

## **Texas Hold'em Work Group**

Olympia Red Lion Inn

Meeting Summary

April 9, 2010

**Facilitator:** John Ellis

**Members present:** Linda Graves, Ed Fleisher, George Teeny, Jess Lohse, Dan Frey, Mark Harris, Chris Masse (for Ernie Stebbins)

**Members absent:** Dolores Chiechi

**Guests:** Deryl Brown-Archie, Keven Rojecki, Monty Harmon

The pilot period was discussed:

- 18 months/\$100 limit.
- Casinos would need to advise the Director if they wish to take part in the pilot period.

There was discussion on what information should be gathered during the pilot period:

- Number of tables used with the higher limit.
- Number of players playing not only at the higher limit tables, but the other tables as well.
- Food and beverage sales. That is the whole premise of the wager increase.
- A change in the number of cheating cases.
- There should be a benchmark set. If after the pilot is done there are only 8 card rooms that intend to implement the higher limits, is that enough to warrant moving forward with the implementation?
- DBHR is adding poker to their list of categories they track information on.

Concerns with the increased wager limit:

- Concerns that the tribal casinos can offer the higher limit games and don't. Where is the demand?
- Food and beverage numbers may not depict the true picture due to other activities happening in the casino at the same time.
- Keeping interest in the higher level games. Games usually break up if the number of players drops below six. The high level players could burn out. Possibly offer the higher limit games only once or twice a week.

Process:

- A draft work group report will be prepared by Mark Harris and sent to the group by April 30 for approval. The final version will be submitted to George Teeny and Dolores Chiechi by May 6 for presentation to RGA along with a draft rule proposal covering the \$100 betting limit and 18 month pilot program.
- Prepare a draft tracking form/document (Mark Harris).
- The rule proposal will be on the May Study Session agenda.
- Petition for filing at the July Commission meeting.
- Up for final action at the September Commission meeting.

Note: John Ellis will be unavailable for the May proceedings. Keven Rojecki will fill in on his behalf.

Notes taken by: Hollee Arrona

Washington State Gambling Commission  
Texas Hold'em Work Group  
4/9/2010