

Proposal for regulations to amend regulations of 30th November 2004 no. 1528 concerning bingo and regulations of 24th June 2011 no. 644 concerning the distribution of profits from bingo terminals installed in bingo halls

The following amendments to regulations of 30th November 2004 no. 1528 concerning bingo have been proposed:

Current regulatory provisions:

Section 2, second paragraph

An association may only be granted one main-game permit per year. The permit may encompass coupon sales totalling up to NOK 700,000.

Section 9, first and second paragraphs

The value of an individual win shall not exceed NOK 5,000.

In addition to wins as specified in the first paragraph, an additional win with a value of up to NOK 5,000 may be provided. If this is not distributed, it may be transferred to the next game day. The accumulator jackpot may be split into two separate pots, neither of which may exceed NOK 35,000 in value, or comprise a single pot of NOK 70,000.

Section 12, first paragraph

Joint games are permitted subject to a one-year time limit. Applications for joint games must be submitted jointly by all participating associations. It must be clearly stated that the application concerns a joint game, and the period to which the application relates must be specified.

Section 13

A fee of NOK 1,250 shall be payable to the State per main-game permit.

Section 16, second paragraph

“Electronic bingo” means an electronic bingo game in which game terminals are interconnected and draws are made jointly for all terminals. Drawn numbers may be distributed among coupons simultaneously or sequentially. At least 30 seconds must elapse between the completion of a game and any new draw. Players may not be offered the option of purchasing additional draws (numbers).

Section 16, third paragraph

A minimum of five terminals must be interconnected on the same premises, and up to five coupons may be purchased per game. Players are not permitted to participate in more than one electronic bingo game simultaneously. At least two of the terminals must be in use in order for a draw to be made.

Section 20, third paragraph

At the end of a permit period, a summary of daily reports shall be prepared, as well as an overview of payments to defined purposes. In the case of joint games, a quarterly summary of daily reports shall be prepared, as well as an overview of payments to the individual

associations. The summary shall be sent to the Norwegian Gaming Authority using the specified form within six weeks in the case of the second and fourth quarters and within two weeks in the case of the first and third quarters.

Section 20, fifth paragraph

If an operator is used, the summaries of daily reports issued after the second and fourth quarters shall be confirmed by a publicly authorised auditor.

Section 27

The value of an individual win may not exceed NOK 5,000. The total win value on a given game day may not exceed NOK 25,000.

In addition to wins as specified in the first paragraph, an additional win with a value of up to NOK 5,000 may be provided.

If the win is not distributed, it may be transferred to the next game day. The accumulator jackpot may be split into two separate pots, neither of which may exceed NOK 35,000 in value, or comprise a single pot of NOK 70,000.

Section 32

A permit to install bingo machines may only be granted if the Norwegian Gaming Authority concludes that the game can be satisfactorily controlled. No permit may be granted with a duration beyond 31 March 2010. Bingo machines are subject to the requirement that at least 30% of the profits must be paid to participating teams or associations. After 15 August 2007, banknotes may not be used in connection with bingo-machine games. Bingo machines may not be installed in premises that also house change machines that convert banknotes into coins. Banknote intake slots installed in machines shall be rendered inoperative by means of a permanent, physical internal or external barrier.

Proposed amendments:

Section 2, second paragraph

An association may be granted a permit for main-game sales of NOK 700,000 per calendar year. A permit may be granted for a period of up to two years.

New section 4 a) Online main game

Individual bingo halls may transmit their main game to online players. Draw results in the main game shall be announced twice.

Individual players must register by means of personal attendance at the hall offering the main game in which a player wishes to participate.

All players must be identified in a secure manner prior to login. Online main game sales shall not be included in the sales figures pursuant to section 15, second paragraph, and section 15, fifth paragraph, and shall be accounted for separately.

Section 9, first paragraph and second paragraph

The value of an individual win may not exceed NOK 10,000.

In addition to wins as specified in the first paragraph, an accumulator jackpot may be provided. This win may comprise a NOK 100,000 win or several pots that collectively do not exceed NOK 100,000.

Section 12, first paragraph

Joint games are permitted subject to a two-year time limit. Applications for joint games must be submitted jointly by all participating associations. It must be clearly stated that the application concerns a joint game, and the period to which the application relates must be specified.

Section 13

An annual fee of NOK 1,250 shall be payable to the State per main-game permit.

Section 15, fifth paragraph (new paragraph)

The rules on main-game sales in the second and fourth paragraphs apply correspondingly to the installation of Belago terminals by Norsk Tipping.

Section 16, second paragraph

“Electronic bingo” means an electronic bingo game in which game terminals are interconnected and draws are made jointly for all terminals. Drawn numbers may be distributed among coupons simultaneously or sequentially. *At least 30 seconds must elapse between the start of one game and the start of the next game.* Players may not be offered the option of purchasing additional draws (numbers).

Draws in electronic bingo games shall only be shown once.

Section 16, third paragraph

A minimum of five terminals must be interconnected on the same premises, and up to five coupons may be purchased per game. Players are not permitted to participate in more than one electronic bingo game simultaneously.

Autoplay is not permitted in electronic bingo games.

Section 20, third paragraph

At the end of a permit period, an *annual* summary of daily reports shall be prepared, as well as an overview of payments to defined purposes. In the case of joint games *run by an operator*, a quarterly summary of daily reports shall be prepared, as well as *documentation showing* payments to the individual associations.

The summary and documentation showing payments to the individual associations shall be sent to the Norwegian Gaming Authority using the specified form within six weeks in the case of the first and second half-year periods and within two weeks in the case of the first and third quarters.

Section 20, fifth paragraph

If an operator is used, the summaries of daily reports and payment documentation issued after the *first and second half-year periods* shall be confirmed by a publicly authorised auditor.

Section 27

The value of an individual win may not exceed NOK 10,000. The total win value on a given game day may not exceed NOK 25,000.

In addition to wins as specified in the first paragraph, an accumulator jackpot may be provided. This win may comprise a NOK 100,000 win or several pots that collectively do not exceed NOK 100,000.

Section 32 (to be repealed)

The following amendments to regulations of 24th June 2011 no. 644 concerning the distribution of profits from bingo terminals installed in bingo halls have been proposed:

Current regulatory provision:

Section 2, first paragraph

Profits generated by gaming machines shall be distributed such that 25% of the profits are paid to organisations and associations (the defined purposes), 35% of the profits are paid to the bingo-hall operator and 40% of the profits are paid to Norsk Tipping AS.

Proposed amendment:

Section 2, first paragraph

Profits generated by gaming machines shall be distributed such that 30% of the profits are paid to organisations and associations (the defined purposes), 35% of the profits are paid to the bingo-hall operator and 35% of the profits are paid to Norsk Tipping AS.