



Liquor and Gaming
Authority of Manitoba

GAMING INTEGRITY STANDARDS

CARD SHOES

Background

The Liquor and Gaming Authority of Manitoba (LGA) regulates licensed and provincial gaming in Manitoba to ensure that gaming is conducted honestly, with integrity and in the public interest. This authority is established by *The Liquor and Gaming Control Act* (the “Act”). All lottery schemes are required to have LGA gaming integrity approval, including approval of any associated gaming equipment. Suppliers intending to provide gaming equipment must be licensed by the LGA. Continued licence approval requires compliance with Gaming Supplier Terms and Conditions, including ensuring that at all times equipment supplied complies with any applicable Gaming Integrity Standards. The LGA reserves the right to amend these standards at any time.

Purpose

This document is intended to provide regulatory guidance to manufacturers, suppliers and purchasers of gaming equipment by providing Gaming Integrity Standards for card shoes, their production and distribution. These standards ensure that gaming equipment used in lottery schemes in the province of Manitoba meet the tests for fairness, honesty, security, safety, and auditability.

Definitions

The following definitions are provided for use with these standards, the Gaming Integrity Terms and Conditions of approval and quality assurance testing.

1. “Body” means external frame of the dealer card shoe that houses the cards.
2. “Design Schematic” means a true rendering of the proposed gaming equipment.
3. “Gaming Centre Provider” means a person who, under an agreement with MLLC, owns or operates premises in which MLLC operates provincial gaming.
4. “Gaming Operator” means a person who, under an agreement with MLLC, owns or operates premises in which the person operates provincial gaming.
5. “Harrigan Plate” means a face plate that fits over the mouth of the card shoe, designed with bristles, which allow a dealer to select a card from the shoe while, at the same time, preventing the player from viewing the card until it has been removed (significantly reduces concerns about marked cards).
6. “Lottery Scheme” means a lottery scheme within the meaning of paragraph 207 (4) of the *Criminal Code* (Canada).
7. “MLLC” means the Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation and is also referred to as the “applicant” or “purchaser”.

8. "Play" means the patron wagers his/her own currency to obtain a chance for realizing a reward.
9. "Provincial Gaming" means a lottery scheme referred to in paragraph 207(1) (a) of the *Criminal Code* (Canada).
10. "Ramp" means angled internal floor inside the body of the shoe.
11. "Roller" means a piece of equipment that has revolving reels on its base and which is positioned at the rear of the deck of cards when they have been placed inside the card shoe.
12. "Seconds" means where a card is dealt that is not the next card in sequence, but the second or a subsequent card.
13. "Unique Manufacturer Identifier (UMI)" means the manufacturer's assigned part number or serial number which identifies the equipment, and may also include, but not limited to; the premises in which the gaming equipment was manufactured for, the brand or style, and the manufacture date.

LGA Gaming Supplier Licence

The supplier is required to be a LGA licensed gaming supplier, if their product is intended to be offered for play. The manufacturer may also be required to be a licensed gaming supplier.

Gaming Equipment Specifications

Quality assurance testing is required for gaming integrity approval of the gaming equipment. A design schematic may also be required if any custom design features are used in the construction of the gaming equipment.

1. A design schematic is to be supplied if the gaming equipment contains any custom design features, i.e., unique manufacturer identifier, security features or premises name/logo.
2. Each design schematic must be a true rendering showing the following characteristics:
 - a. Physical dimensions and specifications in metric or imperial measurement
 - b. Security feature(s)
 - c. Type of material/substance used
 - d. Colour of the substance used
 - e. Premises name/logo, if any
 - f. Manufacturer's name, logo or an identifying mark
 - g. Unique manufacturer identifier; part number or serial number

The schematic should reference the manufacturer's name, logo, and address; indicate the brand or style of card shoe; and provide section for the purchaser to approve and accept the schematic for production.

3. Whenever a shipment is received the MLLC, gaming operator or gaming centre provider is required to:
 - a. conduct quality assurance testing to ensure the gaming equipment meets the standards and conforms to the approval issued; and

- b. apply some form of identification to the gaming equipment, for inventory purposes

The MLLC and the gaming operator or gaming centre provider should also refer to the LGA Gaming Integrity Application and Approval Requirements for further information and guidelines on the application process.

Standards

At any time card shoes do not meet the following standards, the equipment may be returned to the supplier.

Construction

Card shoes vary greatly in size and style, therefore, no physical dimensions are enforced by the LGA as there is no part of the shoe where tolerances can be applied, or are critical, for its satisfactory operation.

1. The body of the card shoe must be solidly constructed in design, with no loose panels that may conceal hidden compartments.
2. The body of the card shoe must be constructed from a white or black opaque colour.
3. Card shoes must be designed with ramp which allows for the playing cards to rest inside the body of the shoe.
4. Card shoes must be designed in such a manner to prevent anyone from peeking at the top card.
5. Card shoes must be designed with a lip (sometimes referred to as a backstop) on the inside of the angled front face of the shoe and must prevent seconds from being dealt.
6. Rollers must be solidly constructed with no loose panels which may conceal a hidden compartment. The wheels on the base of each roller must move freely.
7. The roller must be designed so that when positioned at the top of the ramp, it will roll to the bottom of its own accord.
8. Rollers are to be constructed and fitted with a metallic brake mechanism to prevent it from being rolled backward and "seconds" from being dealt.
9. Card shoes must be fitted with an "eye-hook" at the back of each unit.
10. If supplied, the card shoe lid must be solidly constructed from an opaque material, with no loose panels that may conceal hidden compartments.
11. If supplied, cutting cards must easily fit inside the body of the shoe without touching the sides.

12. The manufacturer's name, logo or identifying mark is to be provided upon each card shoe or the card shoe must be permanently marked with some form of unique manufacturer identification (part or serial number).
13. The premises name or logo may be imprinted upon each card shoe.

Distribution/Packaging

1. Each package, box, or other container must be sealed at the factory with a tamper resistant seal or tape, including a warning to the purchaser that it may have been tampered with if the package, box or other container was received with the seal broken. The seal or tape must be visible from outside the package, box, or container and must be of such construction as to guarantee that should the container be opened or otherwise tampered with, evidence of the opening or tampering would be easily detected.
2. A label shall be placed on, or be visible from, the exterior of each carton to easily determine the intended premises, the type of equipment, amount contained within and the supplier.
3. A packing slip is required inside the carton listing the same information in point 2.
4. The supplier's name, logo or identifying mark must be placed on each packaged shipment or alternatively placed on each box/package containing individual gaming equipment.