

13:69F-14.11(A)Big Omaha poker; procedures for dealing of cards; completion of each round of play

- (a) Each casino licensee shall be required to observe the procedures set forth in this section for each game of omaha high and omaha high-low split eight or better poker offered in its casino room or casino simulcasting facility.
- (b) Each poker table shall be restricted to a maximum of 8 players. Each player who elects to participate in a round of play may be required to place an ante. The rule governing the placement of an ante and the amount of the ante, if any, and the kill or half-kill option, if offered, shall be posted on a sign at each poker table in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:69F-8.3.
- (c) The order in which the cards shall be dealt and the order in which players shall be required or have the option to bet shall be determined in accordance with the procedures governing the use of a button as set forth in N.J.A.C. 13:69F-14.10(c).
- (d) Starting with the player to the immediate left of the button and continuing in a clockwise rotation around the poker table, the dealer shall deal five rounds of cards face down to each player with the player with the button being the last player to receive a card each time.
- (e) After each player is dealt five cards face down, an initial blind bet and all subsequent dealing and betting rounds shall be completed in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 13:69F-14.10(d) and (f) through (i).
- (f) If more than one player remains in the round of play after the final betting round has been completed, a showdown shall be used to determine the winner of the pot. Each player remaining in the game shall form a five card poker hand by using two of the five cards dealt to the player and three of the five community cards. This five-card hand shall constitute the poker hand of the player at the showdown. The winner of the pot shall be:
  - 1. In high poker, the player with the highest ranking five-card high poker hand; or
  - 2. In high-low split eight or better poker, the player with the highest ranking five-card high poker hand and the player with the highest ranking five-card low poker hand, subject to the provisions of (g) below, who shall divide the pot equally.
    - i. If a pot cannot be divided equally, the excess amount, which shall not exceed \$1.00, shall be given to the first player clockwise from the button.
    - ii. If a tie exists between two or more players for the highest ranking high hand, the high hand share of the pot shall be divided equally among the tied players. If the high hand share of the pot cannot be divided equally among the tied players, the excess, which shall not exceed \$1.00, shall be given to the first player clockwise from the button.

iii. If a tie exists between two or more players for the highest ranking low hand, the low hand share of the pot shall be divided equally among the tied players. If the low hand share of the pot cannot be divided equally among the tied players, the excess, which shall not exceed \$1.00, shall be given to the first player clockwise from the button.

iv. For purposes of this subsection, the cards shall be ranked by suit with the highest to lowest rank suit in order as follows: spades, hearts, diamonds, and clubs.

(g) In omaha high-low split eight or better poker, the eligibility requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:69F-14.9(j) must be satisfied. In the event that none of the hands of the remaining players satisfies this requirement, the entire pot shall be awarded to the player with the highest ranking high poker hand.

(h) The following rules shall only apply in omaha high-low split eight or better poker:

1. A player may form two different hands of five cards each, enabling that player to contend for both the high hand and low hand share of the pot; provided, however, that the distribution of cards contained in each hand shall comply with (f) above;
2. A player may use the same five card grouping to make a high hand and a low hand; and
3. An ace may be used concurrently as a low card to satisfy a low hand and as a high card to satisfy a high hand.

(i) In omaha high-low split eight or better poker, an optional kill or half-kill may be offered. A kill button, indicating the kill or half-kill is in effect, shall be placed in front of the player who wins the entire pot in the hand, provided that the amount of the pot is an established dollar amount or multiple of the minimum permissible wager for the hand, as determined by the casino licensee. In the succeeding hand, the player shall be required to place no more than one blind bet in the amount of the increased permissible minimum wager for the hand, notwithstanding that the player may be required to place a blind bet to initiate the first round of betting pursuant to (e) above and N.J.A.C. 13:69F-14.10(d). Any other player required to place a blind bet to initiate the first round of betting shall be required to place a blind bet in accordance with the posted table requirements. If, in the succeeding hand, a qualifying pot is not split between one player winning the high hand and another player winning the low hand, the kill button shall be moved in front the player who wins the entire pot for that hand. The kill or half-kill shall remain in effect until a pot does not qualify in amount or a pot is split between a player winning the high hand and a player winning the low hand. Once a pot does not qualify in amount or is split between two players, the dealer shall collect the kill button.