



Table Games Approval Process in a Small Market

Nova Scotia Casino Marketplace

- There are presently two casinos operating in Nova Scotia - both operated by Great Canadian Casinos
- The Halifax Casino operates 38 table games
- The Sydney Casino operates 10 table games

Regulatory Structure

- One position (Senior Gaming Analyst) is responsible for evaluating all:
- New table game and slot machine submissions
- Alterations to table game rules or equipment
- Alterations to slot machines and peripheral devices

Approval Process

- Process to be followed for submissions of new games is clearly presented in:
 - Casino Regulations (general)
 - Rules of play (specific)

Table Games Permitted

- Initially the table games permitted were limited to those specifically listed in the Casino Regulations
- The addition of new games required individual legislative approval
- This was a cumbersome and lengthy process
- In 1998 this was changed to permit Alcohol & Gaming to approve other games not listed

Regulations – Approval Process

- Approval to operate is granted by the Alcohol & Gaming Division
- Casino operator must submit:
 - A complete description of the table game
 - Summary of the game including objectives, method and type of wagers
 - Rules, chances of winning, and the advantage for each wager

Regulations – Standard Requirements

- Specify:
 - Construction of tables and layouts
 - Supervisory requirements
 - Surveillance requirements
 - Drop procedures

Rules of Play

- Fairly detailed
- Posting of Rules & Wager limits
- Opening of table – inspection of equipment
- Shuffling & dealing procedures

Rules of Play

- Payout procedures and schedules
- Rule variations
- How to resolve errors in dealing
- Irregularities

Approval Process

- Casino Operator applies to Alcohol & Gaming for approval
- Submits Rules of Play
- Indicates other jurisdictions where specific rules exist
- Senior Gaming Analyst reviews submission

Approval Process

- If clarification or modifications to submission are required these are addressed with Casino Operator
- Recommendation for Approval is forwarded to Executive Director (AGA)
- Executive Director grants full approval or test

Operational Phase

- Casino and Alcohol & Gaming staff trained regarding rules and procedures of game
- Casino submits request to install game
- Review of game if the game was approved as a test

Issues for a Small Market

- Table games have to be approved in other jurisdictions before we will accept them for review
- Review times may be longer due to shared slot & table game resources
- Typically only mainstream games are requested due to costs in implementing and operating (equipment/training)