

IN THE MATTER of the Gambling Act 2003

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

BEFORE THE GAMBLING COMMISSION

Members: G L Reeves (Chief Gambling Commissioner)
P J Stanley
L M Hansen
R D Bell

Date of Application: 2 August 2013

Date of Decision: 13 September 2013

Date of Notification
of Decision:  September 2013

**DECISION ON AN APPLICATION BY SKYCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT LIMITED
FOR APPROVAL OF NEW GAME MIXES 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 new game mixes for the Auckland casino.

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 has four approved game mix Annexes for the Auckland casino; A-D. On 28 June 2013, it sought Commission approval to incorporate its game mixes into a single Annex, Annex A.
- (b) It seeks approval to amend Annex A in the following ways:
- (a) all Midi Baccarat games in the four international salons will be played on a layout featuring 7 boxes rather than 9 boxes;
 - (b) the number of Poker tables on the MGF will be reduced;
 - (c) the number of Mini Baccarat tables on the MGF will be increased;
 - (d) the number of Black Jack tables on the MGF will be increased;
 - (e) Black Jack games which provide for back-betting restrictions will be removed.
- (c) The combined game mix with the most opportunities for casino gambling has fewer player spaces and opportunities than the regulatory benchmark, as follows:

	Player spaces	Overall opportunities
Game mix A	2,262	68,363
Combined game mixes	2,260	62,800

The Secretary's submissions

4. The Secretary agreed with SCML's arithmetical calculations, which suggest that none of the proposed game mixes provide for more player spaces or overall opportunities than the benchmark game mix. Given this, and following decision GC24/13, SCML's proposal does not raise any issues of regulatory concern.

Analysis

5. SCML has sought Commission approval to amend its game mix annex, Annex A. SCML's proposed changes are set out in paragraph 3(b) above, although SCML's statement that it wants to remove Black Jack games which provide for back-betting restrictions is not clear. SCML's proposal, if approved, would not result in the removal of Black Jack games which include back-betting restrictions; rather SCML seeks approval of additional game mixes for the main gaming floor which include Black Jack tables with no betting restrictions. Game mixes with back-betting restrictions on Black Jack tables will still be available should SCML's proposal be approved.
6. The Commission compared SCML's proposal against the approved game mix which provides the most opportunities for casino gambling, game mix A. In doing so, the Commission identified the game mix for each Gambling Area at the Auckland casino which offers the most opportunities, combined them, and compared the combination with



game mix A. The Commission was satisfied, in the round, that SCML's proposal offered fewer overall opportunities than game mix A when regard was had to the player spaces, including the number of games with unlimited player spaces, and the relative speeds of the games introduced.

Decision

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



Lisa Hansen
Gambling Commissioner

for and on behalf of the
Gambling Commission

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September 2013



ANNEX A

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 and requirements noted:

Black Jack/Pontoon	44 games
Roulette	24 games
Electronic Roulette	1 game
Caribbean Stud Poker	10 games
Midi Baccarat	17 games
Mini Baccarat	7 games
Pai Gow	4 games
Tai Sai (double side)	1 game
Tai Sai (single side)	1 game
Money Wheel (double side)	1 game

Notes for Game Mix A

1. The Licence Holder is permitted to operate automatic shufflers on 50% of open Black Jack tables, and all Caribbean Stud Poker and Baccarat tables.
2. The Electronic Roulette table comprises up to 14 player spaces and no manual table.

ALTERNATIVE GAME MIXES

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



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
Midi Baccarat	4	3	3	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	3	1	1	1
Roulette	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	1
Black Jack	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	2	3	1	0	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
Pai Gow	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	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
Total	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4



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

	A5	B5	C5	D5	E5	F5	G5	H5	I5	J5	K5	L5	M5	N5	O5	P5	Q5	R5	S5	T5	U5	V5
Midi Baccarat (9 box)	10	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	10	9	10	10	9	10	9	10	10	7	8	7	7	7
Midi Baccarat (7 box)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	3	3	3	4
Roulette	4	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	3	4	4	3	4	2	3	3	2	2	1	2	1	1
Electronic Roulette	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Electronic Roulette (inc Manual Table)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
Blackjack (7 Box)	3	2	2	3	4	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Blackjack (5 Box)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	2	2	3	2	2	2
Pai Gow	0	2	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Mini Baccarat	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caribbean Stud Poker	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
3 Card Poker	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18

together with



In all Gambling Areas other than the four gaming salons on level 5 and the VIP area known as 'Eight' on level 5, any one of the following 78 table game mixes:

	A6	B6	C6	D6	E6	F6	G6	H6	I6	J6	K6	L6	M6	N6	O6	P6	Q6	R6	S6	T6	U6	V6	W6	X6	Y6	Z6
Money Wheel (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Money Wheel (single side)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	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	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tai Sai (single side)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pai Gow	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Caribbean Stud Poker	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	7	5	6	7	5	5	5	5	6	6	5	5	5	5	6
Midi Baccarat	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Poker	9	9	9	9	9	9	11	11	11	9	9	9	9	11	11	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Electronic Roulette	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2
Mini Baccarat	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	6	7	6	7	6	7	6	7
Roulette	17	19	17	19	17	19	16	15	17	16	16	16	16	16	16	14	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Black Jack (7 Box)	24	22	23	21	22	20	24	25	23	23	24	24	24	23	22	25	21	20	20	21	21	19	23	22	22	23
Black Jack (5 Box)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	3	3	3	3	1	1	3	2	2	2	0
3 Card Poker	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ultimate Texas Hold'em	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Casino War	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
Total	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78



	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG	AH	AI	AJ	AK	AL	AM	AN	AO	AP	AQ	AR	AS	AT	AU	AV	AW	AX	AY	AZ
Money Wheel (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Money Wheel (single side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	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	1	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	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pai Gow	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Caribbean Stud Poker	6	5	5	5	5	6	6	5	6	5	5	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Midi Baccarat	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Electronic Poker	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Roulette	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Mini Baccarat	6	7	6	7	6	7	6	7	6	7	6	7	6	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Roulette	16	16	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	16	16	14	14	13	13	14	14	12	12	12	12
Black Jack (7 Box)	23	21	23	22	22	23	23	21	25	24	24	25	25	25	19	19	19	20	17	19	16	17	18	19	22	23
Black Jack (5 Box)	0	2	3	3	3	1	1	3	2	2	2	0	0	2	5	4	5	2	7	3	8	5	8	5	6	3
3 Card Poker	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ultimate Texas Hold'em	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Casino War	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78



	BA	BB	BC	BD	BE	BF	BG	BH	BI	BJ	BK	BL	BM	BN	BO	BP	BQ	BR	BS	BT	BU	BV	BW	BX	BY	BZ
Money Wheel (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Money Wheel (single side)	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1
Tai Sai (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tai Sai (single side)	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pai Gow	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
Caribbean Stud Poker	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Midi Baccarat	10	10	10	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	10	10	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	10
Poker	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11
Electronic Roulette	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Electronic Roulette (inc Manual Table)	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mini Baccarat	6	6	7	7	7	7	6	6	8	8	6	6	7	7	8	8	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	7
Roulette	14	14	12	12	13	13	13	13	11	11	13	13	13	13	11	11	14	14	14	14	14	12	14	14	12	12
Black Jack (7 Box)	13	14	14	16	14	15	14	15	14	15	10	11	10	11	11	13	19	20	16	17	18	19	13	14	14	16
Black Jack (7 Box - 2 Backbets)	6	3	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	5	8	5	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	3	4	2
Black Jack (5 Box)	5	5	6	4	10	7	10	7	10	7	6	6	6	6	6	4	5	2	8	5	8	5	5	5	6	4
3 Card Poker	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ultimate Texas Hold'em	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Casino War	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78



	CA6	CB6	CC6	CD6	CE6	CF6	CG6	CH6	CI6	CJ6	CK6	CL6	CM6	CN6	CO6	CP6	CQ6	CR6	CS6	CT6	CU6	CV6
Money Wheel (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Money Wheel (single side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Tai Sai (double side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tai Sai (single side)	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pai Gow	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	2
Caribbean Stud Poker	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Midi Baccarat	8	8	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	10	10	10	8	8	8	12	12	8	8	8	12	12
Poker	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	11	9	7	7	7	7	11	11	11	11	11
Electronic Roulette	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	4	3	4	3
Electronic Roulette (inc Manual Table)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
Mini Baccarat	7	7	6	6	8	8	6	6	7	7	8	8	7	6	7	6	6	7	6	7	6	6
Roulette	13	13	13	13	11	11	13	13	13	13	11	11	13	14	13	14	13	13	14	13	14	13
Black Jack (7 Box)	14	15	14	15	14	15	10	11	10	11	11	13	24	26	24	20	17	22	22	22	20	20
Black Jack (7 Box - 2 Backbets)	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	5	8	5	7	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black Jack (5 Box)	10	7	10	7	10	7	6	6	6	6	6	4	0	0	2	4	7	0	0	0	0	
3 Card Poker	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ultimate Texas Hold'em	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Casino War	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78



Notes for the alternative game mixes:

1. The Licence Holder is permitted to change game mixes subject to providing the Inspectorate with prior notification.
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 and Casino War 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 comprises up to 30 player terminals and no manual table.
6. Electronic roulette (inc manual table) comprises up to 30 player terminals and wagers may be placed directly at the table.
7. 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.

