

Commission OKs Regulation Changes

The Colorado Limited Gaming Control Commission on Feb. 18 approved a series of rule changes.

The most notable is the reduction of the allowable minimum odds for the payment of blackjack wins from “three to two” to “six to five.” Under the rules, casinos can still offer higher odds than six to five.

The rule changes also include, among others:

- The option to offer match play coupons on all table games, including specifications for coupons that are redeemable for chips
- The option for hardways to be active on the come out roll in craps if allowed by house rules
- The option to charge vigors on buy and lay bets rather than requiring them

A copy of the redline version of the changes is available on the Division web site on the Rulemaking Hearings page under The Commission section.

The changes will go into effect April 30.

Commission Action

At its meeting on Feb. 18 in Lakewood, the Gaming Commission:

- Renewed the manufacturer/distributor and operator licenses of WMS Gaming, Inc.
- Approved a change of ownership in Atronic Americas, LLC
- Issued new manufacturer/distributor and operator licenses to Speilo Manufacturing, ULC

New Year Starts Positively

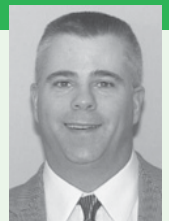
Colorado casinos started the new year positively in January. Casinos statewide reported \$64.2 million in AGP in January, up 11.7 percent from \$57.5 million in January 2009 and up 16.0 percent from \$55.4 million in December.

Black Hawk’s 20 casinos produced \$48.2 million in AGP in January, up 16.0 percent from \$41.5 million in January 2009 and up 16.5 percent from \$41.4 million in December. Cripple Creek’s 16 casinos totaled \$10.8 million in AGP in January, up 1.3 percent from \$10.7 million the previous January and up 13.9 percent from \$9.5 million in December. Central City’s six casinos generated \$5.2 million in AGP in January, even with January 2009 but up 15.6 percent from \$4.5 million the previous month.

Casinos statewide paid \$10.4 million in gaming tax proceeds in January, up from \$8.6 million in December.

For the first seven months of the fiscal year starting in July after the implementation of Amendment 50, AGP is up 9.6 percent and tax revenues have increased by 17.1 percent compared to the first seven months of fiscal year 2009.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



No Gaming Commission action in recent memory has stirred more public discussion than the Commission’s consideration and approval on February 18 of rule changes that lower the odds on blackjacks from 3-to-2 to 6-to-5.

Unfortunately, that is how many people interpret the Commission’s action. In fact, the rule changes lowered the *allowable* minimum odds on blackjacks from 3-to-2 to 6-to-5. There is a big difference. Starting April 30, when the new rules go into effect, casinos *can* lower the odds, but many will choose not to. Starting then, casinos *can* offer 6-to-5 single-deck pitch blackjack, a variation that casinos have chosen not to offer in the past because of the current 3-to-2 minimum odds.

Lost in the discourse regarding the rule changes was the fact that the changes were more about choice than they were about odds. As a Division, we had to choose whether to take the industry’s request for a rule change to the Commission. Although we remained neutral, we took the proposed changes before the Commission because there was no legal reason why they should not be approved. The Commission then chose to approve them because the rule changes were permissive and not mandatory.

Now the choice rests with the casinos. They can choose to offer 3-to-2 or 6-to-5 on all games or no games or only single-deck games. The combinations are endless. Finally, the choice will fall upon the casino patrons, who will decide which games at which odds they will play. Again, this decision was ultimately about choice, and the market will ultimately decide.

—Ron Kammerzell

COLORADO STATE GAMING STATISTICS

	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009	Tax Year to Date
1¢ SLOTS	7,691	7,737	7,927	54,058
COINS IN	315,614,524.36	262,058,259.73	297,761,688.05	2,163,463,149.37
AGP	29,080,983.64	24,694,012.14	27,282,327.34	200,785,320.06
AVG DAILY AGP	122.07	103.29	111.02	121.01
HOLD %	9.21%	9.42%	9.16%	9.28%
25¢ SLOTS	1,922	1,942	2,227	13,599
COINS IN	96,806,985.60	77,789,774.75	114,471,885.15	682,067,564.79
AGP	5,408,071.21	4,411,597.08	6,004,158.04	38,881,641.62
AVG DAILY AGP	90.84	73.52	86.97	93.15
HOLD %	5.59%	5.67%	5.25%	5.70%
\$1 SLOTS	1,941	1,973	2,365	14,123
COINS IN	166,983,634.07	136,549,403.02	186,059,374.45	1,187,055,950.05
AGP	8,501,203.93	7,446,468.07	9,362,236.89	62,204,975.94
AVG DAILY AGP	141.40	122.14	127.70	143.50
HOLD %	5.09%	5.45%	5.03%	5.24%
MULTI-DENOM	2,214	2,268	1,939	15,343
COINS IN	199,384,516.36	166,644,831.50	120,598,318.66	1,340,813,106.38
AGP	8,947,107.57	7,920,093.48	6,139,294.26	62,348,938.65
AVG DAILY AGP	130.46	113.01	102.14	132.40
HOLD %	4.49%	4.75%	5.09%	4.65%
OTHER SLOTS	1,667	1,719	1,885	12,125
COINS IN	97,988,061.35	81,334,046.47	99,287,214.10	684,759,548.33
AGP	5,710,429.49	4,978,030.65	5,741,352.13	41,131,876.31
AVG DAILY AGP	110.59	93.72	98.25	110.52
HOLD %	5.83%	6.12%	5.78%	6.01%
BJ TABLES	130	140	72	938
BJ DROP	14,877,951.16	13,731,866.80	2,997,736.90	103,664,830.11
AGP	2,322,216.41	2,159,783.30	639,554.90	15,379,618.56
AVG DAILY AGP	576.70	499.25	286.54	534.20
HOLD %	15.61%	15.73%	21.33%	14.84%
CRAPS TABLES	29	29	0	200
CRAPS DROP	6,431,400.80	5,620,404.00	0.00	45,841,079.20
AGP	1,293,789.05	1,159,753.00	0.00	9,016,960.20
AVG DAILY AGP	1,440.30	1,294.20	0.00	1,468.90
HOLD %	20.12%	20.63%	0.00%	19.67%
POKER TABLES	136	137	159	1,006
POKER DROP	3,760,485.26	3,240,729.01	2,585,070.50	27,062,486.78
AGP	2,493,087.17	2,134,986.83	1,962,072.75	17,972,090.65
AVG DAILY AGP	591.82	504.32	398.07	582.05
HOLD %	25.10%	23.48%	23.23%	23.77%
ROULETTE TABLES	28	28	0	189
ROULETTE DROP	2,516,688.25	1,975,322.36	0.00	18,102,989.62
AGP	535,223.50	523,276.36	0.00	4,220,561.37
AVG DAILY AGP	617.11	604.79	0.00	727.56
HOLD %	21.27%	26.49%	0.00%	23.31%
TOTAL AGP	64,292,111.97	55,428,000.91	57,548,246.40	451,941,982.96
GAMING TAXES	10,429,877.31	8,679,491.88	9,294,275.23	52,999,105.88
# OF CASINOS	40	40	40	40

CRIPPLE CREEK GAMING STATISTICS

	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009	Tax Year to Date
1¢ SLOTS	2,042	2,035	1,963	14,166
COINS IN	59,722,031.65	52,041,333.52	56,675,198.98	445,873,235.02
AGP	4,909,491.28	4,357,439.94	4,541,483.85	37,319,673.62
AVG DAILY AGP	77.71	69.63	74.63	85.92
HOLD %	8.22%	8.37%	8.01%	8.37%
25¢ SLOTS	735	739	775	5,203
COINS IN	27,487,608.75	22,925,524.25	32,063,906.25	206,347,826.86
AGP	1,304,332.40	1,042,743.55	1,490,453.30	9,759,384.43
AVG DAILY AGP	57.36	45.89	62.04	61.18
HOLD %	4.75%	4.55%	4.65%	4.73%
\$1 SLOTS	735	738	825	5,255
COINS IN	39,544,535.00	32,041,280.00	43,272,486.00	293,949,121.60
AGP	1,730,407.73	1,581,227.28	2,177,720.14	14,156,023.99
AVG DAILY AGP	76.10	69.68	85.15	87.86
HOLD %	4.38%	4.93%	5.03%	4.82%
MULTI-DENOM	505	517	561	3,586
COINS IN	24,270,605.85	20,672,029.88	18,817,867.50	173,467,271.92
AGP	1,074,664.54	964,826.40	1,044,842.83	8,142,526.22
AVG DAILY AGP	68.79	60.69	60.08	74.06
HOLD %	4.43%	4.67%	5.55%	4.69%
OTHER SLOTS	522	536	555	3,770
COINS IN	18,523,266.60	16,178,301.10	19,910,743.75	141,268,378.73
AGP	938,800.05	916,775.19	1,132,508.22	8,042,033.21
AVG DAILY AGP	58.13	55.62	65.82	69.57
HOLD %	5.07%	5.67%	5.69%	5.69%
BJ TABLES	32	35	21	228
BJ DROP	1,926,599.50	1,758,329.80	462,983.00	15,137,520.90
AGP	362,742.50	249,478.05	84,718.50	2,197,258.15
AVG DAILY AGP	366.41	231.80	130.14	314.31
HOLD %	18.83%	14.19%	18.30%	14.52%
CRAPS TABLES	9	9	0	64
CRAPS DROP	811,104.75	674,154.00	0.00	6,685,187.10
AGP	161,273.50	108,025.50	0.00	1,273,832.60
AVG DAILY AGP	579.21	390.34	0.00	649.15
HOLD %	19.88%	16.02%	0.00%	19.05%
POKER TABLES	33	33	36	247
POKER DROP	408,499.50	321,388.00	298,041.25	3,750,333.66
AGP	300,684.94	263,108.54	248,901.75	2,260,757.46
AVG DAILY AGP	294.52	259.27	223.03	298.52
HOLD %	28.65%	30.29%	22.59%	21.01%
ROULETTE TABLES	9	9	0	62
ROULETTE DROP	249,608.25	249,150.50	0.00	2,411,078.00
AGP	71,783.00	43,956.00	0.00	584,777.75
AVG DAILY AGP	257.81	158.83	0.00	307.62
HOLD %	28.76%	17.64%	0.00%	24.25%
TOTAL AGP	10,854,179.94	9,527,580.45	10,720,628.59	83,736,267.43
GAMING TAXES	923,215.22	631,777.91	917,839.11	3,170,696.41
# OF CASINOS	16	16	16	16

BLACK HAWK GAMING STATISTICS

	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009	Tax Year to Date
1¢ SLOTS	4,671	4,718	4,965	32,878
COINS IN	224,334,235.47	184,622,182.19	210,509,931.21	1,505,441,253.91
AGP	21,326,840.54	17,948,298.71	19,887,126.44	143,940,829.51
AVG DAILY AGP	147.28	122.72	129.21	142.54
HOLD %	9.51%	9.72%	9.45%	9.56%
25¢ SLOTS	914	926	1,158	6,468
COINS IN	61,178,206.60	48,879,620.00	72,203,256.75	419,193,550.93
AGP	3,683,025.20	3,001,625.15	4,071,556.23	25,907,900.54
AVG DAILY AGP	129.99	104.56	113.42	130.41
HOLD %	6.02%	6.14%	5.64%	6.18%
\$1 SLOTS	971	994	1,288	7,180
COINS IN	113,226,690.07	92,362,824.02	125,924,207.00	795,603,907.45
AGP	6,266,542.41	5,371,256.41	6,459,122.47	43,703,866.20
AVG DAILY AGP	208.18	174.31	161.77	198.18
HOLD %	5.53%	5.82%	5.13%	5.49%
MULTI-DENOM	1,449	1,475	1,124	9,772
COINS IN	156,004,204.93	130,287,200.96	86,822,802.91	1,028,455,318.95
AGP	7,143,381.80	6,349,317.12	4,423,830.43	48,382,309.42
AVG DAILY AGP	159.03	138.86	126.96	161.20
HOLD %	4.58%	4.87%	5.10%	4.70%
OTHER SLOTS	919	956	1,071	6,730
COINS IN	73,805,191.85	60,519,408.42	73,776,485.80	504,529,538.10
AGP	4,465,188.24	3,797,267.51	4,249,787.03	30,884,402.81
AVG DAILY AGP	156.73	128.13	128.00	149.41
HOLD %	6.05%	6.27%	5.76%	6.12%
BJ TABLES	82	86	43	582
BJ DROP	12,344,941.41	11,515,067.75	2,338,882.35	83,928,506.90
AGP	1,882,686.41	1,823,399.00	522,810.85	12,552,876.10
AVG DAILY AGP	740.63	683.95	392.21	702.23
HOLD %	15.25%	15.83%	22.35%	14.96%
CRAPS TABLES	17	17	0	115
CRAPS DROP	5,044,051.05	4,397,522.50	0.00	34,634,293.30
AGP	1,014,229.55	962,054.50	0.00	6,865,349.80
AVG DAILY AGP	1,924.53	1,825.53	0.00	1,943.68
HOLD %	20.11%	21.88%	0.00%	19.82%
POKER TABLES	88	90	101	644
POKER DROP	2,829,118.76	2,509,218.26	1,961,814.00	19,617,395.87
AGP	2,020,775.77	1,717,325.80	1,551,584.00	14,388,355.58
AVG DAILY AGP	740.75	615.53	495.56	727.42
HOLD %	26.21%	22.90%	23.42%	24.94%
ROULETTE TABLES	14	14	0	92
ROULETTE DROP	2,106,021.00	1,597,475.36	0.00	14,154,236.77
AGP	430,216.50	428,739.86	0.00	3,247,757.27
AVG DAILY AGP	991.28	987.88	0.00	1,149.36
HOLD %	20.43%	26.84%	0.00%	22.95%
TOTAL AGP	48,232,886.42	41,399,284.06	41,583,067.54	329,873,647.23
GAMING TAXES	8,766,101.75	7,422,895.36	7,592,269.80	46,512,036.47
# OF CASINOS	18	18	18	18

CENTRAL CITY GAMING STATISTICS

	January 2010	December 2009	January 2009	Tax Year to Date
1¢ SLOTS	978	984	999	7,014
COINS IN	31,558,257.24	25,394,744.02	30,576,557.86	212,148,660.44
AGP	2,844,651.82	2,388,273.49	2,853,717.05	19,524,816.93
AVG DAILY AGP	93.83	78.29	92.15	90.63
HOLD %	9.01%	9.40%	9.33%	9.20%
25¢ SLOTS	273	277	294	1,928
COINS IN	8,141,170.25	5,984,630.50	10,204,722.15	56,526,187.00
AGP	420,713.61	367,228.38	442,148.51	3,214,356.65
AVG DAILY AGP	49.71	42.77	48.51	54.28
HOLD %	5.17%	6.14%	4.33%	5.69%
\$1 SLOTS	235	241	252	1,688
COINS IN	14,212,409.00	12,145,299.00	16,862,681.45	97,502,921.00
AGP	504,253.79	493,984.38	725,394.28	4,345,085.75
AVG DAILY AGP	69.22	66.12	92.86	83.81
HOLD %	3.55%	4.07%	4.30%	4.46%
MULTI-DENOM	260	276	254	1,985
COINS IN	19,109,705.58	15,685,600.66	14,957,648.25	138,890,515.51
AGP	729,061.23	605,949.96	670,621.00	5,824,103.01
AVG DAILY AGP	90.45	70.82	85.17	95.53
HOLD %	3.82%	3.86%	4.48%	4.19%
OTHER SLOTS	226	227	259	1,625
COINS IN	5,659,602.90	4,636,336.95	5,599,984.55	38,961,631.50
AGP	306,441.20	263,987.95	359,056.88	2,205,440.29
AVG DAILY AGP	43.74	37.51	44.72	44.19
HOLD %	5.41%	5.69%	6.41%	5.66%
BJ TABLES	16	19	8	128
BJ DROP	606,410.25	458,469.25	195,871.55	4,598,802.31
AGP	76,787.50	86,906.25	32,025.55	629,484.31
AVG DAILY AGP	154.81	147.55	129.14	160.12
HOLD %	12.66%	18.96%	16.35%	13.69%
CRAPS TABLES	3	3	0	21
CRAPS DROP	576,245.00	548,727.50	0.00	4,521,598.80
AGP	118,286.00	89,673.00	0.00	877,777.80
AVG DAILY AGP	1,271.89	964.23	0.00	1,360.90
HOLD %	20.53%	16.34%	0.00%	19.41%
POKER TABLES	15	14	22	115
POKER DROP	522,867.00	410,122.75	325,215.25	3,694,757.25
AGP	171,626.46	154,552.49	161,587.00	1,322,977.61
AVG DAILY AGP	369.09	356.11	236.93	374.55
HOLD %	16.31%	21.65%	22.71%	20.41%
ROULETTE TABLES	5	5	0	35
ROULETTE DROP	161,059.00	128,696.50	0.00	1,537,674.85
AGP	33,224.00	50,580.50	0.00	388,026.35
AVG DAILY AGP	214.35	326.33	0.00	360.95
HOLD %	20.63%	39.30%	0.00%	25.23%
TOTAL AGP	5,205,045.61	4,501,136.40	5,244,550.27	38,332,068.30
GAMING TAXES	740,560.34	624,818.61	784,166.32	3,316,373.00
# OF CASINOS	6	6	6	6

JANUARY AGP BY DEVICE

Statewide

<u>Device</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>AGP</u>	<u>Avg. Daily AGP/Device</u>	<u>Hold %</u>
Slots	15,435	\$57,647,796	\$120.58	6.57%
Tables	323	\$6,644,316	\$664.10	18.47%
TOTAL	15,758	\$64,292,112	\$131.72	6.94%

Cripple Creek

<u>Device</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>AGP</u>	<u>Avg. Daily AGP/Device</u>	<u>Hold %</u>
Slots	4,539	\$9,957,696	\$70.91	5.87%
Tables	83	\$896,484	\$349.12	20.99%
TOTAL	4,622	\$10,854,180	\$75.91	6.17%

Black Hawk

<u>Device</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>AGP</u>	<u>Avg. Daily AGP/Device</u>	<u>Hold %</u>
Slots	8,924	\$42,884,978	\$155.02	6.82%
Tables	201	\$5,347,908	\$858.27	18.23%
TOTAL	9,125	\$48,232,886	\$170.51	7.21%

Central City

<u>Device</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>AGP</u>	<u>Avg. Daily AGP/Device</u>	<u>Hold %</u>
Slots	1,972	\$4,805,122	\$78.60	6.11%
Tables	39	\$399,924	\$330.79	16.80%
TOTAL	2,011	\$5,205,046	\$83.49	6.35%

Average daily AGP per device is calculated by dividing the total AGP by the number of devices, further divided by the average number of days open for all establishments open in January. Hold percentage does not include player-banked poker tables.

GAMING ♦ UPDATE

DATES TO REMEMBER

- ✓ March 16 • February gaming tax returns due
- ✓ March 16 • Casino financial statements for 2009 due
- ✓ March 18 • Gaming Commission meeting, Lakewood, 9:15 a.m.

MARCH 2010

COLORADO DEPT OF REVENUE
DIVISION OF GAMING
1881 PIERCE ST STE 112
LAKEWOOD CO 80214-1496