

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CASINO GAMBLING EQUIPMENT

1. Gambling Act 2003

Gambling Classifications

For a full description of each class of gambling, please refer to the Gambling Act 2003, which is available from Bennett's Bookshops and on the Department's website at <http://www.dia.govt.nz>.

2. Minimum Standards for Gambling Equipment

Under section 326(2)(a) of the Gambling Act 2003 (the Act), it is a condition of every class 4 venue licence and casino operator's licence, that all gambling equipment used for the purposes of the licence must comply with relevant minimum standards. The Act allows for the making of minimum standards under section 327 of the Act.

A minimum standard is defined as follows:

"minimum standards" mean: *minimum standards for the design, manufacture, and performance of gambling equipment prescribed by the Secretary under section 327. And under section 327(2),*

(2) Minimum Standards may, without limitation, include requirements that gambling equipment-

- (a) has features designed to reduce the likelihood of problem gambling or other harm arising from its use:*
- (b) is capable of being monitored and controlled electronically.*

It should be noted that **harm minimisation** initiatives are being separately considered and may result in changes to minimum standards.

3. Gambling Act (Casino Gambling Equipment) Minimum Standard 2004

3.1 Casino gaming machine equipment

Australian/New Zealand Gaming Machine National Standard revision 6.0, dated 6 December 2002, including the New Zealand Appendix, version 1.0.

Australian/New Zealand Gaming Machine National Standard revision 7.0, dated 30 December 2003, including the New Zealand Appendix, Version 2.0.

3.2 Casino other gambling equipment

Equipment specifications contained in Rules of Games made and notified in the Gazette by the Casino Control Authority under section 63 of the Casino Control Act 1990

4. Documents

4.1 Australian/New Zealand National Standard

The Australian/New Zealand National Standard Revisions 6.0, 7.0 and relevant Appendices, copies are available on The **Department of Internal Affairs** website:

www.dia.govt.nz,

4.2 Associated documents -Table Games

Division 1	- General Rules
Division 2	- Rules of Blackjack
Division 3	- Rules of Mini Baccarat
Division 4	- Rules of Midi Baccarat
Division 5	- Rules of Baccarat
Division 6	- Rules of Caribbean Stud Poker
Division 7	- Rules of Tournament Play
Division 8	- Rules of Roulette
Division 8A	- Rules of Electronic Roulette
Division 9	- Rules of Tai-Sai
Division 10	- Rules of Money Wheel
Division 11	- Rules of Craps
Division 12	- Rules of Pai Gow
Division 13	- Rules of Poker
Division 14	- Rules of Tournament Poker
Division 15	- Rules of Pontoon
	- Rules for Casino Promotions

Rules of Casino Keno, Racing Game, and Gaming Machines

Division 1	- General Rules
Division 2	- Rules of Keno
Division 2A	- Rules of Racing Game
Division 3	- Rules of Electronic Gaming Machines
Division 4	- Rules of Gaming and Monitoring Equipment Standards
Division 5	- Rules of Rules of Gaming Machine National Standard
Division 6	- Rules of Gaming Machine National Standard Revision 6.0

Not all casinos offer all games.

The **rules applying to electronic gaming machines** provide that the electronic games machines must have a theoretical and demonstrable return to the public of not less than 87%.

NB: When there is any dispute regarding rules of games, the rules as published in the *New Zealand Gazette*, take precedence as the official version of rules.

The **Department of Internal Affairs** website:

www.dia.govt.nz,

contains a consolidated version of the rule divisions incorporating consequent amendments up until June 30 2004. This consolidated version does not replace the official version of rules as found in the *New Zealand Gazette*.

5. Gazette Notice

New Zealand Gazette, 17/6/2004, No. 73, p. 1757

6. Transitional Provisions

The Gambling Act requires gambling equipment that was authorised for use and operating immediately before 1 July 2004 to be treated as having complied with all relevant minimum standards prescribed under s 327 until the date prescribed by the Governor-General by Order in Council terminating the transitional status of the equipment, if such a date is to be prescribed. This transitional status can only apply to equipment that was authorised and actually operating by no later than 30 June 2004. Additional equipment or changes to existing equipment will be subject to the requirement to be approved by the Secretary.

Under s 327(4) of the Gambling Act, if any document that is incorporated by reference into a minimum standard is amended, ie from the date of notice in the *Gazette*, the amendment does not become part of the minimum standard until it is notified, by the Secretary, in the *Gazette*.