

IN THE MATTER of the Gambling Act 2003

AND on an application by **SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED**
for approval of a new game mix
Annex for the Auckland casino

BEFORE THE GAMBLING COMMISSION

Members: G L Reeves (Chief Gambling Commissioner)
L M Hansen
R D Bell
D C Matahaere-Atariki
W N Harvey

Date of Application: 25 January 2016

Date of Decision: 12 February 2016

Date of Notification
of Decision: 18th February 2016

**DECISION ON AN APPLICATION BY SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED
FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW GAME MIX ANNEX FOR THE AUCKLAND CASINO**

Introduction

1. SKYCITY Casino Management Limited ("**SCML**") applied to the Commission, under condition 9 of SCML's operator's licence for the Auckland casino, for approval of 27 new game mixes, L-AL, for deployment on the Main Gaming Floor ("**MGF**").

Licence condition

2. The relevant licence condition is as follows:

SCML's operator's licence (Auckland)

9. The Licence Holder may operate on casino gaming tables the game types and game mix(es) specified by the Commission in Annex A attached to this Licence. As an alternative to Annex A, the Licence Holder may operate on casino gaming tables the game types and game mix(es) specified by the Commission in any additional annex approved by the Commission and attached to this Licence. The Licence Holder must give the Inspectorate prior notification before it commences operation under a different annex. The game types and game mixes specified in an annex can only be changed by the Commission.

SCML's submissions

3. SCML submitted, in summary, as follows:
 - (a) It currently has approved game mixes as set out in Annexes A and B attached to the operator's licence for the Auckland casino. It seeks approval to revise Annex

B to include an additional 27 new game mixes, L-AL, on the MGF. There are no other changes to the game mixes for the other areas of the casino.

- (b) The new game mixes provide for an increase in Midi Baccarat and Poker games. As a result of these increases, it wants to reduce the number of Black Jack games and for some combinations, increase the number of 5 Box Black Jack games and introduce a single sided Money Wheel game.
- (c) A table is attached to its application which sets out the player spaces and casino gambling opportunities for each game mix. It is satisfied that the new game mixes will not increase casino gambling opportunities.

The Secretary's submissions

- 4. The Secretary had no regulatory concerns with the proposal.

Analysis

- 5. SCML is seeking Commission approval to introduce 27 new game mixes into one of its location specific Gambling Areas; the MGF.
- 6. When asked to approve changes to approved game mixes, the Commission must ensure that approval would not increase opportunities for casino gambling compared to the opportunities provided by the regulatory benchmark. In doing so, it forms a view, in the round, on whether the proposal will increase available opportunities.
- 7. In this instance, SCML's proposal would result in the addition of 27 new game mixes for the MGF only. The Commission therefore commenced its deliberations by comparing the proposed game mixes with the existing approved game mixes for the MGF, to see whether the proposed mixes would increase opportunities in that area. A table comparing the proposed game mixes with the existing approved game mix which generates the most opportunities for the MGF, game mix I, is as follows:



Game mix														
	I	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
Money Wheel (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Money Wheel (single side)	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
Tai Sai (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tai Sai (single side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Pai Gow	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Caribbean Stud Poker	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4
Midi Baccarat	16	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	20	20	22	22	22	22
Poker	11	13	13	13	13	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Electronic Roulette/Electronic Baccarat/Electronic Tai Sai	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Mini Baccarat	8	6	4	6	4	6	6	6	6	6	6	4	6	4
Roulette	18	18	18	18	18	18	20	18	18	20	18	18	18	18
Black Jack (7 Box)	32	24	26	23	25	22	20	23	27	24	22	24	21	23
Black Jack (5 Box)	0	2	2	2	2	6	6	3	1	4	6	6	7	7
3 Card Poker	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ultimate Texas Hold'em	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2
Lunar Poker	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
Total	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103

Game mix														
	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG	AH	AI	AJ	AK	AL
Money Wheel (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Money Wheel (single side)	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Tai Sai (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tai Sai (single side)	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pai Gow	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Caribbean Stud Poker	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	3
Midi Baccarat	22	22	22	22	22	22	20	20	22	22	22	22	22	22
Poker	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	12	12
Electronic Roulette/Electronic Baccarat/Electronic Tai Sai	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Mini Baccarat	6	4	6	4	6	6	6	6	6	4	6	4	6	4
Roulette	18	18	18	18	20	18	18	20	18	18	18	18	18	18
Black Jack (7 Box)	22	24	21	23	20	20	22	22	22	24	22	24	23	25
Black Jack (5 Box)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
3 Card Poker	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ultimate Texas Hold'em	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3
Lunar Poker	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2
Total	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103


8. The Commission concluded that the proposed game mixes would not increase opportunities for casino gambling on the MGF compared to what is currently permitted there.
9. As the Commission concluded that the proposed game mixes would not increase opportunities for casino gambling on the MGF, and no amendments were proposed to game mixes for other areas at the casino, the Commission was satisfied that the proposed game mixes would not increase the overall opportunities for casino gambling at the Auckland casino.

Decision

10. The Commission approved the amended Annex B, under condition 9 of SCML's operator's licence for the Auckland casino. Annex B is **attached**.

Right of appeal

11. Pursuant to section 235 of the Act, a person affected by the decision recorded in paragraph 53 may appeal that decision to the High Court. An appeal must be made within 15 working days of the date of notice of the Commission's decision, or any longer period that the High Court may allow.



Graeme Reeves
Chief Gambling Commissioner

for and on behalf of the
Gambling Commission

18th February 2016



ANNEX B

GAME MIX A

Pursuant to condition 9 the following game mix may be operated by the Licence Holder on casino gaming tables, subject to the following conditions noted:

Black Jack/Pontoon (Manual Shuffle)	31 games
Black Jack/Pontoon (Auto Shuffle)	30 games
Caribbean Stud Poker (Auto Shuffle)	13 games
Midi Baccarat (Auto Shuffle)	23 games
Mini Baccarat (Auto Shuffle)	9 games
Money Wheel (Double Side)	3 games
Pai Gow	5 games
Roulette	31 games
Electronic Roulette	3 games
Tai Sai (double side)	1 game
Tai Sai (single side)	1 game

Notes for Game Mix A

1. The Electronic Roulette tables comprise up to 14 player spaces and no manual table.
2. Where table games provide for the use of automatic shufflers, the use of those shufflers shall be discretionary.
3. The Licence Holder is permitted to operate alternative game mixes of up to 150 tables as specified in the Annex.

GAME MIX A.1

Pursuant to condition 9 the following game mix may also be operated by the Licence Holder on casino gaming tables, subject to the following conditions noted:

Black Jack/Pontoon (Auto Shuffle)	3 games
Caribbean Stud Poker (Auto Shuffle)	2 games
Midi Baccarat (Auto Shuffle)	2 games
Mini Baccarat (Auto Shuffle)	2 games
Pai Gow	1 game
Roulette	1 game
Tai Sai (double side)	1 game

Notes for Game Mix A.1

1. Where table games provide for the use of automatic shufflers, the use of those shufflers shall be discretionary.
2. The Licence Holder is permitted to operate alternative game mixes of up to 12 tables as specified in the Annex.
3. The Licence Holder is permitted to substitute each table in Game Mix A.1 for up to 20 Automated Table Game terminals.
4. The Licence Holder may not substitute tables between Game Mix A and Game Mix A.1.

ALTERNATIVE GAME MIXES (GAME MIX A)

Pursuant to condition 9 the following game mixes may be operated by the Licence Holder on casino gaming tables in the locations specified, subject to the following conditions and requirements noted:

In gaming salon 82 to the south of the elevators on level 5, any one of the following two table game mixes:

	A1	B1	C1	D1	E1	F1	G1	H1	I1	J1	K1	L1
Midi Baccarat	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Roulette	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Black Jack	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0
Mini Baccarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Pai Gow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Three Card Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

together with

In gaming salon 86 to the south of the elevators on level 5, any one of the following two table game mixes:

	A2	B2	C2	D2	E2	F2	G2	H2	I2	J2	K2	L2
Midi Baccarat	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Roulette	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Black Jack	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0
Mini Baccarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Pai Gow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Three Card Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2



together with

In gaming salon 88 to the south of the elevators on level 5, any one of the following six table game mixes:

	A3	B3	C3	D3	E3	F3	G3	H3	I3	J3	K3	L3	M3	N3	O3	P3	Q3	R3	S3	T3	U3	V3	W3	X3
Midi Baccarat	6	5	5	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	2	3	4	4	5	3	4	3	3	2	2	2	3	2
Roulette	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	0	2	2
Black Jack	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	2	3	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	2
Mini Baccarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pai Gow	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Card Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	0
Total	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

In the gaming salon 81 to the north of the elevators on level 5, any one of the following four table game mixes:

	A4	B4	C4	D4	E4	F4	G4	H4	I4	J4	K4	L4	M4	N4	O4	P4	Q4	R4	S4	T4	U4	V4	W4	X4
Midi Baccarat	6	5	5	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	2	3	4	4	5	3	4	3	3	2	2	2	3	2
Roulette	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	4	0	2	0	2	2
Black Jack	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	2	3	1	0	1	0	2	1	2	0	4	2	2	1	2
Mini Baccarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pai Gow	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Card Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	0
Total	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6



In the area designated as Eight to the north of the elevators on level 5, any one of the following 22 table game mixes:

	A5	B5	C5	D5	E5
Midi Baccarat (9 box)	10	10	10	10	10
Midi Baccarat (7 box)	4	4	4	3	4
Roulette	4	4	4	4	3
Electronic Roulette/Electronic Baccarat/ Electronic Tai Sai	0	0	0	1	1
Black Jack (7 Box)	3	4	3	3	3
Pai Gow	1	0	0	1	1
Caribbean Stud Poker	0	0	1	0	0
Total	22	22	22	22	22

together with

In the gaming salon Grand Horizon 1 on level 7 of the Grand Hotel, any one of the following four table game mixes:

	A6	B6	C6	D6	E6	F6	G6	H6	I6	J6	K6	L6	M6	N6	O6	P6	Q6	R6	S6	T6
Midi Baccarat	4	3	3	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	3	1	1	0	0	0
Roulette	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	4	0	2
Black Jack	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	2	3	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	4	2
Mini Baccarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pai Gow	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Card Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

together with



In the gaming salon Grand Horizon 2 on level 7 of the Grand Hotel, any one of the following three table game mixes:

	A7	B7	C7	D7	E7	F7	G7	H7	I7	J7	K7
Midi	3	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Baccarat											
Roulette	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	1	0	3	0
Black Jack	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	2	3	0	0
Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

together with

In the gaming salon Grand Horizon 3 on level 7 of the Grand Hotel, any one of the following three table game mixes:

	A8	B8	C8	D8	E8	F8	G8	H8	I8	J8	K8	L8
Midi	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Baccarat												
Roulette	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Black Jack	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0
Mini	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Baccarat												
Pai Gow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
3 Card	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Poker												
Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2



In all Gambling Areas other than the four gaming salons and VIP area known as 'Eight' on level 5, and the three VIP gaming salons on level 7 of the Grand Hotel, any one of the following 103 table game mixes:

	A9	B9	C9	D9	E9	F9	G9	H9	I9	J9	K9
Money Wheel (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tai Sai (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tai Sai (single side)	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pai Gow	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Caribbean Stud Poker	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	4	3
Midi Baccarat	14	14	14	16	14	14	16	16	16	14	14
Poker	13	13	13	13	13	13	11	11	11	13	17
Electronic Roulette/Electronic Baccarat/Electronic Tai Sai	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Mini Baccarat	8	8	8	8	8	7	8	8	8	8	8
Roulette	18	18	18	18	17	18	18	18	18	18	18
Black Jack (7 Box)	32	32	33	30	32	32	30	31	32	32	28
Black Jack (5 Box)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
3 Card Poker	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ultimate Texas Hold'em	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Lunar Poker	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	2
Total	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103



	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y
Money Wheel (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Money Wheel (single side)	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
Tai Sai (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tai Sai (single side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pai Gow	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Caribbean Stud Poker	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	3
Midi Baccarat	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	20	20	22	22	22	22	22
Poker	13	13	13	13	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	17
Electronic Roulette/Electronic Baccarat/Electronic Tai Sai	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Mini Baccarat	6	4	6	4	6	6	6	6	6	6	4	6	4	6
Roulette	18	18	18	18	18	20	18	18	20	18	18	18	18	18
Black Jack (7 Box)	24	26	23	25	22	20	23	27	24	22	24	21	23	22
Black Jack (5 Box)	2	2	2	2	6	6	3	1	4	6	6	7	7	0
3 Card Poker	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ultimate Texas Hold'em	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3
Lunar Poker	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2
Total	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103



	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG	AH	AI	AJ	AK	AL
Money Wheel (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Money Wheel (single side)	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Tai Sai (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tai Sai (single side)	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pai Gow	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Caribbean Stud Poker	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	3
Midi Baccarat	22	22	22	22	22	20	20	22	22	22	22	22	22
Poker	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	12	12
Electronic Roulette/Electronic Baccarat/Electronic Tai Sai	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Mini Baccarat	4	6	4	6	6	6	6	6	4	6	4	6	4
Roulette	18	18	18	20	18	18	20	18	18	18	18	18	18
Black Jack (7 Box)	24	21	23	20	20	22	22	22	24	22	24	23	25
Black Jack (5 Box)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
3 Card Poker	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ultimate Texas Hold'em	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3
Lunar Poker	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2
Total	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103



Notes for the alternative game mixes:

1. The Licence Holder is permitted to change game mixes subject to providing the Inspectorate with prior notification including notification of the electronic table type(s) associated with that game mix.
2. The Licence Holder is permitted to operate automatic shufflers on each of the Black Jack, Caribbean Stud Poker, Baccarat, Poker, 3-Card Poker, Ultimate Texas Hold'em, Casino War and Lunar Poker tables.
3. At least 50% of the total number of Midi Baccarat games shall be conducted in accordance with dealing style B, as set out in the rules of Baccarat.
4. All Midi Baccarat games in salons 81, 82, 86 and 88 shall have 7 boxes only.
5. Electronic Roulette, electronic Baccarat and electronic Tai Sai tables comprise up to 30 player tables and no manual table. The games may be used interchangeably.
6. The number of player spaces at Poker tables (other than Caribbean Stud Poker and 3-Card Poker) may not exceed 10, even if game rules provide for more.

