

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 Hamilton casino

BEFORE THE GAMBLING COMMISSION

Members: S W Hughes KC (Chief Gambling Commissioner)
S C L Pearson
W A Acton
S T Shaw
C M Risk

Date of Application: 29 February 2024

Date of Decision: 12 April 2024

Date of Notification
of Decision: 15 April 2024

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

Introduction

1. SKYCITY Casino Management Limited (“**SCML**”) applied to the Commission, under condition 9 of its operator’s licence for the Hamilton Casino, for approval of a new game mix Annex for the Hamilton Casino.

Licence condition

2. The relevant licence condition is as follows:

SCML’s operator’s licence (Hamilton)

9. The Licence Holder may operate on casino gaming tables the game types and game mixes specified in Annex A attached to this Licence. The Licence Holder shall obtain the prior approval of the Commission for any change to the game types and/or game mixes specified.

SCML’s submissions

3. SCML submitted, in summary, as follows:
 - (a) It wants to introduce two new game mixes, 36 and 37, to its approved game mix Annex. The new game mixes remove Caribbean Stud Poker and introduce additional Ultimate Texas Hold’em and Roulette games.

- (b) The new game mixes will not increase opportunities for casino gambling.

The Secretary's submissions

4. The Secretary submitted that SCML's proposal raised no issues of regulatory concern.

Analysis

5. SCML is seeking approval to introduce two new game mixes to the Hamilton casino. The Commission's approach when considering proposals for new game mixes is to compare what is proposed with the approved game mix that provides the most opportunities and form a view, in the round, on whether it will increase opportunities for casino gambling. Game mix 1 is the approved game mix that provides the most opportunities for casino gambling at the Hamilton casino.
6. The Commission was satisfied, in the round, that the proposed new game mixes would not increase opportunities for casino gambling compared to game mix 1. The Commission made this decision on a commonsense basis, in the round, rather than by calculating opportunities based on tables of data or upon a formula.

Decision

7. The Commission approved an updated game mix annex (including game mixes 36 and 37) under condition 9 of SCML's operator's licence for the Hamilton casino. The new Annex is **attached**.

Right of appeal

8. Pursuant to section 235 of the Act, a person affected by this decision 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.



Susan Hughes KC
Chief Gambling Commissioner

for and on behalf of the
Gambling Commission

15 April 2024



ANNEX A

1.	Blackjack/Pontoon	up to 11 games
	Roulette	up to 5 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	up to 2 games
	Midi Baccarat	up to 3 games
	Mini Baccarat	up to 1 game
	Tai Sai (single sided)	up to 1 game
2.	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 10 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Electronic Roulette (up to 23 terminals)	Up to 1 game
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 1 game
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 4 games
	Money Wheel (single sided)	Up to 1 game
	Poker	Up to 2 games
3.	Blackjack/Pontoon	up to 12 games
	Roulette	up to 4 games
	Electronic Roulette (up to 23 terminals)	up to 1 game
	Midi Baccarat	up to 2 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	up to 1 game
	Money Wheel (single sided)	up to 1 game
	Poker	up to 2 games
4.	Blackjack/Pontoon	up to 10 games
	Roulette	up to 4 games
	Electronic Roulette (up to 23 terminals)	up to 1 game
	Caribbean Stud Poker	up to 1 game
	Midi Baccarat	up to 3 games
	Mini Baccarat	up to 1 game
	Money Wheel (single sided)	up to 1 game
	Poker	up to 2 games
5.	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 6 games
	Blackjack/Pontoon (restricted options)	Up to 2 games
	Roulette	Up to 5 games
	Electronic Roulette (up to 23 terminals)	Up to 1 game
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 1 game
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 5 games
	Money Wheel (single sided)	Up to 1 game
	Poker	Up to 2 games
6.	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 5 games
	Blackjack/Pontoon (restricted options)	Up to 2 games
	Roulette	Up to 5 games
	Electronic Roulette (up to 23 terminals)	Up to 1 game
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 1 game
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 5 games
	Mini Baccarat	Up to 1 game
	Money Wheel (single sided)	Up to 1 game
	Poker	Up to 2 games

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| 7. | Blackjack/Pontoon | Up to 7 games |
| | Blackjack/Pontoon (restricted options) | Up to 1 game |
| | Roulette | Up to 4 games |
| | Electronic Roulette (up to 23 terminals) | Up to 1 game |
| | Caribbean Stud Poker | Up to 2 games |
| | Midi Baccarat | Up to 6 games |
| | 3 Card Poker | Up to 1 game |
| | Ultimate Texas Hold'em Poker | Up to 1 game |
| 8. | Blackjack/Pontoon | Up to 8 games |
| | Blackjack/Pontoon (restricted options) | Up to 1 game |
| | Roulette | Up to 4 games |
| | Electronic Roulette (up to 23 terminals) | Up to 1 game |
| | Caribbean Stud Poker | Up to 2 games |
| | Midi Baccarat | Up to 5 games |
| | 3 Card Poker | Up to 1 game |
| | Ultimate Texas Hold'em Poker | Up to 1 game |
| 9. | Blackjack/Pontoon | Up to 8 games |
| | Roulette | Up to 4 games |
| | Electronic Roulette (up to 22 terminals) | Up to 1 game |
| | Caribbean Stud Poker | Up to 2 games |
| | Midi Baccarat | Up to 6 games |
| | 3 Card Poker | Up to 1 game |
| | Ultimate Texas Hold'em Poker | Up to 1 game |
| 10. | Blackjack/Pontoon | Up to 8 games |
| | Roulette | Up to 4 games |
| | Electronic Roulette (up to 23 terminals) | Up to 1 game |
| | Caribbean Stud Poker | Up to 2 games |
| | Midi Baccarat | Up to 6 games |
| | 3 Card Poker | Up to 1 game |
| | Lunar Poker | Up to 1 game |
| 11. | Blackjack/Pontoon | Up to 8 games |
| | Roulette | Up to 4 games |
| | Electronic Roulette (up to 12 terminals) | Up to 1 game |
| | Caribbean Stud Poker | Up to 2 games |
| | Midi Baccarat | Up to 6 games |
| | 3 Card Poker | Up to 1 game |
| | Money Wheel (SS) | Up to 1 game |
| 12. | Blackjack/Pontoon | Up to 7 games |
| | Roulette | Up to 4 games |
| | Electronic Roulette (up to 12 terminals) | Up to 1 game |
| | Caribbean Stud Poker | Up to 2 games |
| | Midi Baccarat | Up to 6 games |
| | Money Wheel (SS) | Up to 1 game |
| | 3 Card Poker | Up to 1 game |
| | Ultimate Texas Hold'em Poker | Up to 1 game |

13.	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 7 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 6 games
	Money Wheel (SS)	Up to 1 game
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Ultimate Texas Hold'em Poker	Up to 1 game
	Snake Eyes	Up to 1 game
14.	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 6 games
	Blackjack/Pontoon (restricted options)	Up to 2 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 7 games
	Money Wheel (SS)	Up to 1 game
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
15.	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 7 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 7 games
	Money Wheel (SS)	Up to 1 game
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Snake Eyes	Up to 1 game
16.	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 7 games
	Blackjack/Pontoon (5 box)	Up to 1 game
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 6 games
	Midi Baccarat (7 box)	Up to 1 game
	Money Wheel (SS)	Up to 1 game
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
17.	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 7 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 5 games
	Midi Baccarat (7 box)	Up to 2 games
	Money Wheel (SS)	Up to 1 game
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Casino War	Up to 1 game
18.	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 5 games
	Blackjack/Pontoon (5 box)	Up to 3 games
	Roulette	Up to 3 games
	Electronic Roulette (up to 10 terminals)	Up to 1 game
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 6 games
	Midi Baccarat (7 box)	Up to 1 game
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Money Wheel (SS)	Up to 1 game

19.	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 5 games
	Blackjack/Pontoon (5 box)	Up to 2 games
	Roulette	Up to 3 games
	Electronic Roulette (up to 10 terminals)	Up to 1 game
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 5 games
	Midi Baccarat (7 box)	Up to 2 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Money Wheel (SS)	Up to 1 game
	Casino War	Up to 1 game
20.	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 8 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 6 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Money Wheel (SS)	Up to 1 game
	Texas Hold'em Poker	Up to 1 game
21	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 6 games
	Blackjack/Pontoon (5 box)	Up to 1 game
	Roulette	Up to 5 games
	Midi Baccarat	Up to 6 games
	Midi Baccarat (7 box)	Up to 1 game
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Money Wheel (SS)	Up to 1 game
22	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 6 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box)	Up to 7 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	3 Card Poker	Up to 2 games
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 2 games
23	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 6 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box)	Up to 7 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Money Wheel (SS)	Up to 1 game
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 2 games
24	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 6 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box)	Up to 7 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Poker	Up to 1 game
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 2 games

25	Blackjack/Pontoon Roulette Midi Baccarat (8 box) Caribbean Stud Poker 3 Card Poker Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 8 games Up to 4 games Up to 7 games Up to 1 game Up to 1 game Up to 2 games
26	Blackjack/Pontoon Roulette Midi Baccarat (8 box) Caribbean Stud Poker 3 Card Poker Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 8 games Up to 4 games Up to 7 games Up to 2 games Up to 1 game Up to 1 game
27	Blackjack/Pontoon Roulette Midi Baccarat (8 box) Caribbean Stud Poker 3 Card Poker Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 8 games Up to 4 games Up to 6 games Up to 2 games Up to 1 game Up to 2 games
28	Blackjack/Pontoon Roulette Midi Baccarat (8 box) Caribbean Stud Poker Money Wheel (SS) 3 Card Poker Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 8 games Up to 4 games Up to 6 games Up to 1 game Up to 1 game Up to 1 game Up to 2 games
29	Blackjack/Pontoon Roulette Midi Baccarat (8 box) Caribbean Stud Poker 3 Card Poker Poker Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 8 games Up to 4 games Up to 6 games Up to 1 game Up to 1 game Up to 1 game Up to 2 games
30	Blackjack/Pontoon Roulette Midi Baccarat (8 box) Caribbean Stud Poker 3 Card Poker Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 8 games Up to 4 games Up to 6 games Up to 1 game Up to 2 games Up to 2 games

31	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 6 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style A	Up to 3 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style B	Up to 4 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 1 game
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Poker	Up to 1 game
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat (12 terminals)	Up to 2 games
	Ultimate Texas Hold'em	Up to 1 game
32	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 6 games
	Roulette	Up to 3 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style A	Up to 3 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style B	Up to 4 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Poker	Up to 1 game
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat (8 terminals)	Up to 2 games
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat with manual wagers on roulette layout	Up to 1 game
33	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 6 games
	Roulette	Up to 3 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style A	Up to 3 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style B	Up to 4 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	Money Wheel (single side)	Up to 1 game
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat (8 terminals)	Up to 2 games
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat with manual wagers on roulette layout	Up to 1 game
34	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 6 games
	Roulette	Up to 3 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style A	Up to 3 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style B	Up to 4 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 1 game
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Poker	Up to 1 game
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat (8 terminals)	Up to 2 games
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat with manual wagers on roulette layout	Up to 1 game
Ultimate Texas Hold'em	Up to 1 game	

35	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 6 games
	Roulette	Up to 3 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style A	Up to 3 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style B	Up to 4 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat (8 terminals)	Up to 2 games
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat With manual wagers on roulette layout	Up to 1 game
	Ultimate Texas Hold'em	Up to 1 game
	36	Blackjack/Pontoon
Roulette		Up to 3 games
Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style A		Up to 3 games
Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style B		Up to 4 games
3 Card Poker		Up to 1 game
Poker		Up to 1 game
Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat (8 terminals)		Up to 2 games
Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat With manual wagers on roulette layout		Up to 1 game
Ultimate Texas Hold'em		Up to 2 games
37		Blackjack/Pontoon
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style A	Up to 3 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box) – Style B	Up to 3 games
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Poker	Up to 1 game
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat (8 terminals)	Up to 2 games
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai/Baccarat With manual wagers on roulette layout	Up to 1 game
	Ultimate Texas Hold'em	Up to 2 games

Notes

1. The Licence Holder is permitted to change between game mixes 5 and 6 subject only to any requirements specified by way of Minimum Operating Standards. The Licence Holder is permitted to change between other approved table game mixes subject to providing the Inspectorate with prior notice.
2. For game mix 1, the Licence Holder is permitted to operate automatic shufflers on the Caribbean Stud Poker and Baccarat tables, and on no more than 50% of the Blackjack games specified.
3. The Licence Holder is permitted to operate automatic shufflers on the Caribbean Stud Poker, Poker, 3 Card Poker, Ultimate Texas Hold'em, Casino War, Baccarat and Blackjack tables in all other game mixes.
4. The Licence Holder is permitted to conduct two alternative Poker games – Hold'em and Omaha.
5. Where Black Jack/Pontoon are subject to restricted wagering options, the Licence Holder shall permit up to 2 terminals only to wager on any 1 box and the layout shall be inscribed to this effect.

6. The Electronic Roulette tables comprise up to the number of terminals specified in each game mix and no manual table except as specified in Note 9 below.
7. At least 50% of the total number of Midi Baccarat games in game mixes 2-37 shall be conducted in accordance with dealing style B or D, as set out in the rules of Baccarat.
8. Electronic dice tumblers may be used on any Tai Sai game and U-Spin devices approved by the Department of Internal Affairs may be used on any Roulette games.
9. When game mixes 32-37 are deployed, up to 24 player terminals may be used interchangeably across Electronic Baccarat, Electronic Tai Sai and Electronic Roulette. This means that the terminals may be used on one of the electronic games, or on a combination of the three electronic games. Where an Electronic Roulette game is used, the Roulette table attached to the Electronic Roulette game may also be used to accept manual wagers.