## STATE OF NEVADA GAMING CONTROL BOARD



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DENNIS K. NEILANDER, Chairman BOBBY L. SILLER, Member SCOTT SCHERER, Member

February 14, 2001

Las Vegas (702) 486-2000 Fax: (702) 486-2045

TO: ALL NONRESTRICTED LICENSEES EXCEPT SLOTS-ONLY

**OPERATIONS AND OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS** 

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF REGULATION 5.190 – AGGREGATE PAYOUT

LIMITS

On January 25, 2001 the Nevada Gaming Commission adopted Regulation 5.190 concerning aggregate payout limits. The purpose of this regulation is to provide both fairness in the setting of aggregate payout limits and improved awareness on the part of Nevada casino patrons that such limits exist.

As specified in the regulation, aggregate payout limits may not be imposed on payouts from slots, race books, sports pools or games where the odds are less than 50 to 1 unless otherwise allowed by regulations of the Commission. Regulation 5.190 does not apply to bingo or to keno.

Paragraph four of this regulation requires that aggregate payout limit wording on signs or table layouts be approved by the Gaming Control Board. Accordingly, it will be necessary for any licensee that sets aggregate payout limits to submit proposed wording for review. To ensure that the Board has adequate time in which to review language before the effective date of the regulation, proposed wording must be submitted by March 12, 2001. Every effort will be made to approve this wording in time for new signage or table layouts to be ordered and put in place by the regulation's effective date of May 1, 2001.

To provide for a more effective review of the aggregate payout limit wording, licensees must also submit the payoff schedule for any game on which an aggregate payout limit is to be imposed.

As you prepare to submit the aggregate payout wording and payoff schedules, please consider the following two points of clarification. First, the purpose of an aggregate payout limit is to provide a casino with the ability to mitigate its losses on high odds games when multiple patrons win large amounts of money during one hand of play. However, Regulation 5.190 does not

mandate that all winning patrons must share in the aggregate payout. A licensee, with adequate disclosure, can pay smaller winning amounts in full, with the remaining winners sharing the aggregate payout.

For example, assume a table game has an aggregate payout limit of \$15,000 and one patron wins \$14,000, another wins \$5,000, and a third wins \$50 on one hand of play. The casino may, in accordance with posted rules, choose to pay the \$50 winner in full, and have the other two winners split the \$15,000 proportionate to their win amounts.

A second point of clarification was made during Regulation 5.190 industry workshops and again during the January 25, 2001 Commission meeting. When creating payoff schedules for its games, a licensee may state the payoff amount in odds but also include a dollar cap amount. For example, it is acceptable for a table game payoff schedule to indicate that a royal flush pays 1000 to 1 with a maximum payout of \$15,000. Any such cap must be clearly displayed on the table layout. Once again full disclosure and patron awareness are critical in creating payoff schedules and aggregate payout limits.

All requests for approval of aggregate payout limit wording should be sent to:

Nevada Gaming Control Board Enforcement Division – Operations Section Suite 2100 555 East Washington Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

Any questions about Regulation 5.190 should be directed to the Enforcement Division at (702) 486-2020.

Sincerely,

Bobby L. Siller Board Member

BLS/GG

Dennis K. Neilander, Chairman Scott Scherer, Board Member