

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: L M Hansen (Chief Gambling Commissioner)
D C Matahaere-Atariki
W N Harvey
S C L Pearson

Date of Application: 10 August 2020

Date of Decision: 11 September 2020

Date of Notification
of Decision: 11 September 2020

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

Application

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

Licence condition

2. The relevant licence condition is as follows:

SCML 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.

Submissions by SCML

3. SCML submitted, in summary, as follows:
 - (a) It wants to introduce nine new game mixes, game mixes 22-30, to its approved game mix Annex. The new game mixes provide for the introduction of Electronic Baccarat, and other variations, into the new Baccarat area at the Hamilton casino.

- (b) Its application contains a table of data which assesses the impact of the proposed changes on the overall rate of play. As the revised game mixes provide for the option of using Electronic Roulette, Electronic Tai Sai or Electronic Baccarat, the rate of play associated with the fastest of the three games, Electronic Baccarat, was used in the table.
- (c) The proposed new game mixes provide fewer opportunities than its benchmark game mix, game mix 1, as follows:

Game mix	Player spaces	Overall opportunities
1	464	14165
22	430	11244
23	435	11328
24	433	11273
25	458	12504
26	459	12414
27	441	12252
28	446	12336
29	444	12281
30	441	12252

Submissions by the Secretary

4. The Secretary submitted that he had no regulatory concerns with SCML's proposal.

Analysis

5. SCML has approval to deploy game mixes 1-21 at the Hamilton Casino and now seeks approval to deploy nine new games, 22-30.
6. The Commission's usual approach for approving new game mixes is to compare the proposed game mixes with the approved game mix which provides the most opportunities for casino gambling and form a view, in the round, on whether they will increase opportunities for casino gambling. The Commission makes the assessment on a common-sense basis, rather than by calculating opportunities based upon a formula, or tables of data.
7. Game mix 1 is the approved game mix that provides the most opportunities at Hamilton casino. The Commission compared each new game mix with game mix 1 and was satisfied that, in the round, none of them will increase opportunities for casino gambling. The proposed game mixes raise no other issues of regulatory concern.

Decision

8. The Commission approved the new game mixes, 22-30, under condition 9 of SCML's operator's licence for the Hamilton Casino. The new Annex is **attached**.

Right of appeal

9. 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.



Lisa Hansen
Gambling Commissioner

for and on behalf of the
Gambling Commission

// September 2020



ANNEX A

Pursuant to condition 9 the following game mixes may be operated by the Licence Holder on casino gaming tables in accordance with approved floor plans subject to the following conditions and requirements:

- | | | |
|----|--|----------------|
| 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 game
	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	Up to 8 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box)	Up to 7 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 1 game
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 2 games
26	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 8 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
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 1 game
27	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 8 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box)	Up to 6 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 2 games
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 2 games
28	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 8 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box)	Up to 6 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 1 game
	Money Wheel (SS)	Up to 1 game
	3 Card Poker	Up to 1 game
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 2 games
29	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 8 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box)	Up to 6 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 (up to 12 terminals)	Up to 2 games
30	Blackjack/Pontoon	Up to 8 games
	Roulette	Up to 4 games
	Midi Baccarat (8 box)	Up to 6 games
	Caribbean Stud Poker	Up to 1 game
	3 Card Poker	Up to 2 games
	Electronic Roulette/Tai Sai, Baccarat (up to 12 terminals)	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.
7. At least 50% of the total number of Midi Baccarat games in game mixes 2-30 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.