



Amend

WAC 230-15-080 Authorized fees and authorized methods of collection.
 WAC 230-15-135 Wagering limits for nonhouse-banked card games.

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

ITEM 12: May 2016 Commission Meeting Agenda. Statutory Authority 9.46.070, RCW 9.46.0282
Who Proposed the Rule Change?
Teresa Malphrus, owner of The Hideaway Restaurant and Casino, a 7 table Class F cardroom
Describe the Proposed Change / Background
<p>Teresa Malphrus is requesting the following rule changes:</p> <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 Class F and house-banked cardrooms; and • Allow Class F and house-banked cardrooms to assess players of nonhouse-banked card games a rake fee of up to 10% of the pot with no limit. Currently, the rake cannot be more than \$5 per hand or 10% of the total wagers for a hand, whichever is less. <p>Ms. Malphrus explained the reasons she is seeking these rule changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “In November of this year, the voters in the state of Washington will be voting on one of 3 initiatives that would raise the minimum wage in each of the next four years, with a starting date effective January, 2017. In addition, in January of 2018, we will be required to provide paid sick leave at the rate of 1 hour for every 40 hours worked. Should this initiative pass, this will create additional financial challenges to the cardrooms [and] possibly to the WSGC that regulates our activities. • As a Class F Cardroom Owner I am anticipating a passage of the initiative and am making some proposed changes that may help in generating additional revenue for the cardrooms.” <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 4, 2016, email from Teresa Malphrus regarding changes to her original petition. • Petition for rule changes from Teresa Malphrus in a letter dated April 10, 2016.
Licensees Impacted
The proposed rule changes 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.
Policy Considerations
None
Stakeholder notification, statements supporting and opposing
None.
Staff Recommendation
File for further discussion.
Proposed Effective Date for Rule Change
31 days from filing.

Amended Section**WAC 230-15-080 Authorized fees and authorized methods of collection.**

Card game licensees must collect only one type of card game fee at a table at any given time.

The following are authorized types of fees, the card game licensees who may use those fee types, and the methods of collection:

Authorized types of fees	Licensees authorized to use the fee types	Authorized methods of collection	Maximum amount to collect
<p>(1) Period of time -</p> <p>(a) Licensees must collect the fee at least once per hour at times the licensee chooses, for example, at thirty minute increments; and</p> <p>(b) Licensees must record all fees immediately after collection; or</p>	Class A, B, C, E, F	Direct collection; or Chip rack - Only allowed if licensed for three or fewer tables; or Drop box.	Not more than ten dollars per hour, per player.
<p>(2) Per hand played -</p> <p>(a) Players must place fees charged on a per-hand basis in a designated area of the table and dealers must collect them before dealing the first round of cards; and</p> <p>(b) After collecting the fees, dealers must deposit all chips or coins in either the drop box or chip rack; or</p>	Class F and house-banked	Drop box; or Chip rack - Only allowed if licensed for three or fewer tables.	Not more than one dollar per hand, per player.
<p>(3) Rake -</p> <p>(a) Dealers must collect fees charged on the amounts wagered during the play of the hand and place the fees in a designated area of the table; and</p> <p>(b) Once dealers accumulate the maximum fee for a hand, they must spread the chips or coins to allow players and the surveillance system to view the amount collected. After spreading the chips or coins, the dealer deposits them in either the drop box or chip rack.</p>	Class F and house-banked	Drop box; or Chip rack - Only allowed if licensed for three or fewer tables.	Not more than five dollars per hand or five ten percent of the total wagers for a hand, whichever is less. less.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [9.46.070](#). WSR 07-09-033 (Order 608), § 230-15-080, filed 4/10/07, effective 1/1/08.]

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

(b) There must be no more than four wagers in any betting round, for example, the initial wager plus three raises; and

(c) The maximum amount of a single wager must not exceed:

(i) One hundred dollars for class F and house-banked card game licensees and

(ii) Forty dollars for all other; 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;

(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.