

Poker; Seven-Card Stud Low

Rules of the Games

Proposed Amendments: N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.8 and 14.9

Authority: N.J.S.A. 5:12-69a, 70f, 99a and 100e

Calendar Reference: See Summary below for explanation of exception to calendar requirement.

Submit written comments by November 19, 2010 to:

Lon E. Mamolen, Senior Counsel
Casino Control Commission
Arcade Building
Tennessee Avenue and the Boardwalk
Atlantic City, NJ 08401

The agency proposal follows:

Summary

The only variations of seven-card stud currently authorized by the Commission are high, high-low split, and high-low split eight or better. The proposed amendments would permit casino licensees to offer seven-card stud low, commonly known as “razz.”

The dealing procedures for seven-card stud low are essentially the same as the procedures used for the variations currently offered. Wager resolution is governed by the rank of cards and hands used in low poker set forth at N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.3(e) and (f). The first round of betting in seven-card stud low commences with the player holding the highest ranked up-card. In subsequent betting rounds, the player with the highest ranking low poker hand commences the betting.

The proposed amendment to N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.8 would include seven-card stud low among the variations of seven-card stud a casino licensee may offer. The proposed amendments to N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.9 would integrate the dealing and wagering procedures and pot winner rules for seven-card stud low into the rules currently applicable to the other variations.

This notice of proposal is not required to be referenced in a rulemaking calendar since a public comment period of 60 days is being provided. See N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a)5.

Full text of the proposal follows (additions indicated in boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in boldface brackets [thus]):

19:47-14.8 Types of permissible poker games

(a) A casino licensee may offer the following types of poker games:

1. Seven-card stud (high, **low**, high-low split and high-low split eight or better);

2. – 6. (No change.)

(b) (No change.)

19:47-14.9 Seven-card stud poker; procedures for dealing of cards; completion of each round of play

(a) Each casino licensee shall be required to observe the procedures set forth in this section for each game of seven-card stud high, **seven-card stud low**, seven-card stud high-low split or seven-card stud high-low split eight or better poker offered in its casino room or casino simulcasting facility.

(b) - (c) (No change.)

(d) Once each player has received three cards in accordance with (c) above, the first betting round shall commence by comparing the up-card of each player. For the purposes of this subsection only, in the event that two or more up-cards are of the same rank, the up-cards shall then be ranked by suit, with the highest to lowest ranked suits in order as follows: spades, hearts, diamonds, clubs. Betting shall be commenced by:

1. For high poker, the player with the lowest ranked up-card;

2. For low poker, the player with highest ranked up-card;

Recodify 2.- 3. as **3. – 4.** (No change in existing text.)

(e) (No change.)

(f) Upon completion of the first betting round, the dealer shall burn the top card of the deck and then, starting with the first remaining player to his or her left, deal a fourth card face up to each player who made or called the last wager. The next betting round shall commence as follows:

1. **For seven-card stud high, seven-card stud high-low and seven-card stud high-low eight or better,** [The] **the** player with the highest ranking **high** poker hand showing shall be required to bet or check; [or]

2. **For seven-card stud low, the player with the highest ranking low poker hand showing shall be required to bet or check; or**

[2.]**3.** (No change in text.)

(g) – (h) (No change.)

(i) If more than one player remains in the round of play after the final betting round has been completed, a showdown shall be used to determine the winner of the pot. Each player remaining in the game shall form a five card poker hand from the seven cards which he or she was dealt. This five card hand shall constitute the poker hand of that player at the showdown. The winner of the pot shall be:

1. In high poker, the player with the highest ranking five card high hand;

2. **In low poker, the player with the highest ranking five card low hand;**

[2.]**3.** (No change in text.)

(j) – (l) (No change.)