

13:69E-1.10E Lucky 8's table; physical characteristics

(a) Lucky 8's shall be played at a table having betting positions for no more than six players on one side of the table and a place for the dealer on the opposite side.

(b) The layout for a Lucky 8's table shall be approved by the Division and shall have imprinted thereon, at a minimum, the following:

1. The name or trade name of the casino licensee offering the game;
2. Specific areas designated for the placement of wagers corresponding to a player betting position, with one designated betting area at each betting position for the placement of the required Ante wager and one designated area for the optional "In to Win" wager and a third designated area for the optional Lucky 8's Bonus wager.
3. Specific areas in each player position for players to place the cards used for their hand as well as cards not used.
4. The following inscriptions, unless they are included on the sign required by (c) below:
 - i. "Dealer Qualifies with One Natural 8 or Joker";
 - ii. "Both the Ante and In to Win wager must be in equal amounts".
5. The payout odds for the Lucky 8's bonus wager, unless they are included on the sign required by (c) below.

(c) If not inscribed on the layout, a casino licensee shall post a sign approved by the Division at each Lucky 8's table, which shall include the payout odds for the Lucky 8's bonus wager.

(d) Each Lucky 8's table shall have a drop box and a tip box attached to it on the same side of the gaming table as, but on opposite sides of, the dealer, in locations approved by the Division.

(e) In order to collect the cards at the conclusion of a round of play and at such other times as provided in the rules of the Division, each Lucky 8's table shall have a discard rack securely attached to the top of the dealer's side of the table. The height of each discard rack shall equal the height of the cards, stacked one on top of the other, contained in the total number of decks that are to be used at that table; provided however, that a taller discard rack may be used if such rack has a distinct and clearly visible mark on its side to show the exact height for a stack of cards equal to the total number of cards contained in the number of decks to be used at that table.

SUBCHAPTER 50. LUCKY 8'S

13:69F-50.1 **Definitions**

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Dealer" shall mean the person responsible for dealing the cards at a Lucky 8's table.

"Ante Wager" means a mandatory wager placed before any cards are dealt.

"Lucky 8's Bonus" means an optional wager placed before any cards are dealt.

"In to Win Wager" is an optional wager placed after the player sees their cards and must be at an amount equal to the Ante.

"Push" means a void wager, as defined in Division rules and regulations, which is returned to the player.

"Natural 8" shall mean a card with a face value of 8.

"Joker" shall mean a card labeled Joker.

“Multi-card 8’s” shall mean groupings of cards where the sum of their face value equals a total of 8.

“Total Hands of 8” shall mean the total number of Natural 8’s, and/or Jokers, and or Multi-card 8’s a player or the dealer has in their hand.

“Side Cards/Discards” are cards that are not used to make hands of 8.

13:69F-50.2 **Cards; number of decks; rank of cards**

(a) Lucky 8’s shall be played with two decks of cards configured in the following manner; from each individual deck all 9’s, 10’s, Jacks, Queens and Kings of all suits and a single Joker will be removed from each deck. This will leave the cards Ace, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and a single Joker for a total of 33 cards per deck. The two decks are combined to achieve a total of 66 cards with eight (8) A’s, 2’s, 3’s, 4’s, 5’s, 6’s, 7’s and 8’s and two (2) Jokers. All card backs will be of the same color and design. The decks shall meet the requirements of Division rules and regulations.

(b) The point value of the cards shall be as follows:

1. An Ace shall have a value of 1;
2. Any card from 2 to 8 shall have its face value;
3. A Joker shall have a value of 8.

(c) For purposes of the Lucky 8’s bonus wager, the hands recognized for payout in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:69F-50.6, will include only a card with a face value of 8 (i.e. a Natural 8) and/or a Joker. Bonuses will be in order from highest to lowest rank, shall be:

1. **Eight 8’s and/or Jokers:** is a hand consisting of either 8 Natural 8’s, or 7 Natural 8’s and 1 Joker, or 6 Natural 8’s and 2 Jokers;

2. **Seven 8's and/or Jokers:** is a hand consisting of either 7 Natural 8's, or 6 Natural 8's and 1 Joker, or 5 Natural 8's and 2 Jokers;
3. **Six 8's and/or Jokers:** is a hand consisting of either 6 Natural 8's, or 5 Natural 8's and 1 Joker, or 4 Natural 8's and 2 Jokers;
4. **Five 8's and/or Jokers:** is a hand consisting of either 5 Natural 8's, or 4 Natural 8's and 1 Joker, or 3 Natural 8's and 2 Jokers;
5. **Four 8's and/or Jokers:** is a hand consisting of either 4 Natural 8's, or 3 Natural 8's and 1 Joker, or 2 Natural 8's and 2 Jokers;
6. **Three 8's and/or Jokers:** is a hand consisting of either 3 Natural 8's, or 2 Natural 8's and 1 Joker, or 1 Natural 8's and 2 Jokers;
7. **Two 8's and/or Jokers:** is a hand consisting of either 2 Natural 8's, or 1 Natural 8's and 1 Joker, or 2 Jokers.

13:69F-50.3 **Opening of the table for gaming**

After receiving the modified decks of cards per section 13:69F-50.6 above at the table in accordance with Division rules, the dealer shall comply with the rules of the Division regarding table opening and inspection of cards as set forth in 13:69F-50.4, including those additional regulations referenced therein.

13:69F-50.4 **Shuffle of the cards**

(a) Immediately prior to the commencement of play, unless the cards were pre-shuffled pursuant to the rules of the Division, after every round of play, the dealer shall shuffle the cards, either manually or by use of an automated card-shuffling device, so that the cards are randomly intermixed.

1. Automated Card Shuffling Device: Cards may be shuffled using an automated card-shuffling device. If, after completing the shuffle the device, expels the entire 66 cards, the dealer will place the cards into their left hand, however, that nothing herein shall be deemed to prohibit the use of an automated card shuffling device which, upon completion of the shuffling of the cards, expels groups of 8 cards at a time, which the dealer will place in front of each player with an active wager and also a group of 8 cards to the dealer.
2. If the cards were shuffled manually or were pre-shuffled, the dealer will also place the entire 66 cards in their left hand in accordance with the procedures set forth in (c) through (f) below.

(b) If there is no gaming activity at a Lucky 8's table that is open for gaming, the cards shall be removed from the automated shuffler and the discard rack, and spread out on the table for inspection, either face up or face down. If the cards are spread face down, they shall be turned face up once a player arrives at the table. After the first player is afforded an opportunity to visually inspect the cards the cards shall again be turned face downward on the table.

1. If there is no automated shuffling device in use, the cards shall be mixed thoroughly by a washing or chemmy shuffle of the cards, stacked, then shuffled and cut in accordance with this section.
2. If an automated shuffling device is in use, the cards shall be stacked and placed into the automated shuffling device to be shuffled. Unless a player so requests, the batch of cards removed from the shuffler need not be spread for inspection and reshuffled prior to being dealt, if:

- i. The automated card shuffling device stores a single batch of shuffled cards inside the shuffler in a secure manner approved by the Division; and
- ii. The shuffled cards have been secured, released and prepared for play in accordance with procedures approved by the Division.

(c) A casino licensee may submit to the Division for approval the proposed shuffle, cut card placement, number of cut cards (to include shuffle techniques without the use of any cut cards), location of where the shuffle takes place, who is responsible for shuffling, shuffling equipment (dealing shoes or other dealing devices) and burn card procedures.

13:69F-50.5 **Procedure for dealing the cards**

(a) All cards used in Lucky 8's are shuffled before each round of play per 13:69F-50.4.

(b) The cards shall be dealt from in one of three ways depending upon whether: (1) the cards are shuffled by hand, or (2) the automated shuffler ejects the entire deck of 66 cards, or (3) if the automated shuffler is also programmed to eject the cards in preset groups of eight.

(c) In all instances, after the cards are shuffled, at the commencement of each round of play, the dealer shall deal the cards starting on his or her left and continuing around the table.

(d) The dealer will only deal cards to seats with players with active wagers.

(e) In the case of hand shuffling or use of an automated shuffler that ejects the entire deck of 66 cards, the dealer shall remove the cards from the shuffler and hold the deck in their left hand. The dealer will then use their right hand to remove eight cards, one at a time from the top of the deck placing the cards face down on the table in the designated spot to form a single stack. The dealer will then use their right hand to distribute the stack of eight cards face down to

the first player on the dealer's immediate left, and place them on the appropriate area of the layout. The dealer will then repeat this procedure, and move clockwise around the table dealing a stack of eight cards face down to each player until all player cards are dealt. After all player cards are dealt, the dealer will repeat the same procedure giving themselves eight cards. The dealer will then use their right hand to place all unused cards in the discard rack, which shall be located on the table immediately to the right of the dealer.

(f) In the event the automated shuffler is programmed to eject cards in groupings of eight, the dealer will use their left hand to pick up the stack of eight cards from the automated shuffler. The dealer will deal the stack of eight cards face down to each individual player in a clockwise fashion beginning with the player on the dealer's immediate left, placing the cards on the appropriate spot on the layout for each player. The dealer will use their left hand to distribute the individual stack of eight cards to the players in the first and second position, and then use their right hand to deal the individual stack of eight cards to all other players. After all player hands have been dealt the dealer will deal a stack of eight cards face down to themselves. After all hands are dealt, the dealer will eject all remaining cards from the shuffler and place them in the discard rack.

13:69F-50.6 Wagers; Game Play; Payout odds

(a) Prior to the first card being dealt, each player at the game of Lucky 8's shall make an Ante Wager and an optional Lucky 8's Bonus Wager to start the game. The Ante and the Lucky 8's Bonus Wager do not have to be equal amounts but shall equal or exceed the posted minimum wager for the respective wagers. Each wager of a player shall be determined individually.

(b) All wagers at Lucky 8's, including the Ante, the optional Lucky 8's bonus wager if placed, and the In to in Wager if placed, shall be made by placing gaming chips or plaques and, if applicable, a match play coupon on the appropriate betting areas of the table layout. A verbal wager accompanied by cash may be accepted, provided it is confirmed by the dealer and casino supervisor, and that such cash is expeditiously converted into gaming chips or plaques.

(c) Once the first card of any round of play has been removed from the deck or shuffling machine by the dealer, no player shall make, alter, remove, or otherwise handle any wager that has been made until a decision has been rendered and implemented with respect to that wager, except as permitted in this subchapter.

(d) After all player wagers have been made, each player and the dealer then receive 8 cards face down per 13:69F-50.5 above

(e) Players then evaluate their cards and set as many total hands of 8 as possible with the least amount of side/discards.

(f) Total hands of 8 are made up of single card (Natural) 8's, single Jokers (point value of 8), and multiple card 8's whose sum is 8 (ex: 4, 2, 2).

(g) Discards/Side Cards are cards that cannot be used to make a hand of 8.

(h) Once players have set their hand, they must decide to either fold and place all of their cards face down on the appropriate spot on the table and lose their Ante wager; or make an In to Win wager equal to the amount of their Ante wager to play their hand against the dealer.

(i) The player will place their total hands of 8 face down in the designated spot on the layout labeled "8's", and place any discards/side cards if present face down in the designated spot on the layout labeled "side cards",

(j) After the decisions of each player have been implemented the dealer shall play out his hand and set their hand by the “House Way”, which maximizes the total hands of eight and minimize the number of side cards/discards.

(k) The dealer will need at least one natural 8 or one Joker to qualify to play.

(l) House Way includes the steps of:

i. Isolating Natural single card 8’s, then isolating jokers, then putting cards together whose total sum equals eight to minimize the side cards.

ii. Examples of house way include:

iii. Non-qualifying hand:

11. If the dealer has a hand of 2, 4, 6, 7, 2, 3, 4, 4; the dealer will not qualify, as they do not have any natural 8’s or Jokers.

iv. Qualifying hands:

aa. If the dealer has a hand of 8, Joker, 2, 4, 6, 5, 3, 6, House Way will be the set the 8 and Joker in separate hands and place the 2+6 in another hand and the 5+3 in another hand leaving a 6 and 4 as side cards. This gives a maximum of 4 hands of 8 and 2 side cards and is the only possible way to set the hand.

ab. If the dealer has a hand of 8, Joker, 2, A, 3, 4, 5, 4, there are two different ways to set the hand. House Way would be to set the 8 and Joker in separate hands, then place the 5+2+ A in a separate hand and the 4 + 4 in the final hand, for a total of 4 hands of 8 and a single side card of 3.

House Way would not be to set the hand as an 8, Joker, 4+4, and the 5+3 with two side cards (A and 2), as this would give the same number of total 8's but 2 side cards instead of 1.

(l) If the dealer does not qualify, the Ante will be paid at a ratio of 1:1 (i.e. even money) and the In to Win wager will be a push and returned to the player.

(m) If the dealer does qualify, the dealer's hand is compared to the player's hand and wagers will be resolved accordingly:

- i. If the player's hand has more total hands of eight than the dealer's hand, the Ante and In to Win wagers be paid at a ratio of 1:1 (i.e. even money)
- ii. If the dealer's hand has more total hands of eight than the player's hand the Ante and In to Win wagers will lose and be collected by the dealer.
- iii. If the dealer's hand and player's hand tie on the total hands of 8, the hand with the least amount of side cards wins.
- iv. If the dealer's hand and the player's hand also ties on the side cards the player will lose both the Ante and In to Win Wagers.

(n) The optional Lucky 8's Bonus wager pays on the number of natural 8's and/or jokers in the player's hand per a pay table below

Number of Natural 8's and or Jokers	Pay Table 1	Pay Table 2	Pay Table 3	Pay Table 4	Pay Table 5
0	Loss	Loss	Loss	Loss	Loss
1	Loss	Loss	Loss	Loss	Loss
2	1	1	1	1	1
3	2	2	2	2	2

4	5	5	5	5	5
5	40	40	40	40	40
6	250	500	500	500	500
7	500	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
8	1,000	5,000	10,000	25,000	200,000

- (o) After each round of play is complete, the dealer shall collect all losing wagers, return any pushes, and pay off all winning wagers as set forth herein.
- (p) The dealer will collect all cards and return the deck to the automated shuffling machine or shuffle the deck by hand.
- (q) Only wagers authorized by this subchapter shall be permitted in the game of Lucky 8's.
- (r) Beginning with the player farthest to the dealer's right and continuing in a counter-clockwise direction, the dealer shall collect all losing bets, pay all winning bets, and "push" or return all tying bets.
- (s) At the conclusion of a round of play, all cards still remaining on the layout shall be picked up by the dealer in order and in such a way that they can be readily arranged to indicate each hand of each player in case of a question or dispute. The dealer shall pick up the cards beginning with those of the player farthest to the dealer's right and moving counter-clockwise around the table. After all the cards of the players have been collected, the dealer shall pick up his or her cards and place them on the top of the players' cards and place all of them in the discard rack.

13:69F-50.7 More than one player wagering on a spot

(a) A casino licensee may permit a maximum of three people to wager on any one spot of the Lucky 8 layout, provided that the first person wagering on that spot consents to additional players wagering on such spot, and provided further that the casino licensee adheres to such procedures and limitations imposed by the Division as dictated by the particular circumstances.

(b) When more than one player wagers on a spot, the player seated at that spot shall have the exclusive right to call the decisions with regard to the cards dealt to such spot. In the case of no seated player, the person with the highest wager in the spot shall have such right.

(c) The player calling the decisions with respect to any spot shall place his or her wager in those portions of the betting boxes closest to the dealer's side of the table, and all other players wagering on such spot shall place their wagers immediately behind and in a vertical line with the aforementioned wager.

(d) The Division and its agents shall have the discretion and authority to limit, control, and regulate the implementation of this section as is appropriate under the circumstances which shall include, without limitation, the right to limit the number of tables at which this procedure is permitted, the right to limit the number of spots at each table on which more than one person can wager, and the right to require the casino licensee to establish the ability of its dealers to implement this section.

13:69F-50.8 Player wagering on more than one spot

A player may only wager on one spot at a Lucky 8's table unless the casino licensee, in its discretion, permits the player to wager on additional spots.

13:69F-50.9 Irregularities

(a) A card found turned face upwards in the deck shall not be used in the game and shall be placed in the discard rack. If more than one card is found face up in the deck during the dealing of the cards, the round of play shall be void and the cards shall be reshuffled.

(b) If an automated card-shuffling device is being used and the device jams, stops shuffling during a shuffle, or fails to complete a shuffle cycle, the cards shall be reshuffled in accordance with the rules of the Division.

(c) An incorrect number of cards dealt to any player will void the player's hand and all wagers will be returned to the player.

(d) An incorrect number of cards dealt to the dealer will void the player's Ante and In to Win Wagers, if placed. The dealer will pay any winning Lucky 8 Bonus wagers.

(e) Any automated card-shuffling device shall be removed from a gaming table before any other method of shuffling may be utilized at that table.