



Liquor and Gaming  
Authority of Manitoba

## GAMING INTEGRITY REQUIREMENTS

### Progressive Jackpot Closures, Transfers and Discontinuations

The following Liquor and Gaming Authority of Manitoba (LGA) requirements are established for permanent or temporary closures of slot machines with a linked progressive bank, slot machines with a standalone progressive, table games with a progressive side wager or any other progressive with an incremental value.

A premises may seek approval for a progressive jackpot change not otherwise stated, if exceptional circumstances are shown and received as a Gaming Integrity Approval application.

A progressive may either be temporarily or permanently closed, or discontinued.

#### Permanent Progressive Closures

A progressive jackpot's incremental amounts are considered player contributions of the lottery scheme. A progressive's incremental cumulative values may either be transferred to another progressive or given away through a disbursement event. A progressive jackpot may only be closed and no longer offered for play, providing the following requirements are met.

1. Sufficient notice must be given to inform players who contributed to the progressive jackpot by posting "Progressive Closure" signage. Refer to the applicable sections below for further requirements on the type of closure.

The amount of notification that must be provided and posted prior to closure of a progressive jackpot is based upon the following cumulative progressive values\* (i.e. if the machine/progressive has several levels of progressives, it is the sum of all the progressive values of all levels):

<u>Progressive Value</u>	<u>Posted Notification</u>
\$.01 - \$9,999.99	7 days
\$10,000.00 - \$24,999.99	14 days
\$25,000.00+	30 days

\*Progressive values are defined as base amount + incremental amount + hidden amount

- 2.1 A Gaming Integrity approval application for the proposed closing of the progressive must be received in the LGA office at least ten (10) LGA working days prior to signage being posted.
- 2.2 The application must include all applicable supporting documentation for the type of progressive closure being requested and all details of the proposed event must be provided upon and with the application to assess whether the scheme is fair to participants who have contributed.
3. The MLLC/gaming operator must maintain and submit all recorded values and settings for the progressive, upon closure, as supporting documentation of the application for approval.

**If Transferring the Progressive Incremental & Hidden Amounts to Another Progressive, the following must also be adhered to:**

- 4.1 "Progressive Closure" signage must indicate the following:
  - a. date of closure/notification period;
  - b. name of the progressive (required when the notice is posted on signage *near or next to* a bank of machines. If posting signage *directly on the machine*, the name of the progressive is not required on the signage);
  - c. the other progressive (by name) where the incremental and hidden amounts will be transferred to if not won within the notice period; and
  - d. the date of posting
- 4.2 Signage must not be posted until authorization received from the LGA.
- 5.1 The amounts must be transferred immediately, or as soon as reasonably practicable, to a progressive at the same site/premises.
- 5.2 The progressive must not cost any more money to play a single play to win the progressive jackpot than the progressive it was transferred from
- 5.3 The progressive must have the same, or better, payback percentages as the progressive it was transferred from.
- 5.4 The progressive must have as close to the original odds of winning the progressive as possible, as the progressive it was transferred from.
- 5.5 The progressive must have an incremental percentage that is equal to or higher than the progressive it was transferred from.
6. Once the progressive closes, a Progressive Closing/Change form is to be submitted to the LGA with all pertinent information regarding the progressive that closed, providing the progressive the incremental and hidden amounts was added to when the progressive jackpot was not won within the notice period.
  - a. All information provided upon this form must be verified to correctly reflect the actual closing and opening values of both progressives.
  - b. The information provided should not conflict or change from the proposed transfer provided upon the application for approval. In the event of any anomaly or discrepancy, LGA must be notified in writing as soon as reasonably practicable.
4. If the cumulative progressive value is won prior to the posted closure date, the progressive may be discontinued immediately and patrons must not be allowed any further contributions toward the progressive.

Exceptions to this requirement, i.e., not required to be discontinued immediately, are slot machines with a progressive cumulative value of under \$500.

Note: A table game can continue to operate the base game once the progressive jackpot is won. Until the appropriate table game layout is placed upon the table, players must be advised to not place a wager on the progressive side wager (slot or spot).

5. Once the progressive closes, a Progressive Closing/Change form is to be submitted to LGA with all pertinent information regarding the progressive that closed, and if applicable, provide the progressive or disbursement event (the incremental and hidden amounts was added to when the progressive jackpot was not won within the notice period).
  - i. All information provided upon this form must be verified to correctly reflect the actual closing and opening values of both progressives.
  - i. The information provided should not conflict or change from the proposed disbursement provided upon the application for approval.
  - ii. In the event of any anomaly or discrepancy, LGA must be notified in writing as soon as reasonably practicable.
6. MLLC/FNC must maintain accurate historical records related to the affected progressive(s) for a period of no less than one year after the date of closure.

**If Giving Away the Progressive Incremental & Hidden Amounts through a Disbursement Event, the following must also be adhered to:**

A disbursement event is defined as a secondary contest, tournament, showdown, ballot draw, etc. where player contributions from all progressives closed within a period are given away to those players who contributed to build the progressive. A disbursement event may only be approved when the following conditions are met.

- 7.1 "Progressive Closure" signage must indicate the following:
  - a. date of closure;
  - b. name of the progressive (required when the notice is posted on signage *near or next to* a bank of machines. If posting signage *directly on the machine*, the name of the progressive is not required on the signage);
  - c. the name of the progressive that the incremental and hidden amounts will be transferred to if not won within the notice period; or
  - d. the disbursement event the progressive incremental amount will be transferred to if not won within the notice period; and
  - e. the date of posting
- 7.2 Signage must not be posted until notification is received by the LGA.
8. Rules & regulations detailing the disbursement event, the prize distribution and any restrictions must be provided with the application. If the rules & regulations are submitted and approved as a fillable template for ongoing disbursement events, no further application for approval is required.

- 9.1 The amounts must be disbursed within or up to 90 days of the progressive closing date
- 9.2 The disbursement event must be a similar lottery scheme, and
- 9.3 The disbursement event must not be limited to players who are registered premises club card holders.

### **Temporary Progressive Closures**

A slot machine or table game with a progressive jackpot may be temporarily closed and removed from play **for a period of up to 30 days** to allow for the remodeling of the premises or for a longer period with sufficient cause, providing the following requirements are met.

1. Sufficient notice must be given to inform participants who contributed to the progressive jackpot by posting "Temporary Progressive Closure" signage 30 days prior to the temporary closure of the progressive.
  - 2.1 "Temporary Progressive Closure" signage must indicate the following:
    - a. the date when the progressive will be temporary closed;
    - b. the name of the progressive (required when the notice is posted on signage *near or next to* a bank of machines or gaming tables. If posting signage *directly on the machine or gaming table*, the name of the progressive is not required on the signage);
    - c. the duration (dates) that the progressive will temporarily unavailable, and
    - d. the date of posting
  - 2.2 Signage must not be posted until notification is received by the LGA.
  - 3.1 The MLLC must notify the LGA of the proposed temporary closure of the progressive at least ten (10) LGA working days prior to signage being posted.
  - 3.2 The notification must include all applicable supporting documents for a temporary progressive closure.
  4. The MLLC must maintain and submit all recorded values and settings for the progressive as supporting documentation.
  5. Once the progressive is returned to the gaming floor the progressive must be verified to be configured as originally approved. This must be performed to ensure that no changes occurred while the progressive configuration was physically removed.
    - a. All applicable firmware must be verified, and all configuration settings and meters verified.
    - b. The last cumulative progressive value recorded prior to the temporary closure must be verified and correctly set prior to displaying the progressive jackpot and offering the progressive for play.
  6. A Progressive Closing/Change form must be completed and submitted to LGA indicating all pertinent information regarding the progressive.

- i. All information provided upon this form must be verified to correctly reflect the actual closing and opening values.
- ii. The information provided should not conflict or change from the information recorded when the progressive was temporarily closed and provided upon the application for approval.
- iii. In the event of any anomaly or discrepancy, LGA must be notified in writing as soon as reasonably practicable.

### **Progressive Discontinuations**

Should a gaming operator decide to discontinue offering a progressive jackpot or standalone progressive, at the time it is won (ie, disable the machine once the progressive is won);

1. A notification is to be sent to the LGA for the proposed discontinuation of the progressive.
2. Discontinuation signage must be posted until the progressive is won.
- 2.1 "Progressive Discontinuation" signage must indicate the following:
  - a. Notice of the discontinuation;
  - b. Name of the progressive (required when the notice is posted on signage *near or next to* a bank of machines or gaming tables. If posting signage *directly on the machine or on the gaming table*, the name of the progressive is not required on the signage), and
  - c. The date of posting
3. The progressive component must be discontinued immediately, once it is won, and patrons should not be allowed any further play.
- 3.1 Should patrons be allowed to continue play and contribute to the progressive component, the progressive closing requirements must be met.
4. If the progressive's incremental amount is won, any hidden amounts must be disbursed and follow the Progressive Closure requirements.
5. A Progressive Closing/Change form must be completed and submitted to LGA indicating all pertinent information regarding the progressive once it is won and discontinued.