



Liquor and Gaming
Authority of Manitoba

GAMING INTEGRITY STANDARDS

TOURNAMENT CHIPS

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 tournament chips, 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. “Design Schematic” means a true rendering of the proposed gaming equipment.
2. “Gaming Centre Provider” means a person who, under an agreement with MLLC, owns or operates premises in which MLLC operates provincial gaming.
3. “Gaming Operator” means a person who, under an agreement with MLLC, owns or operates premises in which the person operates provincial gaming.
4. “Lottery Scheme” means a lottery scheme within the meaning of paragraph 207 (4) of the *Criminal Code* (Canada).
5. “MLLC” means the Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation and is also referred to as the “applicant” or “purchaser”.
6. “Play” means the patron wagers his/her own currency to obtain a chance for realizing a reward.
7. “Primary Set” means a set or rack of chips a gaming operator or gaming centre provider is required to maintain on-site should they intend to offer a table game tournament.
8. “Provincial Gaming” means a lottery scheme referred to in paragraph 207(1) (a) of the *Criminal Code* (Canada).

9. "Secondary Set" means an alternating set or rack of chips, differentiated by design than the primary set of chips.
10. "Tournament chip" means a non-metal or partly metal representative of value that is easily distinguished by colour and design when issued to participants of a table game tournament to determine each participant's bet during a round and the winner of the tournament, determined by the most chips remaining.

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 is also required since custom design features are used in the construction of the gaming equipment.

1. The design schematic must be a true rendering showing the following characteristics:
 - a. Dimensions of the chip(s), the inlay and edge spots in metric or imperial measurement
 - b. Edge-spot design
 - c. Base and edge-spot colour (including manufacturer's pantone #, if used)
 - d. Compound type used in the manufacture of the chip, i.e, clay, plastic, etc.
 - e. Compound used for the inlay/slug punch out
 - f. Premises logo and/or name placement and lettering placement
 - g. Actual front/back and edge size
 - h. Any picture or symbol to appear upon the base and/or inlay of the chip
 - i. Style and colour of lettering if embossing, imprinting or engraving is used
 - j. Security features used and their placement
 - k. Placement of the manufacturer's brand name, distinct logo or identifying mark
Mass weight of the chip

The schematic should contain the manufacturer's name, logo, and address; may provide a version number, indicate the brand and style of chip used; and provide a section for the purchaser to approve and accept the schematic for production.

2. The applicant is required to arrange secure transfer of one complete set of tournament chips to the LGA for retention, as part of the application for gaming integrity approval.
3. Whenever a shipment is received; the MLLC, gaming operator or gaming centre provider is required to conduct quality assurance testing to ensure the gaming equipment meets the standards and conforms to the approval issued.

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 tournament chips do not meet the following standards, the equipment may be returned to the supplier.

Construction

1. Tournament chips; both primary, secondary or additional sets, must be designed and manufactured using colours for the base of the chip that are distinctly dissimilar from each other set and any approved or proposed tournament, Roulette or value chips.
2. The primary set of tournament chips must have a secure design or colour difference, insert, symbol and/or edge spot that differentiates it from the secondary set of tournament chips.
3. All tournament chips within a set must have the identical physical characteristics except for specific differences in colour.
4. Each tournament chip must be designed so that the specific colour and/or edge spot can be determined when placed in a stack of tournament chips of various colours and viewed under surveillance.
5. Each tournament chip must be designed, constructed and manufactured in a manner not conducive to counterfeiting of any proposed or approved tournament, value or Roulette chips.
6. Each tournament chip must be impressed, engraved, imprinted or inlayed with the following minimum information:
 - a. The premises logo and/or name on each side of the chip
 - b. The word "Tournament"
 - c. The words "No cash value" or "Non-Value"
7. The manufacturer's brand name, distinct logo or identifying mark must be inscribed on at least one side of the chip.

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.