

Preface

The Gambling and Racing Commission provides below the “Model Rules for Housie” as a guide to the conduct of the game. Any person who conducts Housie must have a set of rules available at the Housie venue and must comply with the requirements of the Gambling and Racing Control (Code of Practice) Regulation 2002 and the *Lotteries Act 1964*.

The “Model Rules for Housie” may be modified as required to suit local participation. Notwithstanding, all rules must be free of bias and the game must be conducted honestly.

Persons requiring a permit to conduct the game, must submit their game rules with the permit application.

Model Rules for Housie

General Information

1. These rules must be read in conjunction with:
 - a) the *Lotteries Act 1964*;
 - b) the conditions approved under Section 7 of the *Lotteries Act 1964*;
 - c) the Gambling and Racing Control (Code of Practice) Regulations 2002; and
 - d) the rules of entry into the housie venue.
2. These rules shall be made available at the venue, along with signage indicating their location, or displayed where housie is being conducted.
3. At the start of a session of housie, staff of the organiser shall announce the availability of these rules for viewing and whether or not any specific “in- house” requirements apply, such as use of mobile phones, participation by non-club members etc.
4. The following persons are excluded from participating as a player in any game of housie:
 - a) the applicant, organiser or beneficiary of the games of housie and their employees and contractors;
 - b) the owners/occupiers of any venue used for the conduct of housie and their employees and contractors;
 - c) the organisation conducting the games of housie and their employees and contractors;
 - d) persons under the age of 18 years; and
 - e) intoxicated persons.

5. Except as provided in Rule 19a player shall not participate:
 - a) in any sales related to the conduct of housie for the session;
 - b) in the calling of a game during the session; or
 - c) in the administration of housie for the session.
6. All books and specials must be paid for before the commencement of the relevant game.
7. All books or specials shall have an equal chance of being the winning book or special.
8. Where practicable, all books and specials used in a given game of housie shall have the same serial number or other identifier.
9. All serial numbers (or other identifier) used during a session of housie shall be recorded by staff of the organiser and displayed or announced to the players.
10. No player is allowed to select or request any specific books/specials and shall accept the books/specials as made available by the seller.
11. Players using books or specials that do not have the relevant serial number (or other identifier) for that game(s) shall not be eligible to claim a prize or to continue with the game or further games during that session. Further action against the player may be taken by the applicant organisation or the organisation conducting the games of housie.
12. Players are not permitted to possess in that part of the venue being used for the conduct of housie any computers, laptops or other electronic recording or analysing devices.

Conduct of Game

13. The caller shall announce the commencement of each game and whether any specials or jackpots apply.
14. The housie operator shall arrange for the required numbers for each game to be randomly selected. The caller shall clearly announce each selected number.
15. A number is deemed selected when the caller has
 - (i) drawn the number (by whatever means);
 - (ii) displayed the number (where applicable); and
 - (iii) announced the number.
16. The organiser shall ensure that sufficient staff are available to conduct the game and enable winning combinations to be quickly verified.

Determination of Winners

17. A winning combination shall be claimed by a player announcing or identifying:
 - a) a winning “line”, which shall be a single row of 5 called numbers on the same horizontal line of a legitimate book or special;
 - b) a winning “house”, which shall be 15 called numbers that are marked off in the same boxed area of three single rows or lines of the book or special identified as applying to the current game;
 - c) a winning “special” or “jackpot”, which is a winning “line” or “house” which has been identified prior to the commencement of the game as having a different prize schedule payable for a winning combination(s).
18. Serial numbers (or other identifier) of all books and specials must be checked by staff of the organiser before a winning combination is confirmed.
19. Winning book or special numbers shall be verified against the drawn numbers by a staff member of the organiser of that game before a winning combination is confirmed. Where the prize value is larger than \$500, independent verification shall be sought from another player.
20. A player claiming a prize in a game of housie must make the claim before the next number in the game is selected (refer rule 15).
21. A housie game is completed, and no further claim to a prize in that game is to be recognized, when the last number on the last combination being verified in that game has been confirmed.

Allocation of Prizes

22. The prizes applicable to each game shall be announced before the relevant game commences.
23. Where the prize in a game of housie is money and is won by two or more persons, it shall be shared equally by the winners. Where the prize is other than money, the prize shall be shared by allocating prizes of approximately equal value to each winner, as determined by the housie operator.
24. Each prize or prize voucher awarded in a game of housie shall be paid or delivered to its winner immediately after the game in which it is awarded. The maximum cash payout for any individual prize is \$1000.