

SUBCHAPTER 7. OPERATION CERTIFICATE

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19:43-7.1 Operation certificate; standards for issuance

(a) Other than for test purposes, each casino licensee responsible for the operation of a casino and a related casino simulcasting facility, if any, shall obtain an operation certificate prior to opening such casino or casino simulcasting facility to the public, and prior to conducting:

1. Gaming in such casino; or
2. Simulcast wagering or any gaming permitted in such casino simulcasting facility.

(b) To obtain an operation certificate, each casino licensee shall establish to the satisfaction of the Commission that:

1. The casino and, if applicable, the casino simulcasting facility comply in all respects with the applicable requirements of the Act and these rules;

2. The casino licensee has implemented necessary management controls and security precautions for the efficient operation of the casino and any applicable casino simulcasting facility;

3. The casino and simulcasting personnel are licensed for the performance of their respective responsibilities; and

4. The casino and casino simulcasting facility are prepared in all respects to receive and entertain the public.

(c) Each operation certificate granted by the Commission to a casino licensee shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

1. A list itemizing the authorized games, by category and number, that are permitted in the casino and, if applicable, the casino simulcasting facility; and

2. A list of those areas, not otherwise enumerated explicitly in N.J.S.A. 5:12-43.1 or elsewhere in these rules, which the Commission has specifically designated as a restricted area.

As adopted, effective: 06/06/94

As amended, effective: 03/04/96

19:43-7.2 Operation certificate; test period

(a) Prior to the issuance of an operation certificate for its casino and casino simulcasting facility, if any, each casino licensee shall successfully complete an evaluation or test period in accordance with such terms and conditions as are reasonably calculated to allow the Commission to assess the licensee's entitlement to the issuance of such certificate.

(b) The evaluation or test period shall commence on such date and at such time as the Commission shall establish, and shall continue thereafter until further order of the Commission.

(c) Whenever the Commission delegates to one or more of its members the authority to evaluate a casino licensee's successful completion of a test

period, the member or members, acting jointly, shall be authorized to do any of the following unless the full Commission has otherwise reserved that authority to itself:

1. Establish the original length of time and the hours during which such test shall be conducted;
2. Terminate, restrict, limit, extend or otherwise modify such test period or the hours thereof;
3. Upon determining that the casino licensee has successfully completed the test period, establish the effective date of the operation certificate and the scope of the casino licensee's authority to conduct gaming and, if applicable, simulcast wagering thereunder; and
4. Order the casino licensee to take whatever actions are necessary to preserve the policies of the Act and to assure an effective evaluation of the casino licensee during such test period including, among other things, permitting, limiting, restricting or prohibiting the casino licensee from:
 - i. Accepting coin at the slot machines or currency at the table games during all or any part of such period; and
 - ii. Allowing the count rooms to process cash.

As adopted, effective: 06/06/94

19:43-7.3 Operation certificate; floor plans of the casino floor, casino simulcasting facility and any restricted areas

(a) Prior to the issuance or amendment of an operation certificate and the commencement of gaming or simulcast wagering, each casino licensee shall obtain Commission approval for the floor plans of its casino floor, casino simulcasting facility, if any, public keno areas which include keno booths or satellite keno booths, and any restricted areas.

(b) Each floor plan required by (a) above shall be filed with the Commission and served on the Division, shall be drawn to one-eighth inch scale or such other scale approved by the Commission, shall be certified by an architect licensed to practice in New Jersey and shall depict, at a minimum, the location of the following:

1. The casino floor, any casino simulcasting facility, any public keno area which includes a keno booth or satellite keno booth, including, at a minimum, the proposed total square footage thereof and a clear delineation of the respective perimeter of each:
 2. Each gaming pit, noting its pit location number;
 3. Each table game, noting its pit and table game location number;
 4. Each CCTV camera, noting its type and camera number;
 5. Each slot booth, noting its booth number;
 6. Each cashiers' cage and its component offices and areas;
 7. Each separate master coin bank;
 8. Each window at the cashiers' cage, noting its window number;
 9. Each count room;
10. Each slot zone, noting its slot zone location letter or number and the total number of authorized slot machine locations within that slot zone.
11. Each authorized slot machine location, which location shall contain no more than one slot machine and bill changer at a time, noting its slot machine location number and any slot zone location letter or number;
12. Each slot stool authorized for use, noting its stool number, if any;
13. Each automated coupon redemption machine, noting its location number:
14. Each automated jackpot payout machine, noting its location number;

15. Each gaming voucher redemption machine, noting its location number;
16. Each satellite cage and its component offices and areas;
17. Each coin vault;
18. Each area approved for the storage of gaming chips or plaques pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:46-1.6;
19. Each room or area approved for the storage of dice or playing cards;
20. Each other room or area that is accessible directly from the casino floor;
21. Each keno booth and satellite keno booth;
22. For those establishments with a casino simulcasting facility:
 - i. Each simulcast counter and any ancillary simulcast counter, along with their component offices, areas and equipment required by N.J.A.C. 19:45-1.14A(b) or (d);
 - ii. Each credit voucher machine, noting its location number;
 - iii. Each self-service pari-mutuel machine, noting its location number; and
23. Each other area or room designated by the Commission.

(c) Each casino licensee, after obtaining Commission approval of its floor plan, shall not commence gaming or simulcast wagering in the areas depicted on the floor plan until a copy thereof has been delivered to each of the following:

1. The Commission's inspection booth in the establishment;
2. The office of the Commission's principal inspector in the establishment;
3. The Operations Unit of the Commission's Division of Compliance;
4. The Division;

5. The casino licensee's security podium; and
6. The casino licensee's monitoring rooms required by N.J.A.C.

19:45-1.10.

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As amended, effective: 03/04/96
As amended, effective: 03/17/97
As amended, effective: 04/06/98
As amended, effective: 04/16/07

19:43-7.4 Operation certificate; master lists of approved slot machines and table games; movement of gaming equipment; amendments of operation certificates upon filing of updated master lists

(a) Prior to the issuance of an operation certificate and the commencement of gaming or simulcast wagering, each casino licensee shall file with the Commission, at the office of the Commission's principal inspector in the establishment, and serve on the Division, at a location it has designated for that purpose, comprehensive lists of:

1. The table games in its casino and casino simulcasting facility, if any (the Table Games Master List); and
2. The slot machines and bill changers on its casino floor (the Slot Machine Master List);
3. The slot machines possessed by the casino licensee in restricted casino areas off the casino floor but on the premises of its casino hotel facility; and
4. The slot machines possessed by the casino licensee at locations in New Jersey off the premises of its casino hotel facility.

(b) At a minimum, each list of slot machines required by (a)2 through 4 above shall contain the following information, as applicable, which information shall be presented, for each slot machine and any accompanying bill changer

on the Slot Machine Master List, in consecutive order by location number:

1. The date on which the list was prepared;
2. A description of each slot machine by:
 - i. Asset, model and serial number;
 - ii. Computer program number;
 - iii. Denomination;
 - iv. Manufacturer and machine type, noting with particularity whether the machine is a high-boy, has a bill changer attached, is a progressive machine, or is equipped with tokenization;
 - v. Whether the slot machine has an activated electronic transfer credit feature; and
 - vi. Whether the slot machine has an activated gaming voucher feature, and if so, whether such feature is in lieu of a hopper and either a slot drop bucket or slot drop box;
3. A cross reference for each slot machine by zone and serial number;
4. The restricted casino area within the casino hotel facility where the slot machine is located for each slot machine included on the list required by (a)3 above;
5. The address of the slot machine storage facility where the slot machine is located for each slot machine included on the list required by (a)4 above; and
6. Such other information as the Commission may require.

(c) At a minimum, each Table Game Master List shall contain the following information:

1. The date on which the list was prepared;
2. A description of each table by:
 - i. Type of authorized game;
 - ii. Location number; and
 - iii. Serial and table number; and

3. Such other information as the Commission may require.

(d) Whenever a casino licensee proposes that gaming tables, slot machines or bill changers be brought into, removed from or moved within a casino or casino simulcasting facility, as applicable, the casino licensee shall first:

1. Obtain any amendment to its operation certificate required by N.J.A.C. 19:43-7.6 or 7.7; and

2. Provide an authorized agent of the Commission with written notice at least 24 hours prior to the actual movement of each gaming table, slot machine and bill changer.

(e) Immediately after each gaming table, slot machine and bill changer is brought into, removed from or moved within a casino or casino simulcasting facility, as applicable, the casino licensee completing the move shall file and serve, in accordance with (a) above, updated master lists of its table games and slot machines to the extent that the move causes a change in the information contained on the most recent version of the applicable list on file with the Commission. In addition, each casino licensee shall, on a monthly basis, file updated lists of slot machines required pursuant to (a)2 through 4 above with the Division.

(f) The number of each type of authorized game included in a casino licensee's operation certificate or any approved amendments thereto shall be amended, upon the filing of an updated Table Games Master List or Slot Machine Master List, to conform to the correct number of each type of authorized game that is specified in the applicable list.

As adopted, effective: 06/06/94

As amended, effective: 03/04/96

As amended, effective: 05/06/02

As amended, effective: 06/03/02

As amended, effective: 01/06/03

As amended, effective: 04/21/03

19:43-7.5 Operation certificate; effective date; duration

(a) Upon the successful completion of the test period, the Commission shall establish the effective date of each operation certificate and the scope of the casino licensee's authority to conduct gaming and, if applicable, simulcast wagering thereunder.

(b) Subject to the Commission's authority to revoke, suspend, limit or otherwise alter an operation certificate in accordance with the terms of the Act and these rules, each such certificate, once issued, shall remain in full force and effect indefinitely under such terms and conditions as the Commission may impose, and shall not be altered, modified or amended except in accordance with the Act and the rules of the Commission.

(c) The continued effectiveness of each operation certificate shall be a prerequisite for the casino or casino simulcasting facility to which it applies to remain open to the public for the conduct of gaming or simulcast wagering.

(d) Each casino licensee to which an operation certificate is issued shall operate its casino or casino simulcasting facility strictly in accordance with the terms of its original operation certificate and the approved floor plans submitted in support thereof, and shall not change any of the items to which the operation certificate applies except in accordance with the Act and the rules of the Commission and after obtaining any required amendments to its operation certificate.

As adopted, effective: 06/06/94

As amended, effective: 03/04/96

19:43-7.6 Operation certificate; amendment to conform to approved changes

(a) Each casino licensee shall file with the Commission and serve on the Division, in a manner and in a format prescribed by the Commission, an application to amend its operation certificate whenever the casino licensee

proposes to make an application to conduct keno in a public keno area in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:45-1.47B or a physical change to the casino, casino simulcasting facility or a restricted area that requires Commission approval in order for its original operation certificate to continue in force and effect. Any amendment to the application shall be processed in accordance with this section. The application shall include, without limitation, the following:

1. A description of any proposed changes in any public keno area or in the number of authorized games, by category, to be played in the casino or casino simulcasting facility; provided, however, that the filing of an application pursuant to this section shall not preclude that casino licensee from obtaining amendments to its operation certificate pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:43-7.4(f);

2. A revised floor plan of the casino, casino simulcasting facility, any public keno area which includes a keno booth or satellite keno booth or any restricted area reflecting the proposed change, which revised floor plan shall be:

- i. Filed with the Commission at the office of its principal inspector in the establishment; and

- ii. Submitted in a format consistent with the requirements of N.J.A.C. 19:43-7.3;

3. If applicable, a comparison showing the authorized square footage of the casino room or casino simulcasting facility:

- i. Immediately prior to initiating the proposed change; and

- ii. That will result if the proposed change is made;

4. A clear delineation of any proposed change to the perimeter of the casino room or, if applicable, the casino simulcasting facility; and

5. A narrative from the architect who is certifying the floor plan that clearly describes the change to be made by the proposal, noting with particularity any such change to the perimeter of the casino floor or of the

casino simulcasting facility.

(b) Within three business days of a casino licensee filing an application governed by (a) above, or any amendments thereto, the Commission shall review the proposed change set forth in the application or any amendments thereto for compliance with the Act and the rules of the Commission. Unless the Commission notifies the casino licensee in writing that the proposed change is disapproved, the casino licensee, after obtaining all approvals required by federal, state or local government officials and providing a copy or other acceptable written evidence of such approvals to the Commission, may begin implementing such change upon the earlier of the following:

1. The expiration of the three-day period; or
2. Receipt of written Commission approval for the change.

(c) The casino licensee that submitted an application governed by (a) above shall notify the Commission in writing upon final completion of any proposed change set forth in the application or any amendment thereto and for which the casino licensee is prepared to seek approval pursuant to (d) below; provided, however, that a notice shall be filed upon final completion of all proposed changes. A floor plan that depicts the actual changes made shall accompany the notice and be filed in the manner prescribed by N.J.A.C. 19:43-7.3(c). Each such floor plan shall be in a format consistent with N.J.A.C. 19:43-7.3 and, in addition to depicting the change that is made to the applicable items enumerated in N.J.A.C. 19:43-7.3(b), shall include updates, based on the actual changes made, for each item required to be included in the application pursuant to (a) above and described in the notice; provided, however, that a floor plan of the entire casino or casino simulcasting facility that depicts all changes proposed in the application and any amendment thereto shall accompany the notice of final completion.

(d) Promptly after the filing of a notice pursuant to (c) above, the Commission shall inspect the physical changes actually made to the casino, casino simulcasting facility and any restricted area to ensure that those

changes conform to the floor plan accompanying the notice and the description previously submitted to the Commission, as modified by any properly filed amendments thereto. Following such inspection, the Commission shall notify the casino licensee in writing as to which physical change is approved and which is rejected, whereupon:

1. The casino licensee, in the event any change is rejected, shall either:
 - i. Correct any rejected change to conform with the floor plan accompanying the notice and the description previously submitted to the Commission, as modified by any properly filed amendments thereto, which correction shall be completed and inspected pursuant to this section;
 - ii. Submit for approval, pursuant to (a) above, a new application for the proposed change; or
 - iii. Take such other action as the Commission may direct to ensure that the currently approved floor plan accurately depicts the physical layout of the casino, the casino simulcasting facility, if any, and any restricted area; and

2. The operation certificate shall be amended to conform to each inspected and approved physical change.

(e) For purposes of this subchapter, a "business day" shall be a calendar day other than:

- i. A Saturday or Sunday; or
- ii. Any day on which the Commission's main offices are closed because of federal, state or local holiday, inclement weather, or like circumstance.

As adopted, effective: 06/06/94

As amended, effective: 03/04/96

As amended, effective: 04/06/98

19:43-7.7 Operation certificate; temporary amendments for pit and slot zone reconfigurations or reconstitutions

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section or in N.J.A.C. 19:43-7.4(f), each casino licensee shall configure the pits and slot zones in its casino or casino simulcasting facility, as to types, number and location of games, strictly in accordance with the floor plans approved by the Commission at the time the operation certificate originally was issued or as amended pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:43-7.6.

(b) Each casino licensee may temporarily reconfigure one or more pits or slot zones by filing with the Commission, at the office of its principal inspector in the establishment, an application for a temporary operation certificate to permit a reconfiguration for each pit or slot zone specified in the application, which shall be filed at least three business days prior to implementing such alternate configuration. In addition, pursuant to the above application procedure, each casino licensee may also temporarily reconstitute one or more pits as a slot zone(s) or one or more slot zones or a portion thereof as a pit. Within that three-day period, the Commission shall notify the casino licensee whether the reconfiguration or reconstitution is approved or rejected.

(c) In accordance with the specific terms of any temporary operation certificate issued by the Commission, the casino licensee to which the temporary operation certificate is issued shall implement the reconfiguration or reconstitution for a period of no more than 60 consecutive days. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Commission may approve the implementation of reconfiguration of a pit in conjunction with the test of a new table game or table game wager pursuant to N.J.A.C. 19:47-8.4 for a period up to 270 days from the day such test commences. Each such reconfigured pit shall not:

1. Exceed the dimensions approved for the pit that existed immediately prior to the reconfiguration; nor
2. Include any change requiring the approval of any Federal, State

or local government building code official without having first obtained that approval and the approval of the Commission in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:43-7.6.

(d) Each casino licensee shall obtain approval for any changes, other than those permitted by this section, to the configuration of the pits or slot zones in its casino and casino simulcasting facility, if any, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 19:43-7.6.

(e) Each pit operating under an approved configuration shall have an electrical system, approved by the Commission, which enables a pit clerk or a pit supervisor to transmit a signal that is audibly and visually reproduced in each of the following locations whenever there is an emergency in the pit:

1. The monitoring rooms required by N.J.A.C. 19:45- 1.10; and
2. The casino security department.

As adopted, effective: 06/06/94

As amended, effective: 03/04/96

As amended, effective: 10/04/04

As amended, effective: 10/17/05

19:43-7.8 Access to public and restricted areas

(a) No casino licensee shall permit any person to have access to any restricted area in its establishment unless such access is permitted in accordance with the casino licensee's internal controls.

(b) Each casino licensee may deny or limit access to any public areas in order to preserve the policies of the Act, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Persons excluded or excludable under N.J.S.A. 5:12-71 and N.J.A.C. 19:48, or 5:12-71.1;
2. Employees of casino licensees prohibited from wagering at any game or on casino simulcasting under N.J.S.A. 5:12-100n and N.J.A.C. 19:55-2.8;

3. Underage persons prohibited from gaming and simulcast wagering under N.J.S.A. 5:12-119a and N.J.A.C. 19:42-5.9;

4. Persons seeking to play the game of blackjack to whom the provisions of N.J.A.C. 19:47-2.3(j) apply; and

5. Players required by a casino licensee to leave the game of poker under N.J.A.C. 19:47-14.16.

(c) Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of Commission members or employees and Division employees or agents from obtaining access to restricted areas during the performance of their respective duties and responsibilities in accordance with the Act and the rules of the Commission.

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As amended, effective: 02/05/96

As amended, effective: 03/01/99