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NOTICE TO LICENSEES

Notice # 2014-18

Issuing Division: Technology

DATE: August 14, 2014
TO: All Licensees and Interested Parties
FROM: A.G. Burnett, Chairman 
SUBJECT: Prepaid Access Instruments and Cashless Wagering Systems

On February 20, 2014, the Nevada Gaming Commission approved changes to NGC Regulations 1 and 14 to accommodate the use of prepaid access instruments in conjunction with approved cashless wagering systems.

Minimum Internal Control Standards and Technical Standards will be amended at a later date to further define the requirements on the use of a prepaid access instrument to transfer funds between a patron's wagering account, established within a cashless wagering system, and a gaming device. Until such time as the Standards are established, the following requirements must be met in order to allow such transfers:

1. Whenever funds are transferred from a prepaid access instrument to a patron's wagering account in conjunction with a cashless wagering system, a responsible gaming message must be displayed prominently on either the slot machine interface board display or on the primary gaming device display. At a minimum, the message must provide information about problem gambling and resources for patrons to seek help, including, but not necessarily limited to, the toll-free telephone number of the National Council on Problem Gambling.
2. At a minimum, the cashless wagering system must allow a patron to set a limit on the amount of funds he or she will be allowed to transfer from a prepaid access instrument to his or her wagering account in conjunction with a cashless wagering system within a 24-hour period. Other limits, such as individual transfer limits, can also be offered, but are not required. Any increase to the patron's self-imposed transfer limit(s) shall not take effect until a minimum of 48-hours have passed since the patron's request for the increase was made.

3. For a period of 24-hours after a patron performs an initial transfer of funds from a prepaid access instrument to the patron's wagering account in conjunction with a cashless wagering system, the cashless wagering system shall impose a delay of at least 5 minutes from the time a patron initiates a subsequent transfer of funds during the 24-hour period to the time the subsequently transferred funds are available to the patron for play at a gaming device.
4. The cashless wagering system must provide the licensed gaming establishment the ability to set configurable monetary limits on the amount of funds that can be transferred from a patron's wagering account in conjunction with a cashless wagering system to a prepaid access instrument in order to provide the licensed gaming establishment the opportunity to verify the validity of the funds prior to allowing the funds to be transferred out of a patron's wagering account in conjunction with a cashless wagering system.
5. Prior to allowing a transfer of funds from a patron's wagering account to an account with a prepaid card service provider, an employee must verify the validity of the funds being transferred from a patron's wagering account through the cashless wagering system in excess of an amount determined by management (not to exceed \$10,000). The dollar amount threshold determined by management is delineated within the slots section of the written system of internal control pursuant to NGC Regulation 6.090.
6. In order to allow for the use of prepaid access instruments to fund a wagering account in conjunction with a cashless wagering system, a licensed gaming establishment must enter into a written agreement with the prepaid access instrument provider setting forth the terms of their arrangement. Any such agreement shall provide that the prepaid access instruments covered by the agreement cannot be funded through automatic and/or reoccurring deposits, including, but not limited to, automatic payroll direct deposits.
7. Until Minimum Internal Control Standards have been adopted relating to a Group I nonrestricted licensee's cashless wagering system being used in connection with a prepaid access instrument, amendments to the written system of internal control, as needed, should be submitted to the Audit Division (Attn: Kim Wolfgang, if sent to the Las Vegas office or Attn: Adrian Argyris, if sent to the Reno office) indicating procedures to address the aforementioned requirements.

Questions should be directed to Technology Division Chief Jim Barbee at jbarbee@gcb.nv.gov.

JB

cc: A.G. Burnett, Chairman
Terry Johnson, Board Member
Shawn R. Reid, Board Member
Shirley Springer, Chief, Audit Division
Records and Research Services