



**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
<b>Who Proposed the Rule Change?</b>
George Teeny, owner of the Last Frontier and New Phoenix, house-banked card rooms that may offer house-banked and nonhouse-banked card games
<b>Describe the Proposed Change / Background</b>
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"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <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"> <li>• May 3, 2016, email from Dolores Chiechi on behalf of George Teeny revising the original rule petition language to WAC 230-15-135.</li> <li>• April 12, 2016, email from Dolores Chiechi on behalf of George Teeny requesting a rule change to WAC 230-15-135.</li> </ul>
<b>Licensees Impacted</b>
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.
<b>Regulatory Impacts</b>
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.
<b>Policy Consideration</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The amount of money on the table (pot) will increase significantly.</li> <li>• A wager in poker would now be the same as a house-banked card game wager.</li> </ul>
<b>Stakeholder notification, statements supporting and opposing</b>
None.
<b>Staff Recommendation</b>
The Commissioners may want to analyze the policy considerations before filing for further discussion.
<b>Proposed Effective Date for Rule Change</b>
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.