



Amend
WAC 230-15-135 Wagering limits for nonhouse-banked card games.

May 2016 – Up for Discussion and Possible Filing
April 2016 – Study Session

ITEM 13: May 2016 Commission Meeting Agenda. Statutory Authority 9.46.070, RCW 9.46.0282
Who Proposed the Rule Change?
George Teeny, owner of the Last Frontier and New Phoenix, house-banked card rooms that may offer house-banked and nonhouse-banked card games
Describe the Proposed Change / Background
Mr. Teeny is requesting increased wagering limits for non-house-banked card games, such as poker. Specifically, the proposed change would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the maximum amount of a single wager on any authorized poker game, not just Texas Hold ‘Em, from \$40 to \$100 at a Class F card rooms; and • Increase the maximum amount of a single wager on any authorized poker game, not just Texas Hold ‘Em, played at house-banked card room licensees to \$300, the same limits as those for house-banked card games. <p>A Small Business Economic Impact Statement was not prepared because the rule change would not impose additional costs to licensees.</p> <p>Attachments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 3, 2016, email from Dolores Chiechi on behalf of George Teeny revising the original rule petition language to WAC 230-15-135. • April 12, 2016, email from Dolores Chiechi on behalf of George Teeny requesting a rule change to WAC 230-15-135.
Licensees Impacted
The proposed change would impact three Class F card rooms and those house-banked card room licensees that offer nonhouse-banked card games. As of April 29, 2016, there were 50 licensed and operating house-banked card rooms.
Regulatory Impacts
The petitioner stated in their letter that house-banked card room licensees’ pay the same per table fee to the gaming commission no matter if they use the table for a house-banked or nonhouse-banked table game. The same level of staffing and regulations/guidelines are required of the Class HB licensees if they are offering non-house banked games.
Policy Consideration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The amount of money on the table (pot) will increase significantly. • A wager in poker would now be the same as a house-banked card game wager.
Stakeholder notification, statements supporting and opposing
None.
Staff Recommendation
The Commissioners may want to analyze the policy considerations before filing for further discussion.
Proposed Effective Date for Rule Change
31 days from filing.

Amended Section

WAC 230-15-135 Wagering limits for nonhouse-banked card games.

Card room licensees must not exceed these wagering limits.

- 1) Poker-
 - a) There must be no more than five betting rounds in any one game; and There must be no more than four wagers in any betting round, for example, the initial
 - b) wager plus three raises; and
 - c) The maximum amount of a single wager must not exceed forty dollars; however, class F may offer a maximum single wager not to exceed one hundred dollars and house-banked card game licensees may offer a single wager not to exceed ~~one hundred dollars for the game of Texas Hold'em~~ three-hundred dollars;
- 2) Games based on achieving a specific number of points- Each point must not exceed five cents in value;
- 3) Ante- No more than the maximum wager allowed for the first betting round for any game, except for Panguingue (Pan). The ante may, by house rule:
 - a) Be made by one or more players, but the total ante may not exceed the maximum wager allowed for the first betting round; and
 - b) Be used as part of a player's wager;
- 4) Panguingue (Pan)- The maximum value of a chip must not exceed ten dollars. An ante must not exceed one chip. We prohibit doubling of conditions. Players going out may collect no more than two additional chips for going out from each participating player.

Griffin, Tina (GMB)

From: Dolores Chiechi <DChiechi@rga-wa.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2016 12:53 PM
To: Trujillo, Dave (GMB)
Cc: Griffin, Tina (GMB); 'Jo England'; Newer, Susan (GMB); Stueckle, Joshua (GMB); Wittmers, Keith (GMB); gteeny@thephoenixcasino.com
Subject: Revised wagering limit rule
Attachments: GT Wager Limits rev.docx

Greetings:

On behalf of George Teeny attached please find a revised draft for his petition for rule change relating to poker limits.

Please let us know if you need further information.

Thank you for your attention.

Dolores A Chiechi
Executive Director
Recreational Gaming Association
PO Box 1787
Olympia, WA 98507-1787
360-352-0514 office
WWW.RGA-WA.ORG

UNITED WE STAND - DIVIDED WE FOLD

From: George Teeny [mailto:gteeny@thephoenixcasino.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2016 8:48 AM
To: DChiechi@rga-wa.org
Cc: Jo England
Subject: FW: wagering limit rule

FYI

From: Wittmers, Keith (GMB) [mailto:keith.wittmers@wsgc.wa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2016 8:41 AM
To: 'George Teeny'
Cc: Newer, Susan (GMB)
Subject: RE: wagering limit rule

George

Thanks for the clarification. This is how I wrote up the proposal for you.

Thanks KW

From: George Teeny [mailto:gteeny@thephoenixcasino.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2016 8:33 AM
To: Wittmers, Keith (GMB) <keith.wittmers@wsgc.wa.gov>

Cc: Newer, Susan (GMB) <susan.newer@wsgc.wa.gov>

Subject: RE: wagering limit rule

Good Morning

During our discussion yesterday (April 27th), Keith shared with me, that the way I had written my petition would open up all non-house banked poker rooms and the games that they offered, to a maximum single wager of \$100 and that was not my intent.

My intent was to allow "Class F" cardrooms, not only to have \$100 limits in the game of Hold'em, but to all poker games that they offer.

House-banked rooms would be able to offer limits (in all types of poker games offered) that match the maximum single allowable wager limit in **WAC 230-15-140**

All other non-house poker rooms (e.g. "Class E") would offer the maximum amount of a single wager not to exceed \$40 to all of the games that they offer.

So, in referencing the rewrite in --- **WAC-15-135**

Wagering limits for nonhouse-banked card games.

1) POKER

c) The maximum amount of a single wager must not exceed forty dollars; however, class F may offer a maximum single wager not to exceed one hundred dollars; and, house-banked cardroom licensees may offer a single wager not to exceed the maximum allowable single wager limit in **WAC 230-15-140**

Keith or Susan if need anything else, please let me know.

work phone: 360-573-6442 ext 321

e-mail address: gteeny@thephoenixcasino.com

gdt

From: Wittmers, Keith (GMB) [<mailto:keith.wittmers@wsgc.wa.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2016 4:33 PM

To: 'gteeny@thephoenixcasino.com'

Cc: Newer, Susan (GMB)

Subject: wagering limit rule

George

Please send a clarification email regarding the rule change verbiage we discussed. Please send to Susan Newer and myself.

Thanks KW

WAC 230-15-135 Wagering limits for nonhouse-banked card games.

Card room licensees must not exceed these wagering limits.

1) Poker-

- a) There must be no more than five betting rounds in any one game; and There must be no more than four wagers in any betting round, for example, the initial
- b) wager plus three raises; and
- c) The maximum amount of a single wager must not exceed forty dollars; however, class F may offer a maximum single wager not to exceed one hundred dollars; and house-banked card game licensees may offer a single wager not to exceed ~~one hundred dollars for the game of Texas Hold'em~~; three-hundred dollars.

2) Games based on achieving a specific number of points- Each point must not exceed five cents in value;

3) Ante- No more than the maximum wager allowed for the first betting round for any game, except for Panguingue (Pan). The ante may, by house rule:

- a) Be made by one or more players, but the total ante may not exceed the maximum wager allowed for the first betting round; and
- b) Be used as part of a player's wager;

4) Panguingue (Pan)- The maximum value of a chip must not exceed ten dollars. An ante must not exceed one chip. We prohibit doubling of conditions. Players going out may collect no more than two additional chips for going out from each participating player.

Griffin, Tina (GMB)

From: Newer, Susan (GMB)
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2016 11:33 AM
To: Griffin, Tina (GMB); Trujillo, Dave (GMB); Hunter, Amy (GMB)
Cc: Rancour, Michelle (GMB); Wittmers, Keith (GMB); Stueckle, Joshua (GMB)
Subject: New Petition from George Teeny
Attachments: GT Wager Limits.docx

Attached is a new petition for rule change submitted by George Teeny, via RGA. I will file a CR 101. I will let Mr. Teeny know we have received his petition.

From: Dolores Chiechi [mailto:DChiechi@rga-wa.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2016 10:20 AM
To: Newer, Susan (GMB) <susan.newer@wsgc.wa.gov>
Cc: 'George Teeny' <gteeny@thephoenixcasino.com>
Subject: FW: Document1

Susan,
I am forwarding the attached rule change request on behalf of George Teeny, petitioner.

We understand the timing is such that it will appear on the May study session agenda, with filing up at the July meeting, since there is no meeting scheduled in June.

Thank you for your attention.

Dolores A Chiechi
Executive Director
Recreational Gaming Association
PO Box 1787
Olympia, WA 98507-1787
360-352-0514 office
WWW.RGA-WA.ORG

UNITED WE STAND - DIVIDED WE FOLD

From: George Teeny [mailto:gteeny@thephoenixcasino.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 3:55 PM
To: dolores@rga-wa.org
Subject: FW: Document1

Good Afternoon Susan
I am submitting this rule change to be added to the agenda for the WSGC May meeting in Pasco, Washington.

Reason for the rule change; if you are licensed as an Enhance Cardroom:

- 1) The licensees pay the same per table fee to the gaming commission no matter if they use the table for Blackjack (or any other house banked game) or poker;
- 2) the licensees have to have the same level of surveillance, security and management for any game under the Enhanced Cardroom license;
- 3) the same regulations/guidelines are used for (e.g. "fills and credits", cash for chips, cash-out of chips, fiduciary accounts for players' funds, etc.) on all enhanced gaming tables (poker included);

Please let me know if there is anything else needed of me.
sincerely,
George Teeny

WAC 230-15-135 Wagering limits for nonhouse-banked card games.

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There must be no more than four wagers in any betting round, for example, the initial
- b) wager plus three raises; and
- c) The maximum amount of a single wager must not exceed ~~(forty)~~ one hundred dollars; however, ~~(class F and)~~ house-banked card game licensees may offer a single wager not to exceed ~~(one hundred dollars for the game of Texas Hold'em;)~~ the maximum allowable single wager limit in WAC 230-15-140

- 2) Games based on achieving a specific number of points- Each point must not exceed five cents in value;
- 3) Ante- No more than the maximum wager allowed for the first betting round for any game, except for Panguingue (Pan). The ante may, by house rule:
 - a) Be made by one or more players, but the total ante may not exceed the maximum wager allowed for the first betting round; and
 - b) Be used as part of a player's wager;
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