2	2	2	2	1

(h) In addition to the Buster Blackjack Wager payouts made pursuant to (g), above, a gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer a Free Bonus payout if each of the following conditions are met: (i) the player has a blackjack; (ii) the player has wagered a minimum of \$5.00 on their Buster Blackjack Wager; and (iii) the dealer's hand busted with at least seven cards.

(i) The Free Bonus authorized by subsection (h) above shall be based on the number of cards in the dealer's completed hand at no less than the fixed payout amounts listed below, using one of the following pay tables:

<b>Cards</b>	Paytable B1	Paytable B3
<b>8 or more</b>	\$8,000.00	\$5,000.00
<b>7</b>	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00

## **28. 21+3 wager**

(a) A gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer each player at a blackjack table the option to make an additional wager that the dealer's initial face up card and the player's initial two cards form a three-card poker hand recognized for payout in (f) below.

(b) For purposes of the 21+3 wager the rank of cards in order of highest to lowest rank, shall be: ace, king, queen, jack, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3 and 2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an ace may be used to complete a "straight flush" or "straight" formed with a 2 and 3. The three-card hands recognized for payout in accordance with (f) below, in order from highest to lowest rank, shall be:

- (1) Straight flush is a hand consisting of three cards of the same suit in consecutive ranking;
- (2) Three-of-a-kind is a hand consisting of three cards of the same rank;
- (3) Straight is a hand consisting of three cards of any suit in consecutive ranking; and
- (4) Flush is a hand consisting of three cards of the same suit.

(c) A 21+3 wager shall have no bearing on any other wager made by a player at the game of blackjack.

- (d) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player who has placed a blackjack wager in compliance with Section 3(a) may make an 21+3 wager by placing gaming chips, plaques or, if applicable, a match play coupon on the appropriate area of the blackjack layout, except that a verbal wager accompanied by cash may be accepted provided that it is confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor at the table prior to the first card being dealt to any player and such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips or plaques. The minimum and maximum 21+3 wagers permitted by a gaming licensee shall be posted in accordance with 205 CMR147.03.
- (e) The dealer shall then announce, “No more bets” and deal the initial two cards to all players and the dealer in accordance with Section 6(d), (i) or (j). Prior to any additional cards being dealt to any player at the table and before any card reader device is utilized, the dealer shall, starting with the player farthest to their right and continuing counterclockwise around the table, settle in succession all 21+3 wagers by collecting all losing wagers and paying all winning wagers in accordance with (f) below.
- (f) All winning 21+3 wagers shall be paid at no less than the odds for the player’s highest ranking hand in one of the following pay tables pre-selected by the gaming licensee and posted at the table pursuant to 205 CMR147.03.

Hand	Table A	Table B
<b>Straight flush</b>	9 to 1	30 to 1
<b>Three-of-a-kind</b>	9 to 1	20 to 1
<b>Straight</b>	9 to 1	10 to 1
<b>Flush</b>	9 to 1	5 to 1

- (g) The 21+3 wager may not be offered at a blackjack table that offers multiple action blackjack wagers pursuant to Section 18, a progressive blackjack wager pursuant to Section 19, a blackjack bonus wager pursuant to Section 20, a streak wager pursuant to Section 22, an optional bonus wager pursuant to Section 25, or an In-Between wager pursuant to Section 26, or the king’s bounty sidebet wager authorized by Section 29

**29. King’s Bounty Sidebet**

- (a) A gaming licensee may, in its discretion, offer each player at a blackjack table the option to make an additional wager that the player will be dealt a pair of cards that will add up to the value twenty using traditional blackjack rankings. This wager shall be known as a “King’s Bounty Sidebet.”
- (b) Prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play, each player may make a King’s Bounty Sidebet authorized by this section by placing their wager on the appropriate area of the blackjack layout, except that a verbal wager accompanied by cash may be accepted,

provided that it is confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor at the table prior to the first card being dealt and such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips. The dealer shall then announce, "No more bets" and deal the hand to all players in accordance with Section 6.

- (c) The minimum and maximum bet the set wagers permitted by a gaming licensee shall be posted in accordance with 205 CMR 147.03.
- (d) Players are permitted to make a King's Bounty Sidebet for the dealer, the regular blackjack hand, or both; provided, however, that the combined King's Bounty wager for the player and the dealer shall not exceed the table maximum bet limit. If the player wagers the table maximum for their King's Bounty Sidebet, the player is permitted to wager a maximum of ten percent of the maximum of the table limit for the dealer's King's Bounty Sidebet.
- (e) A player who has placed a King's Bounty Sidebet shall win if the first two cards dealt to the player add up to twenty using traditional blackjack rankings.
- (f) After the second card is dealt to all players at the table, and prior to any additional cards being dealt to any player and prior to the dealer using the card reader device:
  - (1) All losing King's Bounty Sidebet shall be collected by the dealer, and
  - (2) All winning King's Bounty Sidebet will be paid out in accordance with section (h) below.
- (g) Prior to making a payout for a winning King's Bounty Sidebet, if the player has a pair of king of spades, the dealer shall:
  - (1) First determine if the dealer has a potential blackjack, and
  - (2) If there is a potential dealer blackjack, settle that bet at the end of the round.
- (h) A gaming licensee shall pay winning King's Bounty Sidebet in accordance with the paytables listed below, which shall be posted at the gaming table offering King's Bounty Sidebet:

Hand	Table 1	Table 2
<b>Pair Kings (Spades) and Dealer Blackjack</b>	1000 to 1	1000 to 1
<b>Pair Kings (Spades)</b>	100 to 1	200 to 1
<b>2 Suited Kings</b>	30 to 1	50 to 1
<b>2 Suited Queens, Jacks or 10s</b>	20 to 1	25 to 1
<b>Suited 20</b>	9 to 1	9 to 1
<b>2 Kings</b>	6 to 1	6 to 1
<b>Unsuited 20</b>	4 to 1	4 to 1

- (i) After all King's Bounty Sidebet wagers are settled, notwithstanding the exception set forth in section (g) above, the round shall continue in accordance with the Rules of the Game of Blackjack.

(j) The King’s Bounty Sidebet wager may not be offered at a blackjack table which offers multiple action blackjack wagers pursuant to Section 18, a blackjack bonus wager pursuant to Section 20, a streak wager pursuant to Section 22, a 20 point bonus wager pursuant to Section 24, an optional bonus wager pursuant to Section 25, or the In-Between wager authorized by Section 26.

**30. Tri Lux, Super 3 and Lucky George**

(a) TriLux Bonus is an optional side bet for Blackjack games played with two, four, five, six or eight decks. The player begins by optionally placing the TriLux Bonus bet to participate in the side wager, in addition to their wager for the main Blackjack game.

(b) Additionally, the casino can choose to offer the Trilux Super 3 wager. If the player places the TriLux Bonus bet with four, five, six or eight decks in play, then they are also eligible to place the TriLux Super 3 bet.

(c) Once all wagers have been placed, the dealer will deal two face-up cards to all players, as well as two cards to themselves, one face-up and one face-down. The three face-up cards are then evaluated to determine the best three-card Poker hand that can be made. Depending on the payable, if the observed three-card Poker hand is either a Flush or better or a Pair or better, the wager wins and is paid according to configured payable. Otherwise the wager is lost.

TriLux BJ with Lucky George Paytables								
	1		2		3		4	
Deck Availability	1D-8D		1D-8D		1D-8D		1D,2D,6D,8D	
Hand	Pays*	LkyGrg**	Pays*	LkyGrg**	Pays*	LkyGrg**	Pays*	LkyGrg**
Straight Flush	8-to-1	\$1	25-to-1	\$10	25-to-1	\$10	25-to-1	\$10
Three of a Kind	8-to-1	\$1	15-to-1	\$5	15-to-1	\$5	15-to-1	\$5
Straight	8-to-1	\$1	8-to-1	\$2	10-to-1	\$2	10-to-1	\$2
Flush	8-to-1	\$1	5-to-1	\$1	5-to-1	NA	5-to-1	\$1

\*Paytable is used with the Lucky George version only  
 \*\*Payouts are Fixed Dollar

TriLux Super 3 Paytables	
Hand	SUP-01*
	4D - 8D BJ
	Pays*
Three of a Kind (Suited)	270-to-1
Straight Flush	180-to-1
Three of a Kind	90-to-1

\*TriLux bet must be made to bet Super 3 bet.

