

CHAPTER 461a. SLOT MACHINE AND TABLE GAME DEVICE TESTING AND CONTROL

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Authority

The provisions of this Chapter 461a issued under the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act, 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 1207 and 1320, unless otherwise noted.

Source

The provisions of this Chapter 461a adopted July 20, 2007, effective July 21, 2007, 37 Pa.B. 3381, unless otherwise noted.

Cross References

This chapter cited in 58 Pa. Code § 605a.9 (relating to hybrid gaming tables); and 58 Pa. Code § 607a.2 (relating to table game device master list).

§ 461a.1. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this subpart, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

Asset number—A unique number assigned to a slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table, electronic wagering terminal or piece of associated equipment by a slot machine licensee for the purpose of tracking the slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table, electronic wagering terminal or piece of associated equipment while owned by the slot machine licensee.

Automated jackpot payout machine—The collective hardware, software, communications technology and other ancillary equipment used to facilitate the payment of a jackpot that is not totally and automatically paid directly from a slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table or electronic wagering terminal.

Bill validator—An electronic device designed to interface with a slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table or electronic wagering terminal for the purpose of accepting and validating any combination of United States currency, gaming vouchers, coupons or other instruments authorized by the Board for incrementing credits on a slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table or electronic wagering terminal.

Bonus award—An award of cash or credits to a randomly selected player that is not generated by the slot machine.

Cash equivalents—Instruments with a value equal to United States currency or coin including value chips and plaques, Counter Checks, personal checks, certified checks, cashier's checks, travelers' checks, money orders, gaming vouchers or other representations of value that the Board deems a cash equivalent.

Cashless funds transfer system—The collective hardware, software, communications technology and other ancillary equipment used to facilitate the electronic transfer of cashable or noncashable credits to a patron at a slot machine.

Casino management system—The collective hardware, software, communications technology and other ancillary equipment used to collect, monitor, interpret, analyze, report and audit data with regard to activity at slot machines, fully automated electronic gaming tables or electronic wagering terminals, inclusive of slot machine level accounting transactions, player tracking and productivity analysis.

Common carrier—An entity that transports persons or goods, and offers its services to the general public.

Conversion—A change or alteration to a slot machine that does not affect the manner or mode of play or operation of the slot machine.

Count team—The group of employees of a slot machine licensee who are responsible for counting the contents of slot cash storage boxes and table game drop boxes.

Coupon—An instrument issued by a slot machine licensee under which cashable or noncashable slot machine credits are provided directly or indirectly to a patron with or without regard to the identity of the patron or the patron's level of gaming activity.

Coupon system—The collective hardware, software, communications technology and other ancillary equipment used to facilitate the issuance of coupons, the acceptance of a coupon by a slot machine or its redemption at an automated coupon redemption machine, cashiers' cage or other locations.

Currency cassette—A container that holds banknotes that are available for dispensing.

Double-up—An optional wager on a slot machine in which the player has a mathematically equal probability of winning or losing the wager.

Drop team—The group of employees of a slot machine licensee who are responsible for collecting and transporting slot cash storage boxes and table game drop boxes.

Educational institution—A facility that teaches and certifies students in slot machine design, operation, repair or servicing.

External bonusing system—The collective hardware, software, communications technology and other ancillary equipment used in conjunction with slot machines to deliver randomly selected player incentives (bonus awards) to active slot machine players and to effect the accurate metering of the bonus award event on the slot machine.

Fill—The distribution of gaming chips, coins and plaques to a gaming table to replenish the table inventory.

Finance department—The department that is responsible for the management of the financial and accounting activities relating to slot machines and table games being utilized in a licensed facility.

Gaming day—A period of time not to exceed 24 hours corresponding to the beginning and ending times of gaming activities for the purpose of accounting reports and determination of gross terminal and gross table game revenue.

Gaming voucher—An instrument that upon insertion into a bill validator entitles the patron inserting the gaming voucher to cashable or noncashable credits on a slot machine and cashable credits on an electronic gaming table corresponding to the value printed on the gaming voucher. A gaming voucher that contains noncashable credits may be used only for the purpose of slot machine gaming.

Gaming voucher system—The collective hardware, software, communications technology and other ancillary equipment used to facilitate the issuance of gaming vouchers and the redemption of gaming vouchers by slot machines, fully automated electronic gaming tables, electronic wagering terminals, automated gaming voucher redemption machines, the cashiers' cage or in other locations.

Hand pay—The payment of credits that are not totally and automatically paid directly from a slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table or electronic wagering terminal.

Machine displayed payout percentage—The selectable payout percentage that is set by the slot machine licensee during the initial configuration or a subsequent reconfiguration of a slot machine and is displayed in the slot machine's service menu during normal operation.

Manufacturer's par sheet—A document supplied by the manufacturer that shows payable information including, but not limited to, theoretical payout percentage, winning combinations, awards and reel strips.

Merchandise jackpot—A slot machine jackpot in the form of:

- (i) A cash payout and a payout of merchandise or a thing of value.
- (ii) An option to choose between a cash payout and a payout of merchandise or a thing of value.

Minimum payout percentage—The lowest aggregate awards expected to be paid out over one cycle of the game divided by the total number of combinations in the cycle of the game.

Modification—A change or alteration in a slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table, electronic wagering terminal or associated equipment that affects the manner or mode of play or operation of the slot machine or associated equipment.

- (i) The term includes a change to control or graphics programs and to the theoretical hold percentage.
- (ii) In the case of slot machines, the term does not include:
 - (A) A conversion.
 - (B) Replacement of one approved component with an identical component.
- (iii) In the case of a wide area progressive system, the term includes a change in:
 - (A) A system name or theme.
 - (B) The odds to win the progressive payout.
 - (C) The reset amount.
 - (D) The rate at which a progressive award increases.
 - (E) The wager necessary to win the progressive payout.

Paytable—A selectable part of a slot machine program that contains slot machine characteristics including, but not limited to, the theoretical payout percentage, reel strips and awards.

Player rating—A score or ranking assigned to a player based on an evaluation of the amount and frequency of play by the person.

Player rating system—A computerized system by which a player is assigned a score or ranking based upon an evaluation of the amount and frequency of play by the person.

Player tracking system—The collective hardware, software, communications technology and other ancillary equipment used to collect, monitor, interpret, analyze, authorize, report and audit data with regard to player activity generally or on an individual basis at slot machines or table games.

Progressive awards—The award to be paid out when the event in the progressive game that triggered the award occurs.

Progressive controller—A program or computer system, other than an approved program that controls the operation of the slot machine, which controls, adjusts and displays the amount of the progressive jackpot.

Progressive payout—A slot machine payout that increases in a monetary amount based on the amounts wagered in a progressive system.

Progressive slot machine—A slot machine that offers a jackpot that may increase in value based upon the slot machine wagers placed.

Pseudo random number generator—Software or hardware, or both, that ensures the randomness of slot machine outcomes.

RAM—Random access memory.

RAM clear—A process initiated by a service technician that results in the zeroing out of any meter information, configuration information or data stored in the memory of a slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table, electronic wagering terminal or associated equipment.

Randomness—The observed unpredictability and absence of pattern in a set of elements or events that have definite probabilities of occurrence.

Reel strips—Components of a slot machine which display symbols.

Related systems—Systems which interface with slot machines or slot monitoring systems.

Remote system access—Connectivity to casino systems from outside the slot machine licensee's network.

Reset amount—The award value that a progressive award will revert to after the progressive award is paid out.

Server supported slot system—One or more slot machines connected to a slot machine server and an associated computer network.

Skill—The application of intelligence and specific knowledge to achieve the best result when a slot machine offers a choice of options during game play.

Slot machine bill validator—A component, made up of software and hardware that accepts and reads instruments such as bills, vouchers and coupons, into gaming devices such as slot machines and automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machines.

Slot machine server—A computer configured to receive, store, authenticate and download to slot machines, Board-approved slot machine game themes and other approved software.

Slot monitoring system—The collective hardware, software, communications technology and other ancillary equipment used to collect, monitor, interpret, analyze, authorize, report and audit data with regard to activity at slot machines, inclusive of slot machine meter readings, error conditions, slot machine security, accounting, player tracking and productivity analysis.

Slot operations department—The department that is responsible for all operations in any area of the licensed facility where slot machines are kept.

Slot system operator—The persons designated in a slot system agreement as being responsible for the operation and administration of a wide area progressive system.

Strategy choice—A particular play option on a slot machine that requires the use of skill to consistently achieve the best result.

Theme—A concept, subject matter and methodology of design of a slot machine.

Theoretical payout percentage—The aggregate awards expected to be paid out over one cycle of the game divided by the total number of combinations in the cycle of the game.

Trolley—A wheeled apparatus used for the secured transport of slot cash storage boxes and drop boxes.

Unredeemed gaming voucher—A gaming voucher that has not been presented to a slot machine licensee for redemption or a gaming voucher that has been found and returned to a slot machine licensee.

Wager—Placing at risk in a slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table or electronic wagering terminal a coin, bill, ticket, gaming voucher, coupon or similar object or, upon payment of any consideration, including the use of cashless funds transfer systems and external bonusing systems.

Wide area progressive system—Progressive slot machines located at a licensed facility that are linked with progressive slot machines at another licensed facility.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.1 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202, 1207, 1322, 13A02(1)—(6), 13A25 and 13A62(a).

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.1 amended July 27, 2007, effective July 28, 2007, 37 Pa.B. 4068; amended September 26, 2008, effective December 26, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 5316; amended October 10, 2008, effective October 11, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 5652; amended December 12, 2008, effective December 13, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 6749; amended July 24, 2009, effective July 25, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 4338; corrected July 31, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 4422; amended September 25, 2009, effective September 26, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5562; amended May 11, 2012, effective May 12, 2012, 42 Pa.B. 2585; amended February 1, 2013, effective February 2, 2013, 43 Pa.B. 660; amended January 31, 2014, effective February 1, 2014, 44 Pa.B. 599; amended December 15, 2017, effective December 16, 2017, 47 Pa.B. 7563. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (370301) to (370306).

§ 461a.2. Protocol requirements.

In accordance with section 1324 of the act (relating to protocol information), manufacturer licensees, manufacturer designee licensees and supplier licensees shall be required to enable all slot machines to communicate with the Department's central control computer for the purpose of transmitting auditing program information and activating and disabling slot machines.

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 461a.20 (relating to server supported slot systems).

§ 461a.3. Testing and approval generally.

(a) In accordance with sections 1320 and 13A41 of the act (relating to slot machine testing and certification standards; and table game device and associated equipment testing and certification standards), slot machines, table game devices

and associated equipment operated in this Commonwealth must be tested and approved in accordance with § 461a.4(g) (relating to submission for testing and approval).

(b) The general cost of establishment and operation of the Board's testing facility shall be paid by each manufacturer licensee and gaming related gaming service provider on a quarterly basis based upon each manufacturer's or gaming related gaming service provider's proportion of the total number of products reviewed.

(c) The Board will require payment of all costs for the testing and approval of slot machines, table game devices and associated equipment submitted by manufacturers or gaming related gaming service providers or installed at a licensed facility based on the actual direct costs incurred by the Board.

(d) The Board will require a manufacturer licensee or gaming related gaming service provider seeking approval of a slot machine, table game device or associated equipment to pay all costs of transportation, inspection and testing.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.3 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202, 1207, 13A02(1) and (2), 13A41, 1317.2, 1319, 1319.1, 1320 and 1517.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.3 amended March 28, 2008, effective March 29, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 1474; amended July 6, 2012, effective July 7, 2012, 42 Pa.B. 4305. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (348365) to (348366).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 461a.20 (relating to server supported slot systems).

§ 461a.4. Submission for testing and approval.

(a) A slot machine, table game device or associated equipment identified in subsection (c) (collectively referred to as "products" or "equipment, device or software"), or a modification thereto, may not be offered for sale, lease or distribution for ultimate use by a slot machine licensee in this Commonwealth unless a prototype identical in all mechanical, electrical, electronic and other respects has been tested by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations and approved by the Board's Executive Director.

(b) When an applicant for, or holder of, a slot machine license develops software or a system that is functionally equivalent to any of the slot systems or table game systems enumerated in subsection (c), that software or system shall be subject to the testing and approval process of this subpart to the same extent as if the software or system were developed by an applicant for, or holder of, a manufacturer license. Any reference in this subpart to the responsibilities of a manufacturer applies to an applicant for, or holder of, a slot machine license developing software or systems subject to testing and approval under this subpart.

(c) For the purposes of this section, slot machines, table game devices and associated equipment that shall be submitted for testing and approval include:

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- (1) Slot machines, including bill validators and printers.
- (2) Slot monitoring systems, to the extent the systems interface with slot machines and related systems.
- (3) Casino management systems, to the extent the systems interface with slot machines and related systems.
- (4) Player tracking systems, to the extent the systems interface with slot machines and related systems.
- (5) Progressive systems, including wide area progressive systems.
- (6) Gaming voucher systems.
- (7) External bonusing systems.
- (8) Cashless funds transfer systems.
- (9) Machines performing gaming voucher, coupon or jackpot payout transactions.
- (10) Coupon systems, to the extent the systems interface with slot machines and related systems.
- (11) Other related systems.
- (12) Table game devices including:
 - (i) Electronic gaming tables as described in § 605a.4 (relating to electronic gaming tables).
 - (ii) Fully automated electronic gaming tables as described in § 605a.5 (relating to fully automated electronic gaming tables and electronic wagering terminals).
 - (iii) Progressive table game systems as described in § 605a.7 (relating to progressive table games).
 - (iv) Automated card shuffling devices as described in § 603a.17 (relating to dealing shoes; automated card shuffling devices).
 - (v) Electronic dealing shoes as described in § 603a.17.
 - (vi) Electronic wagering systems as described in § 605a.2 (relating to electronic wagering systems).
 - (vii) Electronic wagering terminals as described in § 605a.5.
 - (viii) Hybrid gaming tables as described in § 605a.9 (relating to hybrid gaming tables).
- (d) Slot machine prototypes, table game device prototypes and associated equipment prototypes, and modifications thereto, which are subject to testing and approval under this section will be evaluated by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations for overall operational integrity and compliance with the act, this subpart and technical standards adopted by the Board as published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site. In addition, with regard to any slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table, electronic wagering terminal or modification thereto, the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations will test for compatibility and compliance with the central control computer and protocol specifications approved by the Department including the ability to communicate with the central control computer for the purpose of transmitting audit-

ing program information, real time information retrieval and activation and disabling of slot machines, fully automated electronic gaming tables and electronic wagering terminals.

(e) The Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations may prescribe a standard product submission checklist, together with supplemental product specific submission checklists for completion by an applicant for, or holder of, a manufacturer license, to facilitate the examination and analysis of a prototype or modification.

(f) The Board may require the chief engineer of the applicant for, or holder of, a manufacturer license or the engineer in charge of the division of the manufacturer responsible for producing the product submitted to attest that the product was properly and completely tested by the manufacturer prior to its submission to the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations.

(g) When an applicant for, or holder of, a manufacturer license seeks Board approval of a slot machine prototype, table game device prototype, as described in subsection (c)(12), associated equipment prototype, or any modification thereto, the manufacturer shall submit to the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations the following:

(1) A prototype of the equipment, device or software accompanied by a written request for testing and approval. The manufacturer shall transport the equipment, device or software at its own expense and deliver it to the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations in accordance with instructions provided.

(2) Certifications required under subsection (f) providing assurances from the manufacturer that the product was properly and completely tested and emulated by the manufacturer prior to its submission to the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations and that the product, device or software complies with the act, this subpart and technical standards adopted by the Board as published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site, including applicable requirements related to the central control computer.

(3) An executed copy of a current product submission checklist, and any product specific supplemental submission checklists applicable to the submitted equipment, device or software.

(4) A complete, comprehensive and technically accurate description of the equipment, device or software, accompanied by applicable diagrams, schematics and specifications, together with documentation with regard to the manner in which the product was tested and emulated by the manufacturer prior to its submission to the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations.

(5) Any hardware, software and other equipment, inclusive of technical support and maintenance applicable thereto, required by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations to conduct the testing and approval process contemplated by the act, this subpart and technical standards adopted by the Board as

published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site. The testing equipment and services required by this paragraph shall be provided at no cost to the Board.

(6) In the case of a slot machine prototype or table game device prototype, the following additional information:

(i) A copy of all executable software, including data and graphics information, on electronically readable, unalterable media.

(ii) A copy of all source code for programs that cannot be reasonably demonstrated to have any use other than in a slot machine or electronic gaming table, on electronically readable, unalterable media.

(iii) A copy of all graphical images displayed on the slot machine or table game device, including reel strips, rules, instructions and paytables.

(iv) A mathematical explanation of the theoretical return to the player, listing all assumptions, all steps in the formula from the first principles through to the final results of all calculations including bonus pays and, when a game requires or permits player skill in the theoretical derivations of the payout return, the source of strategy.

(v) Hardware block diagrams of the major subsystems.

(vi) A complete set of schematics for all subsystems.

(vii) A wiring harness connection diagram.

(viii) A technical and an operator manual.

(ix) A description of security methodologies incorporated into the design of the slot machine table game device, including, when applicable, encryption methodology for all alterable media, auto-authentication of software and recovery capability of the slot machine or table game device for power interruption.

(x) For meters required by this subpart or technical standards adopted by the Board as published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site, a cross reference of product meters to the required meters, if necessary.

(xi) A description of tower light functions indicating the corresponding condition.

(xii) A description of error conditions and the corresponding action required by the operator.

(xiii) A description of the use and function of available dip switch settings or configurable options.

(xiv) A description of the pseudo random number generator or generators used to determine game outcome, including a detailed explanation of operational methodology, and a description of the manner by which the pseudo random number generator and random number selection process is impervious to outside influences, interference from electro-magnetic, electrostatic and radio frequencies, and influence from ancillary equipment by means of

data communications. Test results in support of representations shall be submitted. For the purposes of this section, “game outcome” means the results of a wager.

(xv) Specialized hardware, software or testing equipment, inclusive of technical support and maintenance, needed to complete the evaluation, which may include an emulator for a specified microprocessor, PCs, extender cables for CPU boards, target reel strips and door defeats. The testing equipment and services required by this paragraph shall be provided at no cost to the Board.

(xvi) A compiler, or reasonable access to a compiler, for the purpose of building applicable code modules.

(xvii) Program storage media including EPROMs, EEPROMs and any type of alterable media for slot machine or table game device software.

(xviii) Technical specifications for any microprocessor or microcontroller.

(xix) A complete, comprehensive and technically accurate description of the manner in which the slot machine or fully automated electronic gaming table was tested for compatibility and compliance with the central control computer and protocol specifications approved by the Department including the ability to communicate with the central control computer for the purpose of transmitting auditing program information, real time information retrieval and activation and disabling of slot machines or fully automated electronic gaming tables.

(xx) Additional documentation requested by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations relating to the slot machine or table game device.

(7) In the case of a modification to a slot machine or table game device prototype, including a change in theme, the following additional information:

(i) A complete, comprehensive and technically accurate description of the proposed modification to the slot machine or table game device prototype, accompanied by applicable diagrams, schematics and specifications.

(ii) When a change in theme is involved, a copy of the graphical images displayed on the slot machine or table game device including reel strips, rules, instructions and paytables.

(iii) When a change in the manner in which the theoretical payout percentage is achieved is involved, a mathematical explanation of the theoretical return to the player, listing all assumptions, all steps in the formula from the first principles through to the final results of all calculations including bonus pays and, when a game requires or permits player skill in the theoretical derivations of the payout return, the source of strategy.

(iv) A complete, comprehensive and technically accurate description of the manner in which the slot machine or fully automated electronic gaming table was tested for compatibility and compliance with the central control computer and protocol specifications approved by the Department including

the ability to communicate with the central control computer for the purpose of transmitting auditing program information, real time information retrieval and activation and disabling of slot machines or fully automated electronic gaming tables.

(v) Additional documentation requested by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations relating to the modification of the slot machine or table game device.

(8) In the case of a slot monitoring system, casino management system, player tracking system, wide area progressive system, gaming voucher system, external bonusing system, cashless funds transfer system, automated gaming voucher, coupon redemption or jackpot payout machine, coupon system, table game device or any other equipment or system required to be tested and approved under subsection (c):

(i) A technical and an operator manual.

(ii) A description of security methodologies incorporated into the design of the system to include, when applicable, password protection, encryption methodology and its application, auto-authentication, network redundancy, back-up and recovery procedures.

(iii) A complete schematic or network diagram of the system's major components accompanied by a description of each component's functionality and a software object report. The description must disclose the functions performed by each component.

(iv) A description of the data flow, in narrative and in schematic form, including specifics with regard to data cabling and, when appropriate, communications methodology for multisite applications.

(v) A list of computer operating systems and third party software incorporated into the system together with a description of their interoperability.

(vi) System software and hardware installation procedures.

(vii) A list of available system reports.

(viii) When applicable, features for each system which may include patron and employee card functions, promotions, reconciliation procedures and patron services.

(ix) A description of the interoperability testing including test results for each submitted system's connection to, as applicable, slot machines, voucher, coupon redemption and jackpot payout machines, computerized systems for counting money, vouchers and coupons. This list must identify the tested products by manufacturer, model and software identification and version number.

(x) A narrative describing the method used to authenticate software.

(xi) All source code.

(xii) A complete, comprehensive and accurate description, accompanied by applicable diagrams, schematics and specifications, of the creation of a voucher and the redemption options available.

(xiii) A complete, comprehensive and technically accurate description, accompanied by applicable diagrams, schematics and specifications, of the creation of a coupon and the redemption options available.

(xiv) Any specialized hardware, software or other equipment, inclusive of technical support and maintenance applicable thereto, required by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations to conduct the testing and approval process contemplated by the act, this subpart and technical standards adopted by the Board as published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site. The testing equipment and services required by this paragraph shall be provided at no cost to the Board.

(xv) Additional documentation requested by the Board related to the equipment or system being tested.

(9) In the case of a modification to any of the systems identified in paragraph (8), the following additional information:

(i) A complete, comprehensive and technically accurate description of the proposed modification to the system, accompanied by applicable diagrams, schematics and specifications.

(ii) A brief narrative disclosing the purpose for the modification.

(iii) Additional documentation requested by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations relating to the modification.

(10) In the case of gaming related services, as described in § 613a.1 (relating to definitions; general requirements), which are submitted by an applicant for or holder of a manufacturer license or gaming related gaming service provider certification:

(i) A mathematical explanation of the theoretical return to the player, listing all assumptions, all steps in the formula from the first principles through to the final results of all calculations including bonus pays and, when a game requires or permits player skill in the theoretical derivations of the payout return, the source of the strategy.

(ii) A detailed description of the gaming related service including the rules of play and wagering that would be used for the new table game or feature.

(iii) The true odds, the payout odds and the house advantage for each wager.

(iv) A sketch or picture of the game layout, if any.

(v) Sketches or pictures of the equipment used to play the game.

(h) At the conclusion of testing of a prototype or modification by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations, but prior to a decision to approve a prototype or modification, the Board's Executive Director may require a trial period of scope and duration as he deems appropriate to assess the operation of the prototype or modification in a live gaming environment. The conduct of the trial period shall be subject to compliance by the licensed manufacturer, licensed manufacturer designee, applicable licensed suppliers, gaming related gaming ser-

vice provider and the slot machine licensee with specific terms and conditions as may be required by the Board's Executive Director, which may include development and implementation of product specific accounting and internal controls, periodic data reporting to the Board's Executive Director and compliance with technical standards on trial periods or the prototype or modification adopted by the Board as published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site. The Board's Executive Director may authorize the receipt of compensation by a licensed manufacturer, licensed manufacturer designee, licensed supplier or gaming related gaming service provider during the trial period. The Board's Executive Director may order termination of the trial period if it determines that the licensed manufacturer, licensed manufacturer designee, applicable licensed suppliers, gaming related gaming service provider or the slot machine licensee conducting the trial period has not complied with the terms and conditions required by the Board's Executive Director or that the product is not performing as expected.

(i) At the conclusion of testing of a prototype or modification, the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations will report to the Board's Executive Director the results of its testing. Upon receipt of the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations' report, the Board's Executive Director will:

(1) Approve, approve with conditions or reject the submitted prototype or modification.

(2) Require additional testing or a trial period under subsection (h).

(j) The Board's Executive Director approval of a prototype or modification does not constitute a guarantee of the prototype's or modification's safety.

(k) A slot machine licensee is prohibited from installing in its licensed facility a slot machine, table game device or associated equipment, or modification thereto, that is required to be tested unless the equipment, device or software has been approved by the Board's Executive Director. A slot machine licensee may not modify, alter or tamper with an approved slot machine, table game device or associated equipment. A slot machine, table game device or associated equipment installed in a licensed facility in contravention of this requirement will be subject to seizure by the Board.

(l) Notwithstanding subsection (k), the Board's Executive Director may authorize installation of a modification to a slot machine prototype, table game device prototype or associated equipment prototype on an emergency basis to prevent cheating or malfunction, upon the written request of a licensed manufacturer. The request must expressly detail the name and employer of any persons to be involved in the installation of the modification and the manner in which it is to be effected. Within 15 days of receipt of any authorization to install an emergency modification, the manufacturer shall submit the modification for full testing and approval in accordance with this subpart.

(m) A slot machine licensee shall immediately notify the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations and the casino compliance representatives at the licensed

facility of any known or suspected defect or malfunction in any slot machine, table game device or associated equipment installed in its licensed facility. The slot machine licensee shall comply with instructions issued by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations with regard to the continued operation of the slot machine, table game device or associated equipment.

(n) Concurrent with the initial receipt of slot machines, a slot machine licensee shall file a slot machine master list as required by § 463a.5 (relating to slot machine, electronic wagering terminal and fully automated electronic gaming table master lists).

(o) The testing of equipment, devices or software under this subpart may require the dismantling of the product and testing that may result in damage to, or destruction of, one or more systems or components. Once submitted for testing, equipment, devices or software will not be returned to the manufacturer.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.4 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202, 1207, 1317.2, 1319, 1319.1, 1320, 1321, 1322 13A02(1), (2), (2.1), (4) and (6), 13A25(c), 13A41, 13A62(a) and 1517.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.4 amended March 28, 2008, effective March 29, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 1474; amended September 25, 2009, effective September 26, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5562; amended February 26, 2010, effective February 27, 2010, 40 Pa.B. 1082; amended July 6, 2012, effective July 7, 2012, 42 Pa.B. 4305; amended December 15, 2017, effective December 16, 2017, 47 Pa.B. 7563. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (365641), (362035) to (362040) and (385297) to (385298).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 461a.3 (relating to testing and approval generally); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.8 (relating to gaming vouchers); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.9 (relating to coupons utilized in slot machine gaming); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.10 (relating to automated gaming vouchers and coupon redemption machines); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.12 (relating to progressive slot machines); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.14 (relating to slot machine, fully automated gaming tables and electronic wagering terminal monitoring systems); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.15 (relating to casino management systems); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.16 (relating to player tracking systems); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.17 (relating to external bonusing systems); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.18 (relating to cashless funds transfer systems); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.19 (relating to remote system access); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.20 (relating to server supported slot systems); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.21 (relating to server based slot systems); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.22 (relating to automated jackpot payout machines); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.23 (relating to slot machines and associated equipment utilizing alterable storage media); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.26 (relating to testing and software installation on the live gaming floor); 58 Pa. Code § 461b.5 (relating to remote computer access); 58 Pa. Code § 464a.2 (relating to conduct of a slot machine tournament); 58 Pa. Code § 601a.3 (relating to request to offer a new table game or new feature for an existing game); 58 Pa. Code § 601a.10 (relating to approval of table game layouts, signage and equipment); 58 Pa. Code § 603a.16 (relating to cards; receipt, storage, inspection and removal from use); 58 Pa. Code § 603a.17 (relating to dealing shoes; automated card shuffling devices); 58 Pa. Code § 605a.2 (relating to electronic wagering systems); 58 Pa. Code § 605a.4 (relating to electronic gaming tables); 58 Pa. Code § 605a.7 (relating to progressive table games); 58 Pa. Code § 605a.8 (relating to linked progressive table games); 58 Pa. Code § 613a.7 (relating to requirements for use of a gaming related gaming service provider); 58 Pa. Code § 621a.2 (relating to Pai Gow table; Pai Gow shaker; physical characteristics); 58 Pa. Code § 625a.1 (relating to Sic Bo table; Sic Bo shaker; physical characteristics); 58 Pa. Code § 633a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 635a.5 (relating

to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 637a.7 (relating to Poker overview; general dealing procedures for all types of Poker); 58 Pa. Code § 639a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 641a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 643a.2 (relating to Let It Ride Poker table physical characteristics); 58 Pa. Code § 643a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 645a.2 (relating to Pai Gow Poker table; Pai Gow Poker shaker; physical characteristics); 58 Pa. Code § 645a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards; procedures for determining the starting position for dealing cards); 58 Pa. Code § 647a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 649a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 651a.3 (relating to cards; number of decks; dealing shoe); 58 Pa. Code § 651a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 653a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 655a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 657a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 659a.2 (relating to Fortune Asia Poker table; shaker; physical characteristics); 58 Pa. Code § 659a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards; procedures for determining the starting position for dealing cards); 58 Pa. Code § 663a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 665a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 669a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 670a.2 (relating to Six-Card Fortune Pai Gow Poker table; physical characteristics; shaker); 58 Pa. Code § 670a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards; procedures for determining the starting position for dealing cards); 58 Pa. Code § 671a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 672a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 673a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 674a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 676a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 677a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 678a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 679a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 680a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 681a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 682a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 683a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 684a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 685a.5 (relating to shuffle and cut of the cards); 58 Pa. Code § 1112.8 (relating to gaming vouchers); 58 Pa. Code § 1112.13 (relating to video gaming terminals and associated equipment utilizing alterable storage media); and 58 Pa. Code § 1407.3 (relating to testing and approval generally).

§ 461a.5. Slot machine conversions.

A slot machine licensee shall:

- (1) Maintain complete and accurate records of all conversions.
- (2) Give prior notice of a slot machine conversion to the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations in writing.
- (3) Notice the Department in accordance with § 463a.4 (relating to notice and connection to the central control computer system).

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.5 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 1207(3), (6), (9) and (21) and 13A02(1), (2) and (4).

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.5 amended September 25, 2009, effective September 26, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5562; amended January 31, 2014, effective February 1, 2014, 44 Pa.B. 599. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (369880).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 461a.20 (relating to server supported slot systems).

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§ 461a.6. Revocations and additional conditions.

The Board may revoke the approval of or impose additional conditions on a slot machine prototype, associated equipment prototype, or modification thereto, if the equipment, device or software meets either of the following criteria:

- (1) The equipment, device or software is not in compliance with the act, this subpart or technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's website.
- (2) The slot machine, or modification thereto, is not compatible with, or compliant with the central control computer and protocol specifications approved by the Department or is unable to communicate with the central control computer for the purpose of transmitting auditing program information, real time information retrieval and activation and disabling of slot machines.

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 461a.20 (relating to server supported slot systems).

§ 461a.7. Slot machine minimum design standards.

(a) A slot machine may not be set to pay out less than the theoretical payout percentage, which may not be less than 85%, calculated using the lowest possible wager that could be played for any single play, or equal or exceed 100%, calculated using the highest eligible wager available. The theoretical payout percentage for the total value of slot machine wagers will be calculated using the following:

- (1) The defined set of all symbols that will be displayed using spinning reels or video displays, or both.
 - (2) The finite set of all possible combinations which shall be known as the cycle of the game. All possible combinations in a slot machine cycle shall be independent of each other and of all possible combinations from cycles in other slot machines.
 - (3) The value of each winning combination that corresponds with the set from paragraph (2) which, whether by reason of skill or application of the element of chance or both, may deliver or entitle the person or persons playing the slot machine to a jackpot.
 - (4) A payout of merchandise or anything of value provided a cash equivalent award for the merchandise is offered. The value of the cash equivalent will contribute to the calculation of the theoretical payout percentage.
 - (5) A payout in the form of an annuity will contribute to the calculation of the theoretical payout percentage by dividing the initial or reset amount of the jackpot payout by the number of years over which the jackpot will be paid.
 - (6) The odds of any winning combination may not exceed 50 million to 1.
- (b) The calculation of the theoretical payout percentage will not include:
- (1) The amount of any progressive jackpot in excess of the initial or reset amount.

- (2) A cash or noncash complimentary issued under § 465a.7 (relating to complimentary services or items).
- (c) A play offered by a slot machine may not have a theoretical payout percentage which is less than, when calculated to one hundredth of a percentage point, the theoretical payout percentage for any other play offered by that slot machine which is activated by a slot machine wager in a lesser amount than the slot machine wager required for that play. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the theoretical payout percentage of one or more particular plays may be less than the theoretical payout percentage of one or more plays which require a lesser wager provided that:
- (1) The aggregate total of the decreases in the theoretical payout percentage for plays offered by the slot machine is not more than 1/2 of 1%.
 - (2) The theoretical payout percentage for every play offered by the slot machine is equal to or greater than the theoretical payout percentage for the play that requires the lowest possible wager that will activate the slot machine.
- (d) The selection from the set of all possible combinations of symbols shall be made applying a pseudo random number generator. At a minimum, a pseudo random number generator must adhere to the following criteria:
- (1) The random selection process must meet a 95% confidence interval.
 - (2) A random number generator must pass a standard chi-squared test for goodness of fit.
 - (3) Each possible slot machine combination which produces winning or losing slot machine outcomes must be available for random selection at the initiation of each play.
 - (4) A slot machine payout percentage that may be affected by reason of skill must meet the theoretical payout requirements of this subpart when evaluated by the Board using a method of play that will provide the greatest return to the player.
 - (5) Once a random selection process has occurred, the slot machine must:
 - (i) Display an accurate representation of the randomly selected outcome.
 - (ii) Not make a secondary decision which affects the result shown to the person playing the slot machine.
- (e) A slot machine is prohibited from automatically altering any function of the slot machine based on internal computation of the hold percentage.
- (f) The available winning combinations and applicable rules of play for a slot machine shall be available at all times the slot machine is idle to the patron playing the slot machine. The award schedule of available winning combinations may not include possible aggregate awards achievable from free plays. A slot machine that includes a strategy choice must provide mathematically sufficient information for a patron to use optimal skill. Information regarding a strategy choice need not be made available for any strategy decisions whenever the patron is not required, in addition to the initial wager, to make an additional wager and, when

as a result of playing a strategy choice, the patron can not lose any credits earned thus far during that game play.

(g) Slot machines approved for use in a licensed facility must be equipped with the following meters that comply with the technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's website:

(1) *Coin in*. A meter that accumulates the total value of all wagers, whether the wager results from the insertion of currency, gaming vouchers, coupons, downloaded credits, credits won or any other means. This meter must:

(i) Not include subsequent wagers of intermediate winnings accumulated during game play sequence such as those acquired from "double up" games.

(ii) For multigame and multidenomination/multigame slot machines, monitor the information necessary, on a per payable basis, to calculate a weighted average actual payout percentage.

(2) *Coin out*. A meter that accumulates the total value of all amounts directly paid by the slot machine as a result of winning wagers, whether the payout is made directly from the printer by issuance of a gaming voucher, directly to a credit meter or by any other means. This meter may not record amounts awarded as the result of an external bonusing system or a progressive payout.

(3) *Attendant paid jackpots*. A meter that accumulates the total value of credits paid by an attendant resulting from a single winning alignment or combination, the amount of which is not capable of being paid by the slot machine itself. This meter may not record amounts awarded as the result of an external bonusing system or a progressive payout. This meter is to record only amounts specifically listed in the manufacturer's par sheet.

(4) *Attendant paid cancelled credits*. A meter that accumulates the total value of all amounts paid by an attendant resulting from a player initiated cash-out that exceeds the physical or configured capability of the slot machine.

(5) *Bill in*. A meter that accumulates the total value of currency accepted. The slot machine must also have a specific meter for each denomination of currency accepted that records the number of bills accepted for each denomination.

(6) *Voucher in—cashable/value*. A meter that accumulates the total value of cashable gaming vouchers accepted by the slot machine.

(7) *Voucher in—cashable/count*. A meter that accumulates the total number of cashable gaming vouchers accepted by a slot machine.

(8) *Voucher out—cashable/value*. A meter that accumulates the total value of cashable gaming vouchers issued by the slot machine.

(9) *Voucher out—cashable/count*. A meter that records the total number of cashable gaming vouchers issued by a slot machine.

(10) *Voucher out—noncashable/value*. A meter that accumulates the total value of noncashable gaming vouchers issued by the slot machine.

(11) *Voucher out—noncashable/count*. A meter that records the total number of noncashable gaming vouchers issued by the slot machine.

(12) *Cashable electronic in*. A meter that accumulates the total value of cashable credits electronically transferred to the slot machine by means of an external connection between the slot machine and a cashless funds transfer system.

(13) *Noncashable electronic in*. A meter that accumulates the total value of noncashable credits electronically transferred to the slot machine by means of an external connection between the slot machine and a cashless funds transfer system.

(14) *Coupon in—cashable/value*. A meter that accumulates the total value of cashable coupons accepted by the slot machine.

(15) *Coupon in—cashable/count*. A meter that accumulates the total number of cashable coupons accepted by the slot machine.

(16) *Coupon in—noncashable/value*. A meter that accumulates the total value of noncashable coupons accepted by the slot machine.

(17) *Coupon in—noncashable/count*. A meter that accumulates the total number of noncashable coupons accepted by the slot machine.

(18) *Slot machine paid external bonus payout*. A meter that accumulates the total value of additional amounts awarded as a result of an external bonusing system and paid by the slot machine.

(19) *Attendant paid external bonus payout*. A meter that accumulates the total value of additional amounts awarded as a result of an external bonusing system and paid by a slot attendant.

(20) *Slot machine paid progressive payout*. A meter that accumulates the total value of credits paid as a result of progressive awards paid directly by the slot machine. This meter may not record awards paid as a result of an external bonusing system.

(21) *Attendant paid progressive payout*. A meter that accumulates the total value of credits paid by a slot attendant as a result of progressive awards that are not capable of being paid by the slot machine. This meter may not include awards paid as a result of an external bonusing system.

(22) *Additional requirements*. Other meters required by technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's website.

(h) A slot machine that does not meter one or more of the events required to be metered under subsection (g) may be approved where a slot machine licensee's system of internal controls establishes that the meter is not required to capture all critical transactions occurring on the slot machine.

(i) The meters required under subsection (g) must continuously and automatically increment in units equal to the denomination of the slot machine or, in

the case of a slot machine configured for multidenomination play, must display the required information in dollars and cents.

(j) A slot machine approved for use in a licensed facility must be equipped with the following noncumulative meters:

(1) *Credits wagered.* A meter, visible from the front exterior of a slot machine, known as a credit wagered meter that advises the patron of the total value of amounts wagered in a particular game or round of slot play.

(2) *Win meter.* A meter, visible from the front exterior of the slot machine, known as a win meter that advises the patron of the total value of amounts won in the immediately concluded game or round of slot play.

(3) *Credits paid.* A meter, visible from the front exterior of the slot machine, known as a credits paid meter that advises the patron of the total value of the last:

- (i) Cash out initiated by the patron.
- (ii) Attendant paid jackpot.
- (iii) Attendant paid cancelled credit.

(4) *Credit meter.* A meter, visible from the front exterior of the slot machine and specifically labeled as a credit meter, which advises the patron as to the number of credits or monetary value available for wagering on the slot machine. The credit meter need not distinguish between cashable credits and noncashable credits.

(k) A slot machine must have a meter which stores the number of games played, in the manner and for a duration specified in this subpart or in technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's website, since the following events:

- (1) Power reset.
- (2) Door close.
- (3) Game initialization (random access memory (RAM) clear).

(l) A slot machine must be equipped with a device, mechanism or method for retaining the total value of all meters required under subsection (g) for 72 hours subsequent to a power loss.

(m) The required meters on a slot machine must be accessible and legible without access to the interior of the slot machine.

(n) A slot machine must be equipped with a tower light capable of effectively communicating the status of the slot machine in accordance with technical standards on tower lights and error conditions under § 461b.2 (relating to slot machine tower lights and error conditions).

(o) A slot machine must be equipped with a device, mechanism or method for detecting, displaying and communicating to a slot monitoring system error conditions. The error conditions detected, displayed and communicated by a slot machine, and the method to be utilized to clear the message with regard to the error condition, must be in accordance with technical standards on tower lights and error conditions under § 461b.2.

(p) A slot machine must, in accordance with section 1324 of the act (relating to protocol information), comply with the comprehensive protocol specifications necessary to enable the slot machine to communicate with the Department's central control computer as that protocol is amended or supplemented, for the purpose of transmitting auditing program information, real time information retrieval and slot machine activation and disabling.

(q) A slot machine must lock up and preclude further play whenever a jackpot occurs that is not able to be paid completely by the slot machine and requires a hand pay. When the jackpot occurs, the slot machine can offer a predetermined number of double-up wagers before the slot machine locks up.

(r) Printers incorporated into a slot machine must be:

(1) Designed to allow the slot machine to detect and report a low paper level, paper out, presentation error, printer failure and paper jams.

(2) Mounted inside a lockable compartment within the slot machine.

(s) Seating made available by a slot machine licensee for use during slot play may be fixed and stationary or nonfixed. When fixed and stationary seating is used, it must be installed in a manner that effectively precludes its ready removal by a patron but permits controlled removal, for example for American With Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) (42 U.S.C.A. §§ 12101—12213) purposes, by slot operations department personnel. When nonfixed seating is used, the slot machine licensee shall:

(1) Maintain a minimum aisle width of 48 inches, measured from the seat back to seat back when the nonfixed seating is vacant and is touching or is as close as possible to the slot machine at which the nonfixed seating is being used.

(2) Provide to the Bureau of Gaming Operations copies of a certification obtained from the local building code or fire safety officials or a certification from an architect registered in this Commonwealth that the use of the nonfixed seating complies with applicable building and fire safety code requirements.

(t) Unless a slot machine licensee's slot monitoring system is configured to automatically record all of the information required by this subsection, the slot machine licensee shall be required to physically house in each slot machine the following entry authorization logs:

(1) A machine entry authorization log that documents each time a slot machine or any device connected thereto which may affect the operation of the slot machine is opened. The log must contain, at a minimum, the date, time, purpose for opening the slot machine or device and the signature and license or permit number of the person opening and entering the slot machine or device. Each log must have recorded thereon a sequence number and the manufacturer's serial number or the asset number corresponding to the slot machine in which it is housed.

(2) A progressive entry authorization log that documents each time a progressive controller not housed within the cabinet of the slot machine is opened.

The log must contain, at a minimum, the date, time, purpose for accessing the progressive controller and the signature and license or permit number of the person accessing the progressive controller. Each log must be maintained in the progressive controller unit and have recorded thereon a sequence number and the manufacturer's serial number of the progressive controller.

(u) A slot machine must be equipped with a lock controlling access to the card cage door securing the microprocessor, the key to which must be different from any other key securing access to the slot machine's components including its belly door or main door, bill validator or slot cash storage box. Access to the key securing the microprocessor shall be limited to a supervisor in the slot operations department, and that department shall establish a sign out and sign in procedure with regard to this key.

(v) A slot machine must be equipped with a mechanism for detecting and communicating to a slot monitoring system any activity with regard to access to the card cage door securing its microprocessor.

(w) A slot machine that does not require a full-time attendant for operation must be equipped with a service button designed to allow the player of a slot machine to request assistance. The service button must:

- (1) Be visible to and within easy reach of the player of the slot machine.
- (2) Communicate directly or through the slot machine to the slot machine's tower light which will provide a signal that is in compliance with the technical standards on slot machine tower lights under § 461b.2.

(x) A slot machine approved for use in a licensed facility must be configured to wager credits available for play in the following order:

- (1) Noncashable credits.
- (2) Cashable credits.

(y) A slot machine on the gaming floor must have a label on the top of the slot machine and on the front of the slot machine near the bill validator that displays the asset number and the gaming floor plan location number of the slot machine. The labels must have white lettering on a black background or other color combination approved by the Bureau of Gaming Operations, may not be easily removed and must be easily visible to the surveillance department. The label on the top of the slot machine must be at least 1.5 inches by 5.5 inches and the label on the front of the slot machine must be at least 1 inch by 2.5 inches or other sizes approved by the Bureau of Gaming Operations.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.7 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202, 1205, 1206(f) and (g), 1207, 1208(1)(iii), 1209(b), 1212, 1213, 1320, 1321, 1322, 13A11, 13A12—13A14, 13A15, 1517 and 1802 and Chapter 13.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.7 amended March 28, 2008, effective March 29, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 1744; amended October 10, 2008, effective October 11, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 5652; amended September 25, 2009, effective September 26, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5562; amended February 26, 2010, effective February 27, 2010, 40 Pa.B. 1082; amended May 14, 2010, effective May 15, 2010, 40 Pa.B. 2535; amended June 12, 2015, effective June 13, 2015, 45 Pa.B. 2829. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (370309) to (370310), (348375) to (348376), (349905) to (349906) and (370311) to (370312).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 461a.12 (relating to progressive slot machines); 58 Pa. Code § 461a.20 (relating to server supported slot systems); and 58 Pa. Code § 810.5 (relating to random number generator standards).

§ 461a.8. Gaming vouchers.

(a) A slot machine licensee may utilize gaming vouchers and a gaming voucher system that has been tested and approved by the Board under § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval).

(b) The design specifications for a gaming voucher, the voucher verification methodologies utilized and any limitation on the value of a gaming voucher must be in compliance with technical standards on gaming vouchers under § 461b.3 (relating to gaming vouchers).

(c) The design specifications for a gaming voucher system must be in compliance with technical standards on gaming voucher systems under § 461b.3.

(d) Prior to issuing a gaming voucher, a slot machine licensee shall establish a system of internal controls for the issuance and redemption of gaming vouchers. The internal controls shall be submitted and approved by the Board under § 465a.2 (relating to internal control systems and audit protocols) and address:

(1) Procedures for assigning an asset number and identifying other redemption locations in the system, and enabling and disabling voucher capabilities for slot machines, fully automated electronic gaming tables, electronic wagering terminals and redemption locations.

(2) Procedures for issuance, modification and termination of a unique system account for each user in accordance with technical standards under § 461b.3.

(3) Procedures used to configure and maintain user passwords in accordance with technical standards under § 461b.3.

(4) Procedures for restricting special rights and privileges, such as administrator and override capabilities, in accordance with technical standards under § 461b.3.

(5) The duties and responsibilities of the information technology, internal audit, slot operations and finance departments, respectively, and the level of access for each position with regard to the gaming voucher system.

(6) A description of physical controls on all critical hardware such as locks and surveillance, including the location and security protocols applicable to each piece of equipment.

(7) Procedures for the backup and timely recovery of critical data in accordance with technical standards under § 461b.3.

(8) Logs used to document and maintain the details of Board-approved hardware and software modifications upon implementation.

(9) Procedures for the payment of the value of unredeemed gaming vouchers, which individually or in the aggregate equal \$25 or more, to a patron whose identity can be determined by the slot machine licensee using the slot machine licensee's player tracking system.

(10) Procedures for the retention, tracking and payment of the value of unredeemed gaming vouchers to the State Treasurer as required by Article XIII.1 of The Fiscal Code (72 P. S. §§ 1301.1—1301.28a) regarding the disposition of abandoned and unclaimed property.

(e) The system of internal controls required to be submitted and approved by the Board under subsection (d) must also include the procedures to be applied in the following instances:

(1) The slot machine licensee chooses to pay a patron the value of a gaming voucher notwithstanding the fact that the gaming voucher system is inoperable rendering it unable to determine the validity of the gaming voucher at the time of payment.

(2) The slot machine licensee chooses to pay a patron the value of a gaming voucher notwithstanding the fact that the gaming voucher system failed to verify and electronically cancel the gaming voucher when it was scanned.

(f) At the end of each gaming day, the gaming voucher system must generate reports and the reports must be provided to the finance department, either directly by the system or through the information technology department. The report, at a minimum, must contain the following information:

(1) A report of all gaming vouchers that have been issued which includes the asset number and the serial number of the slot machine, and the value, date and time of issuance of each gaming voucher.

(2) A report of all gaming vouchers that have been redeemed and cancelled by redemption location, including the asset number of the slot machine or location if other than a slot machine, the serial number, the value, date and time of redemption for each voucher, the total value of all gaming vouchers redeemed at slot machines, and the total value of all gaming vouchers redeemed at locations other than slot machines.

(3) The unredeemed liability for gaming vouchers.

(4) The readings on gaming voucher related slot machine meters and a comparison of the readings to the number and value of issued and redeemed gaming vouchers, as applicable.

(5) Exception reports and audit logs.

(g) A slot machine licensee shall immediately report to the Board evidence that a gaming voucher has been counterfeited, tampered with, or altered in any way which would affect the integrity, fairness, reliability or suitability of the gaming voucher.

(h) Upon presentation of a gaming voucher for redemption at a slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table or electronic wagering terminal, the total value of which gaming voucher cannot be completely converted into an equivalent value of credits that match the denomination of the slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table or electronic wagering terminal, the slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table or electronic wagering terminal must perform one of the following procedures:

(1) Automatically issue a new gaming voucher containing the value that cannot be completely converted.

(2) Not redeem the gaming voucher and immediately return the gaming voucher to the patron.

(3) Allow for the additional accumulation of credits on an odd cents meter or a meter that displays the value in dollars and cents.

(i) A slot machine licensee that utilizes a system or a slot machine that does not print a test gaming voucher that is visually distinguishable from a valid gaming voucher whenever the slot machine is tested on the gaming floor must have in place internal controls approved by the Board under § 465a.2 for the issuance of test currency from the cashiers' cage and the return and reconciliation of the test currency and any gaming vouchers printed during the testing process.

(j) Except as provided in subsection (n) with regard to employee redemption of gaming vouchers, a gaming voucher shall be redeemed by a patron for a specific value of cash, slot machine credits, or, at the request of the patron, a check issued by the slot machine licensee in the amount of the gaming voucher surrendered. Notwithstanding the forgoing, a slot machine licensee may not permit a gaming voucher that is presented for redemption to be redeemed if it knows, or has reason to know, that the gaming voucher:

(1) Is materially different from the sample of the gaming voucher approved by the Board.

(2) Was previously redeemed.

(3) Was printed as a test gaming voucher.

(k) Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection (j), if a patron requests to redeem a gaming voucher by mail, the slot machine licensee may effectuate the redemption. However, the gaming voucher may only be redeemed by a cage supervisor in accordance with internal controls approved by the Board under § 465a.2, which include the following:

(1) Procedures for using the gaming voucher system to verify the validity of the serial number and value of the voucher, which, if valid, must be immediately cancelled electronically by the system.

(2) Procedures for the issuance of a check equal to the value of the voucher.

(l) Gaming vouchers redeemed at cashiering locations shall be transferred to the finance department on a daily basis. Gaming vouchers redeemed by slot machines, fully automated electronic gaming tables and electronic wagering terminals shall be counted in the count room and forwarded to the finance department upon the conclusion of the count process. Gaming vouchers redeemed at automated gaming voucher redemption machines shall be forwarded to finance upon the conclusion of the cashiers' cage reconciliation process. Finance department representatives with no incompatible functions shall perform, at a minimum, the following:

(1) On a daily basis:

(i) Compare gaming voucher system report data to any count room system report data available for that gaming day to ensure proper electronic cancellation of the gaming voucher.

(ii) Calculate the unredeemed liability for gaming vouchers, either manually or by means of the gaming voucher system.

(2) On a weekly basis, compare appropriate slot machine meter readings to the number and value of issued and redeemed gaming vouchers per the gaming voucher system. Meter readings obtained through a slot monitoring system may be utilized to complete this comparison.

(m) A slot machine licensee shall provide written notice to the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations of any adjustment to the value of any gaming voucher. The notice shall be made prior to, or concurrent with, the adjustment.

(n) Employees of a slot machine licensee who are authorized to receive gratuities under § 465a.19 (relating to acceptance of tips or gratuities from patrons) may only redeem gaming vouchers given as gratuities at a cashiers' cage. Gaming vouchers valued at more than \$100 shall only be redeemed at the cashiers' cage with the approval of the supervisor of the cashier conducting the redemption transaction.

(o) A gaming voucher system must be configured to alert a slot machine licensee to any malfunction. Following a malfunction of a system, a slot machine licensee shall notify the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations and the casino compliance representatives at the licensed facility within 24 hours of the malfunction and may not utilize the system until the malfunction has been successfully eliminated. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations may permit a slot machine licensee to utilize the system prior to its being successfully restored, for a period not to exceed 72 hours, provided that:

(1) The malfunction is limited to a single storage media device, such as a hard disk drive.

(2) In addition to the malfunctioning storage media device, the system contains a backup storage media device not utilized in the normal operation of the system. The backup device must immediately and automatically replace the malfunctioning device to permit a complete and prompt recovery of all information in the event of an additional malfunction.

(3) Continued use of the malfunctioning system would not inhibit the ability to perform a complete and prompt recovery of all information, and would not otherwise harm or affect the normal operation of the system.

(p) Other than a modification to a gaming voucher system required on an emergency basis to prevent cheating or malfunction and approved by the Board under § 461a.4(m), a modification to a gaming voucher system may not be installed without the gaming voucher system having undergone the testing and approval process required under § 461a.4.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.8 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202, 1207, 13A02(1), (2), (2.1), (4) and (6), 13A25(c), 13A62(a), 1321 and 1322.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.8 amended September 26, 2008, effective December 26, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 5316; amended September 25, 2009, effective September 26, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5562; amended February 26, 2010, effective February 27, 2010, 40 Pa.B. 1082; amended January 31, 2014, effective February 1, 2014, 44 Pa.B. 599; amended December 15, 2017, effective December 16, 2017, 47 Pa.B. 7563. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (377537) to (377538) and (370313) to (370316).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 465a.19 (relating to acceptance of tips or gratuities from patrons).

§ 461a.9. Coupons utilized in slot machine gaming.

(a) A slot machine licensee may utilize coupons and a coupon system that has been tested and approved by the Board under § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval) and complies with technical standards on coupon systems adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's website.

(b) The design specifications for a coupon, the expiration terms applicable thereto, the coupon verification methodologies utilized, and any limitation on the value of a coupon must be in compliance with technical standards on coupons adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's website.

(c) A coupon shall be designed and manufactured with sufficient graphics or other security measures, to permit the proper verification of the coupon. A coupon must contain, at a minimum, the following information:

(1) The name or trade name of the slot machine licensee. If the slot machine licensee is affiliated with a casino licensee in any other jurisdiction with an identical or similar name or trade name, the name of the Pennsylvania location must be evident on the coupon.

(2) The value of the coupon, in both numbers and words.

(3) A unique serial number, which is automatically generated by the system in accordance with this subpart and technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's website.

(4) The locations where the coupon may be redeemed and restrictions regarding redemption.

(5) An indication of the date on which the coupon becomes invalid.

(6) A bar code or magnetic strip which enables the coupon system to establish the validity of the coupon and its value in accordance with this subpart and technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's website.

(d) Prior to issuing a coupon, a slot machine licensee shall establish a system of internal controls for the issuance and redemption of coupons. The internal controls shall be submitted to, and approved by the Board under § 465a.2 (relating to internal control systems and audit protocols).

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.9 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 1207(3) and (9) and 13A02(1), (2) and (4).

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.9 amended January 31, 2014, effective February 1, 2014, 44 Pa.B. 619. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (349912) to (349913).

§ 461a.10. Automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machines.

(a) A slot machine licensee may utilize an automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine that has been tested and approved by the Board under § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval).

(b) Automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machines may be located on or proximate to the gaming floor of a licensed facility and must be subject to surveillance coverage under § 465a.9 (relating to surveillance system; surveillance department control; surveillance department restriction). Each automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must have a label on the top of the automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine and on the front of the automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine that displays the asset number of the automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine. The labels must have white lettering on a black background or other color combination approved by the Bureau of Gaming Operations and may not be easily removed. The label on the top of the automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must be at least 1.5 inches by 5.5 inches and the label on the front of the automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must be at least 1 inch by 2.5 inches or other sizes approved by the Bureau of Gaming Operations.

(c) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must have the capability of establishing the validity of a gaming voucher or coupon by comparing the instrument's unique serial number, automatically generated by the respective gaming voucher or coupon system in accordance with this subpart and technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's website with electronic records within the gaming voucher system or coupon system.

(d) The methods utilized to comply with the requirements of subsection (c) shall be submitted to and approved by the Board under § 461a.4 in the context of the testing of a gaming voucher system or coupon system.

(e) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine may function as a bill breaker changing bills of one denomination into bills of a smaller denomination.

(f) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must contain a lockable gaming voucher, coupon and currency storage box which retains any gaming vouchers, coupons or currency accepted by the machine. The gaming voucher, coupon and currency storage box located inside the machine must also have imprinted, affixed or impressed thereon the asset identification number of the corresponding machine.

(g) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must have, at a minimum, the following:

- (1) One lock securing the compartment housing the storage box and one lock securing the storage box within the compartment, the keys to which must be different from each other.
- (2) One lock securing the compartment housing the currency cassettes.
- (3) One lock securing the contents of the storage box, the key to which must be different from the keys referenced in paragraphs (1) and (2).
- (h) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must be designed to resist forced illegal entry.
- (i) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine's currency cassettes must be designed to preclude access to its interior.
- (j) Access controls relating to the operating system or applications of the automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine, and ancillary systems, applications and equipment associated with the reconciliation thereof, must employ security measures that require authentication of the user and recording and maintaining of data regarding access and modifications made. Authentication must be in accordance with this subpart and technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.
- (k) A gaming voucher or coupon accepted by an automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine shall be cancelled immediately upon exchange in a manner that effectively prevents its subsequent redemption by the cashiers' cage, another automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine or its acceptance in a slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table or electronic wagering terminal bill validator. The methods utilized to comply with this requirement must be in accordance with this subpart and technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.
- (l) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must be designed to be impervious to outside influences, interference from electromagnetic, electro-static and radio frequencies and influence from ancillary equipment.
- (m) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must include a means to protect against transaction failure and data loss due to power loss.
- (n) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must detect, display and record electronically the following error conditions: power reset; door open; door just closed and system communication loss. These error conditions may be automatically cleared by the automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine when the condition no longer exists and upon completion of a new transaction.
- (o) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must detect, display and record electronically the error conditions in paragraphs (1)—

(4). These error conditions must disable the automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine and prohibit new transactions.

(1) Failure to make payment, if the gaming voucher or coupon is not returned and no receipt is issued.

(2) Failure to make complete payment if a receipt for the unpaid amount is not issued.

(3) Bill validator failure.

(4) Printer failure due to printer jam or lack of paper.

(p) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must be designed to evaluate whether sufficient funds are available before stacking the voucher and completing the transaction.

(q) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must be capable of maintaining synchronization between its real time clock and that of the gaming voucher system and coupon system.

(r) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must be equipped with electronic digital storage meters that accumulate the following information. The information must be readily available through system reports. When a value is maintained, the value must be in dollars and cents.

(1) *Physical coin out*. The total value, by denomination, of coins paid by the automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine.

(2) *Voucher in—value*. The value of cashable gaming vouchers accepted.

(3) *Voucher in—count*. The number of cashable gaming vouchers accepted.

(4) *Coupon in—value*. The value of cashable coupons accepted.

(5) *Coupon in—count*. The number of cashable coupons accepted.

(6) *Bill in*. The value of currency accepted by the automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine. An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must also have specific meters for each denomination of currency accepted that records the number of bills accepted.

(7) *Bill out*. The total value of currency dispensed. An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must also provide for specific meters for each denomination of currency dispensed that record the number of bills dispensed.

(8) *Additional requirements*. Other meters as may be required by technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.

(s) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine must have the capacity to record and retain, in an automated transaction log, all critical transaction history for at least 30 days. Transaction history must include records with the date, time, amount and disposition of each complete and incomplete transaction, error conditions, logical and physical access and attempted access to the automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine. If an automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine is capable of redeeming multiple vouchers and coupons in a single transaction, the transaction

history must include a breakdown of the transaction with regard to the individual gaming vouchers and coupons.

(t) An automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine or ancillary systems, applications and equipment associated with the reconciliation thereof, must be capable of producing the following reports upon request:

(1) *Gaming voucher transaction report.* The report must include the disposition (paid, partial pay, unpaid) of gaming vouchers accepted by an automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine which must include the validation number, the date and time of redemption, amount requested and the amount dispensed. This information must be available by reconciliation period which may be by day, shift or drop cycle.

(2) *Coupon transaction report.* This report must include the disposition (paid, partial pay, unpaid) of coupons accepted by an automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine which must include the unique serial number, the date and time of redemption, amount requested and the amount dispensed. The information must be available by reconciliation period which may be by day, shift or drop cycle.

(3) *Reconciliation report.* The report must include the following:

- (i) Report date and time.
- (ii) Unique asset identification number of the machine.
- (iii) Total cash balance of the currency cassettes.
- (iv) Total count of currency accepted by denomination.
- (v) Total dollar amount of vouchers accepted.
- (vi) Total count of gaming vouchers accepted.
- (vii) Total dollar amount of coupons accepted.
- (viii) Total count of coupons accepted.

(4) *Gaming voucher, coupon and currency storage box report.* The report must be generated, at a minimum, whenever a gaming voucher, coupon and currency storage box is removed from an automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine. The report must include the following:

- (i) Report date and time.
- (ii) Unique asset identification number of the machine.
- (iii) Unique identification number for each storage box in the machine.
- (iv) Total value of currency accepted.
- (v) Total number of bills accepted by denomination.
- (vi) Total count of gaming vouchers accepted.
- (vii) Total count of coupons accepted.

(5) *Transaction report.* The report must include all critical patron transaction history including the date, time, amount and disposition of each complete and incomplete transaction. If an automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine is capable of redeeming multiple vouchers or coupons in

a single transaction, the transaction history must include a breakdown of the transaction with regard to the individual gaming vouchers and coupons accepted.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.10 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 1207(3), (5), (7), (9) and (11), 13A02(1), (2), (2.1), (4) and (6), 13A25(c), 13A62(a), 1321 and 1322.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.10 amended October 10, 2008, effective October 11, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 5652; amended August 28, 2009, effective August 29, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5125; amended September 25, 2009, effective September 26, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5562; amended February 26, 2010, effective February 27, 2010, 40 Pa.B. 1082; amended May 14, 2010, effective May 15, 2010, 40 Pa.B. 2535; amended December 15, 2017, effective December 16, 2017, 47 Pa.B. 7563. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (370317) to (370321).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 465a.34 (relating to automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machine accounting controls).

§ 461a.11. [Reserved].

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.11 reserved May 14, 2010, effective May 15, 2010, 40 Pa.B. 2535. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (348389).

§ 461a.12. Progressive slot machines.

(a) A progressive slot machine may stand alone or be linked with other progressive slot machines.

(b) Each slot machine that offers a progressive jackpot must have:

(1) A progressive meter, visible from the front of the slot machine, which may increase in value based upon wagers, that advises the player of the amount which can be won if the player receives the combination on the slot machine that awards the progressive jackpot.

(2) A slot machine paid progressive payout meter in accordance with § 461a.7(g) (relating to slot machine minimum design standards).

(3) A slot attendant paid progressive payout meter in accordance with § 461a.7(g).

(4) A cumulative progressive payout meter that continuously and automatically records the total value of progressive jackpots paid directly by the slot machine or by a slot attendant.

(5) A key and key switch or other reset mechanism to reset the progressive meter or meters.

(6) A key locking the compartment housing the progressive meter or meters or other means by which to preclude any unauthorized alterations to the progressive meters. The key or alternative security method must be different than the key or reset mechanism in paragraph (5).

(7) If the progressive controller is not secured in a slot machine, the progressive controller:

- (i) Must be maintained in a secure area approved by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations.
 - (ii) Must be dual key controlled with one key controlled by the slot operations department and the other key controlled by a different designated department with no incompatible functions, as specified in the licensee's internal controls.
 - (iii) May not be accessed until the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations is electronically notified.
- (c) In addition to the requirements in subsection (b), a slot machine that is connected to a common progressive meter for the purpose of offering the same progressive jackpot on two or more slot machines must:
- (1) Have the same probability of hitting the combination that will award the progressive jackpot as every other slot machine linked to the common progressive meter.
 - (2) Require that the same amount in wager be invested to entitle the player to a chance at winning the progressive jackpot and that each increase in wager increment the progressive meter by the same rate of progression as every other slot machine linked to the common progressive meter.
- (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c), two or more linked slot machines offering the same progressive jackpot may be of different denominations or have different wagers, or both, required to win the progressive jackpot, provided that:
- (1) The probability of winning the progressive jackpot is directly proportional to the wager required to win that jackpot.
 - (2) Notice indicating the proportional probability of hitting the progressive jackpot on the linked progressive system is conspicuously displayed on each linked slot machine.
- (e) A slot machine licensee seeking to utilize a linked slot machine shall submit for approval in accordance with § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval) the location and manner of installing any progressive meter display mechanism.
- (f) A slot machine that offers a progressive jackpot may not be placed on the gaming floor until the slot machine licensee or, as applicable, the slot system operator, has submitted the following to the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations for review and approval in accordance with § 461a.4:
- (1) The initial and reset amounts at which the progressive meter or meters will be set.
 - (2) The proposed system for controlling the keys and applicable logical access controls to the slot machines.
 - (3) The proposed rate of progression for each progressive jackpot.
 - (4) The proposed limit for the progressive jackpot, if any.
 - (5) The calculated probability of winning each progressive jackpot. The probability may not exceed 50 million to 1. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this paragraph does not apply to a jackpot with a probability that may exceed 50

million to 1 during the game cycle due solely to the intervening occurrence of free play awards between the activation of a play and the award of the jackpot.

(g) A slot machine that offers either a new progressive jackpot or undergoes a modification or RAM clear of an existing progressive jackpot may not be made available for play by the public until the slot machine has been tested and certified by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations. For purposes of this subsection, a modification includes any change in the software, hardware, including controllers, and any associated equipment that relates to progressive functionality.

(h) Progressive jackpot meters may not be turned back to a lesser amount unless one of the following occurs:

(1) The amount indicated has been actually paid to a winning patron and the progressive jackpot amount has been recorded in accordance with a system of internal controls approved under § 465a.2 (relating to internal control systems and audit protocols).

(2) With written approval, the progressive jackpot has been transferred to another progressive slot machine or wide area progressive system in accordance with subsection (k)(4).

(3) The change is necessitated by a slot machine or meter malfunction. An explanation for the change shall be entered on the progressive slot summary required under this subpart and the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations shall be notified of the resetting in writing.

(i) Once an amount appears on a progressive meter, the probability of hitting the combination that will award the progressive jackpot may not be decreased unless the progressive jackpot has been won by a patron, has been transferred to another progressive slot machine or wide area progressive system or has been removed in accordance with subsection (k).

(j) When a slot machine has a progressive meter with digital limitations on the meter, the slot machine licensee shall set a limit on the progressive jackpot not to exceed the display capability of the progressive meter.

(k) A slot machine licensee or, as applicable, a slot system operator, may limit, transfer or terminate a progressive jackpot offered on a gaming floor only under the following circumstances:

(1) A slot machine licensee may establish a payout limit for a progressive jackpot provided that the payout limit is greater than the then current payout amount on the progressive jackpot meter. The slot machine licensee shall provide notice to and receive written approval from the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations prior to the imposition of a payout limit on a progressive meter or a modification thereto.

(2) A slot machine licensee may terminate a progressive jackpot concurrent with the winning of the progressive jackpot provided its slot machine program or progressive controller was configured prior to the winning of the progressive jackpot to establish a fixed reset amount with no progressive increment.

(3) A slot machine licensee may immediately and permanently remove one or more linked slot machines from a gaming floor, provided that:

(i) When the slot machine is part of a wide area progressive system offered at multiple licensed facilities, the slot machine licensee retains at least one linked slot machine offering the same progressive jackpot on its gaming floor.

(ii) When the progressive jackpot is only offered in a single licensed facility, at least two linked slot machines offering the same progressive jackpot remain on the gaming floor.

(4) A slot machine licensee may transfer a progressive jackpot amount on a stand alone slot machine or the common progressive jackpot on an entire link of slot machines with a common progressive meter, including a wide area progressive system, from a gaming floor provided the slot machine licensee receives written approval from the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations prior to the transfer and the accrued amount minus the seed amount of the progressive jackpot is:

(i) Transferred in its entirety.

(ii) Transferred to one of the following:

(A) The progressive meter for a slot machine or wide area progressive system with the same or similar probability of winning the progressive jackpot, the same or lower wager requirement to be eligible to win the progressive jackpot, and the same type of progressive jackpot (cash, annuity, annuity/cash option or a combination/alternate jackpot).

(B) The progressive meters of two separate slot machines or wide area progressive systems, provided that each slot machine or wide area progressive system to which the jackpot is transferred individually satisfies the requirements of clause (A).

(iii) Notice of intent to transfer the progressive jackpot is conspicuously displayed on the front of each slot machine for at least 30 days.

(5) If a transfer cannot be made in accordance with subsection (k)(4) or with good cause shown, a slot machine licensee may remove progressive functionality, change the game theme or permanently remove a stand alone progressive slot machine, an entire link of slot machines with a common progressive jackpot or an entire wide area progressive system from a gaming floor, provided:

(i) Notice of intent to remove the progressive slot machines or wide area progressive systems is conspicuously displayed on the front of each slot machine for at least 30 days.

(ii) Prior to posting the notice of intent required under subsection (k)(5)(i), the slot machine licensee receives written approval from the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations to remove the progressive slot machines or wide area progressive systems.

(l) Progressive slot machines and wide area progressive systems removed from the gaming floor in accordance with subsection (k)(5) may not be returned to the gaming floor for 90 days.

(m) The amount indicated on the progressive meter or meters and coin in meter on each slot machine governed by subsection (b) shall be recorded on a progressive slot summary report at least once every 7 calendar days and each report shall be signed by the preparer. If not prepared by the finance department, the progressive slot summary report shall be forwarded to the finance department by the end of the gaming day on which it is prepared. A representative of the finance department shall be responsible for calculating the correct amount that should appear on a progressive meter. If an adjustment to the progressive meters is necessary, the adjustment shall be made by a member of the slot operations department as follows:

(1) Supporting documentation shall be maintained to explain any addition or reduction in the registered amount on the progressive meter. The documentation must include the date, asset number of the slot machine, the amount of the adjustment and the signatures of the finance department member requesting the adjustment and of the slot operations department member making the adjustment.

(2) The adjustment must be effectuated within 48 hours of the meter reading.

(n) Except as otherwise authorized by this section, a slot machine offering a progressive jackpot that is temporarily removed from the gaming floor shall be returned to active play or replaced on the gaming floor within 5 gaming days. The amount on the progressive meter or meters on the returned or replacement slot machine may not be less than the amount on the progressive meter or meters at the time of removal. This subsection does not apply to the temporary removal by a slot machine licensee, for a period not to exceed 30 days, of all linked slot machines that are part of a particular wide area progressive system, provided that the progressive jackpot offered by the temporarily removed slot machines remains available on slot machines that are part of the same wide area progressive system in another licensed facility.

(o) When a slot machine is located adjacent to a slot machine offering a progressive jackpot, the slot machine licensee shall conspicuously display a notice advising patrons that the slot machine is not participating in the progressive jackpot of the adjacent slot machine.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.12 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202, 1207, 13A02(1), (2) and (4), 1320, 1322, 13A02(1)—(6), 13A25 and 1517.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.12 amended March 28, 2008, effective March 29, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 1474; amended September 25, 2009, effective September 26, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5562; amended May 11, 2012, effective May 12, 2012, 42 Pa.B. 2585. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (349917) to (349918), (348391) to (348392) and (362047) to (362050).

§ 461a.13. Wide area progressive systems.

(a) Two or more slot machine licensees may, with the prior written approval of the Board as required under subsection (c), operate a wide area progressive system.

(b) A wide area progressive system shall at all times be installed and operated in accordance with relevant requirements of the act and this subpart.

(c) A wide area progressive system shall be operated and administered by participating slot machine licensees in accordance with the terms and conditions of a written agreement executed by the participating slot machine licensees. The agreement shall be referred to as a slot system agreement. Slot system agreements must be submitted in writing and approved by the Board prior to implementation.

(d) Slot machine licensees participating in a slot system agreement may delegate, in whole or in part, the operation and administration of a wide area progressive system to a licensed manufacturer provided that the slot system agreement is executed by the licensed manufacturer and its express terms are approved by the Board. The persons designated in a slot system agreement as being responsible for the operation and administration of a wide area progressive system shall be referred to as the slot system operator.

(e) An agreement between a licensed manufacturer and a slot machine licensee under which a licensed manufacturer sells, leases or services a wide area progressive system will not constitute a slot service agreement unless the agreement also covers operation and administration of the wide area progressive system.

(f) Slot system agreements providing for the operation and administration of a wide area progressive system must identify and describe with specificity the duties, responsibilities and authority of each participating slot machine licensee and each slot system operator including all of the following:

(1) Details with regard to the terms of compensation for the slot system operator. The agreement must address to what extent, if any, the slot system operator is receiving compensation based directly or indirectly on an interest, percentage or share of a slot machine licensee's revenue, profits or earnings from the operation of the wide area progressive system.

(2) Responsibility for the funding and payment of all jackpots, fees and gross terminal revenue taxes associated with the operation of the wide area progressive system.

(3) Control and operation of the computer monitoring room required under subsection (g).

(4) A description of the process by which significant decisions with regard to the operation of the wide area progressive system are approved and implemented by the participating slot machine licensees and slot system operator.

(5) When applicable, the terms of apportionment of responsibility for establishing and servicing any trust agreement associated with any annuity jackpot offered by the wide area progressive system.

- (6) Responsibility for generating, filing and maintaining the records and reports required under the act and this part.
- (g) A wide area progressive system shall be controlled and operated from a computer monitoring room. The computer monitoring room must:
- (1) Be under the sole possession and control of, and maintained and operated by, employees of the slot system operator designated in the slot system agreement for that system. The employees of the slot system operator may be required to obtain a license or permit if the Board determines, after a review of the work being performed, the employees require a license or permit for the protection of the integrity of gaming.
 - (2) Have its monitoring equipment subjected to surveillance coverage either by the surveillance system of a slot machine licensee participating in the slot system agreement or by a dedicated surveillance system maintained by the slot system operator.
 - (3) Be accessible through a locked door. The door must be alarmed in a manner that audibly signals the surveillance monitoring room for the surveillance system elected under paragraph (2).
 - (4) Have a computer monitoring room entry log. The log must be:
 - (i) Kept in the computer monitoring room.
 - (ii) Maintained in a book with bound numbered pages that cannot be readily removed.
 - (iii) Signed by each person entering the computer monitoring room who is not an employee of the slot system operator expressly employed in the computer monitoring room on his assigned shift. Entries must contain all of the following:
 - (A) The date and time of entering and exiting the room.
 - (B) The name, department or employer, when applicable, gaming license or permit number of the person entering and exiting the room and of the person authorizing the entry.
 - (C) The reason for entering the computer monitoring room.
 - (5) Reside within a participating licensed facility or other approved location.
 - (h) A slot system agreement submitted to the Board for approval must be accompanied by a proposed system of internal controls addressing all of the following:
 - (1) Transactions directly or indirectly relating to the payment of progressive jackpots including the establishment, adjustment, transfer or removal of a progressive jackpot amount and the payment of any fees or taxes associated therewith.
 - (2) The name, employer, position and gaming license status of any person involved in the operation and control of the wide area progressive system.

(i) The Bureau of Licensing must review the persons identified in subsection (h)(2) and determine, based on an analysis of specific duties and responsibilities, which persons will be licensed to what level in this Commonwealth.

(j) A slot system operator may not commence operation and administration of a wide area progressive system under the terms of a slot system agreement until the agreement itself and the internal controls required under subsection (h) have been approved and the slot system operator has complied with any licensing requirements under subsection (i).

(k) When a slot system agreement involves payment to a licensed manufacturer, functioning as a slot system operator, of an interest, percentage or share of a slot machine's licensee's revenue, profits or earnings from the operation of a wide area progressive system, the Board will evaluate the slot system agreement to determine if the total amounts paid to the licensed manufacturer under the terms of the agreement are commercially reasonable for the operational and administrative services provided.

(l) Each party to a slot system agreement shall be liable for acts, omissions and violations of the act and this part related to its own individual duties and responsibilities under the slot system agreement, unless the slot system agreement specifically provides that the parties will be jointly and severally liable.

(m) The Executive Director may waive one or more of the technical requirements applicable to wide area progressive systems adopted by the Board upon a determination that the wide area progressive system as configured nonetheless meets the operational integrity requirements of the act and this part.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.13 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 1207(3), (6), (9) and (21), 1322, 13A02(1), (2) and (4), 13A27, 1602, 1604 and 1608.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.13 amended January 31, 2014, effective February 1, 2014, 44 Pa.B. 599; amended November 1, 2019, effective November 2, 2019, 49 Pa.B. 6676. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (389324) to (389325).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 461b.4 (relating to wide area progressive systems).

§ 461a.14. Slot machine, fully automated gaming tables and electronic wagering terminal monitoring systems.

(a) A slot machine licensee may utilize a slot monitoring system which has an interface between it and slot machines, fully automated electronic gaming tables, electronic wagering terminals and related systems that has been tested and approved by the Board under § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval).

(b) A slot monitoring system must comply with the act, this subpart and technical standards on slot monitoring systems adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.14 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 13A02(1), (2), (2.1), (4) and (6), 13A25(c) and 13A62(a).

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.14 amended December 15, 2017, effective December 16, 2017, 47 Pa.B. 7563. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (370328).

§ 461a.15. Casino management systems.

(a) A slot machine licensee may utilize a casino management system which has an interface between it and slot machines, table games, table game devices and related systems tested and approved by the Board under § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval).

(b) A casino management system must comply with the act, this subpart and technical standards on casino management systems adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.15 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 13A02(1), (2), (2.1), (4) and (6), 13A25(c) and 13A62(a).

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.15 amended December 15, 2017, effective December 16, 2017, 47 Pa.B. 7563. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (370328).

§ 461a.16. Player tracking systems.

(a) A slot machine licensee may utilize a player tracking system which has an interface between it and slot machines, table games, table game devices and related systems tested and approved by the Board under § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval).

(b) A player tracking system may not include individuals who are under 21 years of age.

(c) Employees of a slot machine licensee who can view, print or copy any of the information in the slot machine licensee's player tracking system shall be licensed as a key employee or hold an occupation permit. This subsection does not apply to employees of the slot machine licensee that are members of a corporate reservations department whose duties and responsibilities do not require the employee to be located within this Commonwealth.

(d) A player tracking system must comply with the act, this subpart and technical standards on player tracking systems adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.16 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 13A02(1), (2), (2.1), (4) and (6), 13A25(c) and 13A62(a).

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.16 amended October 10, 2008, effective October 11, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 5652; amended December 15, 2017, effective December 16, 2017, 47 Pa.B. 7563. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (370328) and (377539).

§ 461a.17. External bonusing systems.

(a) A slot machine licensee may utilize an external bonusing system that has been tested and approved by the Board under § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval).

(b) The combination of the slot machine theoretical payout percentage plus the bonus awards generated by an external bonusing system cannot equal or exceed 100% of the theoretical payout for a slot machine on which the external bonus award is available.

(c) A slot machine connected to an external bonusing system must satisfy the minimum theoretical payout percentage required under this subpart without the contribution of any external bonus award available on the slot machine.

(d) An external bonusing system must comply with the act, this subpart and technical standards on external bonusing systems adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.

§ 461a.18. Cashless funds transfer systems.

(a) A slot machine licensee may utilize a cashless funds transfer system that has been tested and approved by the Board under § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval).

(b) A cashless funds transfer system must comply with the act, this subpart and technical standards on cashless funds transfer systems adopted by the Board, published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.

(c) Prior to utilizing a cashless funds transfer system, a slot machine licensee shall establish a system of internal controls applicable to the cashless funds transfer system. The internal controls shall be submitted to and approved by the Board under § 465a.2 (relating to internal control systems and audit protocols). The internal control procedures submitted by the slot machine licensee must address the integrity, security and control of its cashless funds transfer system and include:

- (1) An overview of the system design.
- (2) System access controls and restrictions.
- (3) Override policies and restrictions.
- (4) Backup and recovery procedures.
- (5) Logical and physical access controls and restrictions.
- (6) Network security.
- (7) Procedures for handling customer disputes.

(d) Transfer of electronic credits to a slot machine under this section shall be initiated by a patron using an access control. Access controls must require the use of a unique access code for each patron. The access code shall be selected by and only available to the patron.

(e) A record of every transfer of electronic credits to a slot machine under this section shall be maintained by the slot machine licensee and shall be identified by, at a minimum, the date, time and the asset number of the slot machine to which the transfer occurred and an identification number assigned to the patron who initiated the transaction. The identification number assigned to a patron for

the purposes of this section must be different from the unique access code selected by the patron as part of an access control.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.18 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(9)—(23), 1205, 1206(f) and (g), 1207(1) and (2), 1208(1)(iii), 1209(b), 1212, 1213, 13A11, 13A12—13A14, 13A15 and 1802 and Chapter 13.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.18 amended September 26, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5562; amended June 12, 2015, effective June 13, 2015, 45 Pa.B. 2829. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (345627) to (345628).

§ 461a.19. Remote system access.

(a) In emergency situations or as an element of technical support, an employee of a licensed manufacturer may perform analysis of, or render technical support with regard to, a slot machine licensee's slot monitoring system, casino management system, player tracking system, external bonusing system, cashless funds transfer system, wide area progressive system, gaming voucher system or other Board-approved system from a remote location.

(b) Remote system access shall be performed in accordance with all of the following procedures:

(1) Only an employee of a licensed manufacturer who is licensed as a gaming employee or key employee in this Commonwealth may remotely access a system sold, leased or otherwise distributed by that licensed manufacturer for use at a licensed facility.

(2) The slot machine licensee shall establish a unique system account for each employee of a licensed manufacturer identified by his employer as potentially required to perform technical support from a remote location. System access afforded under this section shall:

(i) Be restricted in a manner that requires the slot machine licensee's information technology department to receive prior notice from the licensed manufacturer of its intent to remotely access a designated system.

(ii) Require the slot machine licensee to take affirmative steps, on a per access basis, to activate the licensed manufacturer's access privileges.

(iii) Be designed to appropriately limit the ability of a person authorized under this section to deliberately or inadvertently interfere with the normal operation of the system or its data.

(3) A log shall be maintained by both the licensed manufacturer and the slot machine licensee's information technology department. Each of the two logs must contain, at a minimum, all of the following information:

(i) The system accessed, including manufacturer and version number.

(ii) The type of connection (that is, leased line, dial in modem or private WAN).

(iii) The name and license number of the employee remotely accessing the system.

(iv) The name and license number of the information technology department employee activating the licensed manufacturer's access to the system.

(v) The date, time and duration of the connection.

(vi) The reason for the remote access including a description of the symptoms or malfunction prompting the need for remote access to the system.

(vii) Action taken or further action required.

(4) Communications between the licensed manufacturer and any of the systems identified in subsection (a) shall occur using a dedicated and secure communication facility such as a leased line approved in writing by the Board.

(c) Prior to granting remote system access, a slot machine licensee shall establish a system of internal controls applicable to remote system access. The internal controls shall be submitted to and approved by the Board under § 465a.2 (relating to internal control systems and audit protocols). The internal control procedures submitted by the slot machine licensee shall be designed to protect the physical integrity of the systems listed in subsection (a) and the related data and be capable of limiting the remote access to the system or systems requiring technical support.

(d) Any modification of, or remedial action taken with respect to, an approved system shall be processed and approved by the Board in accordance with the standard modification provisions submitted under § 461a.4(h) (relating to submission for testing and approval) or the emergency modification provisions of § 461a.4(l).

(e) If an employee of a licensed manufacturer is no longer employed by, or authorized by, that manufacturer to remotely access a system under this section, the licensed manufacturer shall immediately notify the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations and each slot machine licensee that has established a unique system account for that employee of the change in authorization and shall timely verify with each slot machine licensee that any access privileges previously granted have been revoked.

(f) The Executive Director may waive one or more of the technical requirements applicable to remote computer access adopted by the Board upon a determination that the nonconforming remote access procedures nonetheless meet the integrity requirements of the act and this part.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.19 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 1207(3), (5), (9) and (11), 1322, 13A02(1) and (2), 13A27, 1602, 1604 and 1608.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.19 amended May 14, 2010, effective May 15, 2010, 40 Pa.B. 2535; amended November 1, 2019, effective November 2, 2019, 49 Pa.B. 6676. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (389328) to (389329).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 461a.20 (relating to server supported slot systems).

§ 461a.20. Server supported slot systems.

(a) A slot machine licensee may utilize a server supported slot system that complies with the minimum design standards and the submission, testing and approval requirements of §§ 461a.2—461a.7 and 461a.26.

(b) A server supported slot system must:

(1) Be capable of verifying that all component programs on the slot machine server are authentic copies of Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations approved component programs.

(2) Automatically verify the authenticity of the copies every 24 hours. A program used to verify the authenticity must reside on the slot machine server and be securely loaded from nonalterable media.

(3) Provide a visual notification identifying the invalid program if an error is detected.

(c) The slot machine licensee shall generate, and make available to Board staff, a report detailing the outcome of each automated verification including notifications identifying any invalid programs.

(d) Administrator access to server supported slot systems require the presence and participation of at least two departments. Dual access may be achieved using split passwords, dual keys or other suitable method. The slot machine licensee shall specify in its internal controls under § 465a.2 (relating to internal control systems and audit protocols) the two departments that have administrator access to the system and the method by which access will be achieved.

(e) A technical field representative shall be notified of the installation and loading of software on an approved slot machine server in accordance with § 461a.26 (relating to testing and software installation on the live gaming floor).

(f) Downloads of slot machine programs or computer files on a server supported slot system and activations, deactivations or changes thereto shall be controlled and implemented using scheduling software approved by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations. Except as otherwise authorized by the Board, written notice of downloads, schedules and changes shall be provided to the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations, the Bureau of Casino Compliance Representatives and the Department at least 72 hours prior to implementation in accordance with § 461a.26.

(g) Access to slot machine programs or computer files on a server supported slot system may be provided at terminals in secure, restricted locations within the licensed facility as approved by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations. The slot machine licensee shall provide read-only access to the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations and the Bureau of Casino Compliance.

(h) Prior to implementing a change to a feature or reconfiguring the server supported slot machine, the slot machine must be in idle mode for at least 2 minutes without errors or tilt conditions and with no play or credits on the machine.

(i) During the implementation of a change to a feature or the reconfiguration of the server supported slot machine, the slot machine must be disabled and rendered unplayable for at least 1 minute. During that time, a conspicuous message

stating that a game configuration is being changed must be continuously displayed either on the slot machine's video screen or in another manner as approved by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations.

(j) A slot machine server shall, at a minimum, comply with § 461a.19 (relating to remote system access) and the technical standards of § 461b.5 (relating to remote computer access).

(k) A slot machine server:

(1) Shall be maintained in the slot machine server room in a locked computer rack or other secure area approved by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations.

(2) Must be dual key controlled with one key controlled by the slot operations department and the other key controlled by the information technology department.

(3) May not be accessed unless an employee from the slot operations department, the information technology department and a Board representative are present.

(l) All changes made to the slot machine server shall be stored in an unalterable log which must include, at a minimum:

(1) Time and date of access.

(2) Name and Board issued credential number or other secure username identifier of the person logging in.

(3) Identification numbers of the games added, deleted or changed.

(4) The history of changes to programs on each player terminal.

(5) Changes to the configuration of player terminal settings.

(m) Prior to adding or removing software from a server supported slot machine, changing any configuration or activating or deactivating a slot machine game on a server supported slot machine, a complete set of meter information for the slot machine shall be accurately communicated to a slot machine server, a slot monitoring system or other Board approved slot accounting system.

(n) Communication between the server, slot machine and any interface elements must utilize a protocol that includes proper error detection and recovery mechanisms designed to prevent unauthorized access or tampering, employing Data Encryption Standards or equivalent encryption with secure seeds or algorithms as approved by the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations.

(o) With prior Board approval, a slot machine server may be connected to:

(1) Other slot operating systems of the licensee, including a slot monitoring system, accounting system or gaming voucher system, located in a secure location within the licensed facility where the slot machine server is located.

(2) A computer or other equipment operated by the Board or the Department to monitor and approve activity.

(p) Any approved connection utilized under subsection (o) must include, at a minimum:

(1) A secure, hard-wired, dedicated, exclusive network.

(2) A hardware firewall located between the slot machine server and the slot operating systems utilized by the licensee.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.20 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30) and 1207(2) and (9).

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.20 amended February 1, 2013, effective February 2, 2013, 43 Pa.B. 660. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (349919).

§ 461a.21. Server based slot systems.

(a) The following terms, when used in this section, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

Server based slot machine—A slot machine accessing a server based slot system.

Slot machine server—A computer configured to:

(i) Receive, store, authenticate and download to server supported slot machines Board-approved slot machine games and other approved software. A slot machine server may also be used to effect changes in a server supported slot machine's configuration.

(ii) Receive, store and authenticate Board-approved slot machine games and other approved software for use on server based slot machines.

Server based slot system—A system comprised of one or more server based slot machines connected to a server based slot machine server and its ancillary computer network for the purpose of facilitating access by a server based slot machine to Board-approved slot machine games and other approved software residing on the server based slot machine server.

(b) A slot machine licensee may utilize a server based slot system that has been tested and approved by the Board under § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval).

(c) A server based slot system must comply with the act, this subpart and technical standards on server based slot systems adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.

(d) Results from the play or operation of a server based slot machine must be determined solely by the server based slot machine server and not by the individual server based slot machine.

(e) Prior to utilizing a server based slot system, a slot machine licensee shall establish a system of internal controls applicable to the server based slot system. The internal controls shall be submitted to and approved by the Board under § 465a.2 (relating to internal control systems and audit protocols). The internal control procedures submitted by the slot machine licensee must address the integrity, security and control of its server based slot system.

§ 461a.22. Automated jackpot payout machines.

(a) A slot machine licensee may utilize an automated jackpot payout machine that has been tested and approved by the Board under § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval).

(b) An automated jackpot payout machine must have a label on the top of the automated jackpot payout machine and on the front of the automated jackpot payout machine that displays the asset number of the automated jackpot payout machine. The labels must have white lettering on a black background or other color combination approved by the Bureau of Gaming Operations, may not be easily removed and must be easily visible to the surveillance department. The label on the top of the automated jackpot payout machine must be at least 1.5 inches by 5.5 inches and the label on the front of the automated jackpot payout machine must be at least 1 inch by 2.5 inches or other sizes approved by the Bureau of Gaming Operations.

(c) An automated jackpot payout machine must comply with the act, this subpart and technical standards on automated jackpot payout machines adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.

(d) Prior to commencing use of an automated jackpot payout machine, a slot machine licensee shall establish a comprehensive system of internal controls addressing the payment of jackpot payouts utilizing an automated jackpot payout machine and the distribution of currency or coin, or both, to the machines. The internal controls shall be submitted to, and approved by the Board under § 465a.2 (relating to internal control systems and audit protocols).

(e) An automated jackpot payout machine must have, at a minimum, the following:

(1) One lock securing the outer cabinet housing the operating components of the automated jackpot payout machine, the currency cassettes and the coin storage container. The key to the lock securing the outer cabinet shall be controlled by the slot operations or security department.

(2) One lock securing the compartment housing the currency cassettes, the key to which shall be controlled by the finance department.

(f) An automated jackpot payout machine must be designed to resist forced illegal entry.

(g) An automated jackpot payout machine's currency cassettes must be designed to preclude access to the interior of the currency cassettes. Access to each currency cassette shall be controlled by the finance department.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.22 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 1207(3), (5) and (7), 1321 and 1322.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.22 amended October 10, 2008, effective October 11, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 5652; amended August 28, 2009, effective August 30, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5125; amended September 25, 2009, effective September 26, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5562; amended February 26, 2010, effective February 27, 2010, 40 Pa.B. 1082. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (345630) to (345631).

§ 461a.23. Slot machines and associated equipment utilizing alterable storage media.

(a) *Definition.* The following term, when used in this section, has the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

Alterable storage media—

(i) Memory or other storage medium, such as an EEPROM, flash, optical or magnetic storage device, that is contained in a slot machine or associated equipment subject to approval under § 461a.4 (relating to submission for testing and approval), that allows the modification of programs or data on the storage media during the normal operation of the slot machine or associated equipment.

(ii) The term does not include:

(A) Memory or other storage medium typically considered to be alterable but through either software or hardware means approved by the Board have been rendered unalterable and remain verifiable by the central control computer system.

(B) Associated equipment using alterable storage media that the Board determines are incapable of influencing the integrity or outcome of game play.

(b) *Use of alterable storage media.* Any use of alterable storage media in a slot machine or associated equipment must be in compliance with the act, this subpart and technical standards on alterable storage media adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.

§ 461a.24. Waivers.

(a) The Board may, on its own initiative, waive one or more of the requirements in this chapter or the technical standards applicable to slot machines and associated equipment adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site upon a determination that the non-conforming slot machine or associated equipment or modification as configured meets the operational integrity requirements of the act, this subpart and technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.

(b) A manufacturer may submit a written request to the Board for a waiver for one or more of the requirements in this chapter or the technical standards applicable to slot machines and associated equipment adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site. The request must:

(1) Be submitted as a petition under § 493a.4 (relating to petitions generally).

(2) Include supporting documentation demonstrating how the slot machine or associated equipment for which the waiver has been requested will still meet the operational integrity requirements of the act, this subpart and technical standards adopted by the Board and published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and posted on the Board's web site.

- (3) Be approved by the Board.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.24 amended August 28, 2009, effective August 29, 39 Pa.B. 5125. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (338652) and (340071).

§ 461a.25. Disputes.

(a) If a dispute arises with a patron, the slot machine licensee shall attempt to resolve the dispute. If the dispute can not be resolved, the slot machine licensee shall notify the casino compliance representatives at the licensed facility who will attempt to resolve the dispute. If the dispute is not resolved, the casino compliance representative will provide the patron with a Board Patron Dispute/Complaint Form and Instructions for Submitting a Patron Dispute/Complaint and assist the patron in completing the Board Patron Dispute/Complaint Form.

(b) When a patron files a complaint, BIE will conduct an investigation of the complaint.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.25 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 1207(3), (5) and (7), 1321 and 1322.

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.25 amended October 10, 2008, effective October 11, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 5652; amended February 26, 2010, effective February 27, 2010, 40 Pa.B. 1082. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (345632) to (345633).

§ 461a.26. Testing and software installation on the live gaming floor.

(a) Prior to the testing of slot machines, table game devices as described in § 461a.4(c)(12) (relating to submission for testing and approval), associated equipment and displays on a live gaming floor during a slot machine licensee's normal hours of operation, the slot machine licensee shall notify the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations and the Bureau of Casino Compliance in writing at least 72 hours prior to the test date and receive the required approvals from the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations prior to beginning testing. The notification must include the following:

- (1) A detailed narrative description of the type of testing to be conducted, including the reason for the testing, a list of individuals conducting the testing and the slot machine licensee's procedures for conducting the testing.
- (2) The date, time and approximate duration of the testing.
- (3) The model, slot machine location number and asset number of the slot machine or machines or table game device to be tested.
- (4) The location within the licensed facility where the testing will occur.

(b) A slot machine licensee shall notify the Bureau of Gaming Laboratory Operations and the Bureau of Casino Compliance at least 72 hours prior to the installation of any new software or the installation of any change in previously approved software and receive the required approvals prior to the installation of:

- (1) Automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machines.
 - (2) Wide area progressive systems.
 - (3) Slot monitoring systems.
 - (4) Casino management systems.
 - (5) Player tracking systems.
 - (6) External bonusing systems.
 - (7) Cashless funds transfer systems.
 - (8) Server supported slot systems.
 - (9) Server based slot systems.
 - (10) Automated jackpot payout machines.
 - (11) Electronic gaming tables.
 - (12) Fully automated electronic gaming tables.
 - (13) Progressive table game systems.
 - (14) Electronic wagering systems.
 - (15) Additional automated bill breaker machines, automated gaming voucher and coupon redemption machines, automated jackpot payout machines and automated teller machines on the gaming floor.
 - (16) Gaming voucher systems.
 - (17) Server supported slot systems.
 - (18) Server based slot systems.
 - (19) Hybrid gaming tables.
 - (20) Electronic wagering terminals.
- (c) The notification required under subsection (b) must include:
- (1) A description of the reasons for the new installation or change in previously approved software.
 - (2) A list of the current computer components, software identifications or versions that are to be modified or replaced.
 - (3) A list of the proposed computer components, software identifications or versions that will modify or replace the existing components or software.
 - (4) The method to be used to complete the proposed installation.
 - (5) The date and time that the proposed modification will be installed and the estimated time for completion.
 - (6) The name, title and employer of the persons performing the installation.
 - (7) The plan to handle disruptions, if any, to the gaming floor.
 - (8) The approximate length of time the gaming floor or systems will be disrupted.
 - (9) Plans for system backup prior to any proposed installation.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.26 amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 1207(3), (6), (9) and (21), 1317.2, 1319, 1319.1, 13A02(1), (2), (2.1), (4) and (6), 13A25(c), 13A41 and 13A62(a).

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.26 amended September 25, 2009, effective September 26, 2009, 39 Pa.B. 5562; amended July 6, 2012, effective July 7, 2012, 42 Pa.B. 4305; amended January 31, 2014, effective February 1, 2014, 44 Pa.B. 599; amended December 15, 2017, effective December 16, 2017, 47 Pa.B. 7563. Immediately preceding text appears at serial pages (370330) and (373147) to (373148).

Cross References

This section cited in 58 Pa. Code § 461a.20 (relating to server supported slot systems); 58 Pa. Code § 605a.7 (relating to progressive table games); and 58 Pa. Code § 605a.8 (relating to linked progressive table games).

§ 461a.27. RAM clear.

(a) When a slot machine licensee becomes aware of a nonresponsive slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table, hybrid gaming table or electronic wagering terminal and communication between the slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table, hybrid gaming table or electronic wagering terminal and the central control computer cannot be reestablished, the slot machine licensee shall immediately notify the Department's operator of the central control computer and the casino compliance representatives at the licensed facility. The slot machine licensee may not do a RAM clear on the affected slot machine, fully automated electronic gaming table, electronic wagering terminal or associated equipment until a casino compliance representative has recorded the information on the financial meters.

(b) For planned RAM clears, the slot machine licensee shall provide notice to the Department's operator of the central control computer and the casino compliance representatives at the licensed facility at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled RAM clear. A second notice shall be provided to the Department's operator of the central control computer and the casino compliance representatives at the licensed facility immediately prior to actually conducting the RAM clear.

Authority

The provisions of this § 461a.27 adopted under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 1207 and 1322; amended under 4 Pa.C.S. §§ 1202(b)(30), 13A02(1), (2), (2.1), (4) and (6), 13A25(c) and 13A62(a).

Source

The provisions of this § 461a.27 adopted December 12, 2008, effective December 13, 2008, 38 Pa.B. 6749; amended December 15, 2017, effective December 16, 2017, 47 Pa.B. 7563. Immediately preceding text appears at serial page (373148).

[Next page is 461b-1.]