

IN THE MATTER of the Gambling Act 2003
AND of an application by **SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED** for approval of new game mixes for the Queenstown casino

BEFORE THE GAMBLING COMMISSION

Members: G L Reeves (Chief Gambling Commissioner)
P J Stanley
R D Bell
A K Foote

Date of Application: 1 May 2012

Date of Decision: 11 May 2012

Date of Notification
of Decision:  May 2012

**DECISION ON AN
APPLICATION BY SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED
FOR APPROVAL OF NEW GAME MIXES FOR THE QUEENSTOWN CASINO**

Application

1. SKYCITY Casino Management Limited (**SCML**) applied, under condition 9 of SCML's operator's licence for the Queenstown casino, for approval of a new game mix Annex with three new game mixes – J, K and L.

Licence condition

2. The relevant licence condition is as follows:

SCML's operator's licence (Queenstown)

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.

Submissions by SCML

3. SCML submitted, in summary, as follows:
 - (a) It currently has approval for nine game mixes, A-I. It seeks approval for three new game mixes – J, K and L.



- (b) The impact of the proposed new game mixes on player spaces is set out in a table below. For those games where the maximum number of player positions is not fixed by game rules, it has applied a theoretical maximum number of positions as a guide for the Commission. Based on these figures, the new game mixes have fewer player spaces than the regulatory benchmark, game mix A.
- (c) A comparison of overall opportunities is also set out in the table below. The figures used in this table were derived from a trial carried out by SKYCITY and considered by the Commission in decision GC17/10.
- (d) The notional opportunities associated with the proposed new game mixes are less than those associated with game mix A, as shown below.

Game Mix	Player Spaces	Overall gambling opportunities
A	256	8,165
J	253	8,156
K	230	6,552
L	195	5,129

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

Submissions by the Secretary

4. The Secretary submitted that SCML's calculations appear accurate and suggest that proposed game mixes J, K and L will not increase opportunities for casino gambling.

Analysis

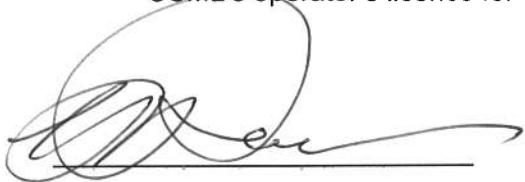
5. The Commission's approach when considering whether a proposal will increase opportunities for casino gambling is to consider what is proposed against the regulatory benchmark and form a view, in the round, on whether it will increase opportunities for casino gambling. The regulatory benchmark for the Queenstown casino is game mix A. Game mixes A, J, K and L are set out as follows:

	A	J	K	L
Black Jack	5	3	4	2
Roulette	3	3	3	2
Midi Baccarat	3	4	2	2
Caribbean Stud Poker	1	1	1	1
Poker	-	0	1	5
Tai Sai	-	1	1	0

6. The Commission was satisfied that none of the proposed new game mixes would, in the round, increase opportunities for casino gambling compared with game mix A.

Decision

7. The Commission approved a new Annex A with game mixes A-L, under condition 9 of SCML's operator's licence for the Queenstown casino. The new Annex A is **attached**.



Graeme Reeves
Chief Gambling Commissioner

for and on behalf of the
Gambling Commission

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ANNEX A

Pursuant to condition 9 the following game mixes may be operated by the Licence Holder on casino gaming tables subject to the following conditions and requirements

Game Mix A

Black Jack – up to 5 games
Roulette – up to 3 games
Midi Baccarat – up to 3 games
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game

Game Mix B

Black Jack – up to 4 games
Roulette – up to 3 games
Midi Baccarat – up to 3 games
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game
Poker – up to 1 game

Game Mix C

Black Jack – up to 4 games
Roulette – up to 3 games
Midi Baccarat – up to 2 games
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game
Poker – up to 2 games

Game Mix D

Black Jack – up to 3 games
Roulette – up to 3 games
Midi Baccarat – up to 3 games
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game
Poker – up to 1 game
Tai Sai – up to 1 game

Game Mix E

Black Jack – up to 5 games
Roulette – up to 2 games
Midi Baccarat – up to 3 games
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game
Poker – up to 1 game

Game Mix F

Black Jack – up to 5 games
Roulette – up to 2 games
Midi Baccarat – up to 2 games
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game
Poker – up to 2 games

Game Mix G

Black Jack – up to 3 games
Roulette – up to 3 games
Midi Baccarat – up to 2 games
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game
Poker – up to 2 games
Tai Sai – up to 1 game



Game Mix H

Black Jack – up to 2 games
Roulette – up to 2 games
Midi Baccarat – up to 1 game
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game
Poker – up to 6 games

Game Mix I

Black Jack – up to 2 games
Roulette – up to 2 games
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game
Poker – up to 7 games

Game Mix J

Black Jack – up to 3 games
Roulette – up to 3 games
Midi Baccarat – up to 4 games
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game
Tai Sai – up to 1 game

Game Mix K

Black Jack – up to 4 games
Roulette – up to 3 games
Midi Baccarat – up to 2 games
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game
Poker – up to 1 game
Tai Sai – up to 1 game

Game Mix L

Black Jack – up to 2 games
Roulette – up to 2 games
Midi Baccarat – up to 2 games
Caribbean Stud Poker – up to 1 game
Poker – up to 5 games

Notes

1. The Licence Holder is permitted to change between the game mixes specified subject to providing the Inspectorate with prior notice.
2. Any flip top tables forming part of a game mix must be operated in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Minimum Operating Standards.
3. The Licence Holder is permitted to operate automatic shufflers on no more than 50% of open Black Jack games.
4. The Licence Holder is permitted to operate an automatic shuffler on one Caribbean Stud Poker game.

