

# **THREE CARD POKER (MBS)**

## **Game Rules**

### **Version 5**

*w.e.f. 2 August 2019*



In accordance with Section 100(1) of the Casino Control Act 2006, the Gambling Regulatory Authority of Singapore approves the game rules in respect of the game “Three Card Poker (Version 5)” as set out in this document by Marina Bay Sands Pte. Ltd. (“MBS”), to be conducted in the casino operated by MBS.

- 1. Definitions**
- 2. Mode of Play**
- 3. How to Play**
- 4. Settlement**
- 5. Irregularities**
- 6. General Provisions**

## **1. Definitions**

1.1 In these rules:

- 1.1.1 “Ante” means the Player’s initial wager placed in a round of play.
- 1.1.2 “Ante Bonus” means a payment made to the “Ante” wager for hands that have a value of Straight or better.
- 1.1.3 “Blind Betting” means to participate in a round of play without viewing the cards dealt to the Player’s hand. “Blind Betting” applies when a Player wishes to wager on multiple hands. A Player may only view one hand and the other hands shall be played by “Blind Betting”.
- 1.1.4 “Envy Bonus” refers to a payment made to a Player or Players based on the outcome of another Player’s hand in accordance with Rule 3.14.
- 1.1.5 “Fold” means a decision by the Player to no longer continue in the current round of play.
- 1.1.6 “Pair Plus” means a wager placed by a Player which pays if the Player’s hand has a poker value of a pair or better regardless of the Dealer’s hand.
- 1.1.7 “Play” means that the Player elects to remain in the game by placing an additional wager equal to the value of the “Ante” wager after the initial three cards have been dealt.
- 1.1.8 “Progressive Jackpot” wager means an optional wager placed prior to the cards being dealt that entitles the Player to a “Progressive Jackpot” payout if the Player’s hand qualifies.
- 1.1.9 “Round of play” means the period of play commencing with the commencement of play and concluding when the Dealer announces an outcome and, if applicable, collects losing wagers and pays winning wagers.
- 1.1.10 “Stand-off” means a wager that neither wins nor loses.

## **2. Mode of Play**

- 2.1 The game of “Three Card Poker” shall be played with one deck of 52 cards without jokers and with backs of the same colour and design.
- 2.2 The layout for this game is as shown in Appendix “A” with:
  - 2.2.1 Playing areas for the placement of the “Ante”, “Play”, “Pair Plus” and “Progressive Jackpot” wager.
  - 2.2.2 Each playing position shall have the following playing areas: “Ante”, “Play”, “Pair Plus” and “Progressive Jackpot” wager.

## **3. How to Play**

- 3.1 Commencement of play shall begin when the Dealer announces “Place your bets, please”.
- 3.2 Closing of bets shall take effect when the Dealer announces “No more bets”.

- 3.3 The objective of the game for the Player is to obtain a poker hand which is of a higher rank than that of the Dealer's in accordance with Rule 3.16.
- 3.3.1 The ranking of cards, from highest to lowest, shall be as follows:
- 3.3.1.1 Ace, King, Queen, Jack, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2;
- 3.3.1.2 Except in the context of a Straight Flush or a Straight consisting of 3, 2 and Ace, where Ace shall be counted as 1.
- 3.3.1.3 Suits have no value and have no bearing on the ranking of a card.
- 3.4 A Player wishing to participate in a round of play must place an "Ante" and/or "Pair Plus" wager on the appropriate playing area marked "Ante" and/or "Pair Plus" prior to the first card being dealt for each round of play. Each wager at a particular playing area may be placed by individual or multiple Players, provided that it is within the minimum and maximum limits displayed at the table.
- 3.4.1 A Player may wager on more than one hand, provided that regardless of the number of playing positions wagered on, a Player is allowed to view or examine one hand only.
- 3.4.2 Only one "Ante", "Play", "Pair Plus" and "Progressive Jackpot" wager shall be accepted on any one playing area.
- 3.4.3 A Pit Manager may, at his discretion, restrict a Player from wagering on more than one playing position.
- 3.5 A Player may also place a "Progressive Jackpot" wager after placing an "Ante" and/or "Pair Plus" wager.
- 3.5.1 The Player seated at the playing position shall be given an opportunity to participate in the "Progressive Jackpot".
- 3.5.2 A Player may place a "Progressive Jackpot" wager whether the Player is viewing the hand or "Blind Betting".
- 3.5.3 A Player choosing to play the "Progressive Jackpot" shall do so by placing a wager using the "Progressive Jackpot" wagering system.
- 3.5.4 Players are not permitted to place a "Progressive Jackpot" wager on other Player's playing positions.
- 3.6 The Dealer, Pit Supervisor or Pit Manager may, at the request of a Player, place wagers on behalf of the Player. It is the Player's responsibility to ensure that the placement is carried out correctly.
- 3.7 When using an automated dealing device, starting from the Dealer's left and continuing clockwise around the table, the Dealer shall deal three cards, face down, to each playing position containing a wager, followed by three cards, face down, to the Dealer.
- 3.8 When using a manual dealing device, starting from the Dealer's left and continuing clockwise around the table, the Dealer shall deal one card, face down, to each playing position containing a wager and one card to the Dealer. This sequence shall be repeated until all playing positions containing a wager and the Dealer have three cards.
- 3.9 After receiving and examining the 3 cards, the Player may decide to:
- 3.9.1 "Fold", which would result in the Player losing his "Ante" wager. If the Player folds, he shall still be eligible for any "Progressive Jackpot" payout in accordance with the Pay Table stipulated in Rule 4.4.

- 3.9.1.1 A Player may elect to “Fold” the “Ante” wager and play the “Pair Plus” wager.
- 3.9.2 Wager on “Play”, which requires the Player to place a wager equivalent to the value of the “Ante” wager on the playing area marked as “Play” on the table layout. The Player’s cards must be placed face down on the table with the “Play” wager placed on top of the cards.
- 3.9.3 Continue the round of play if the Player has only placed a “Pair Plus” wager without placing an “Ante” wager by placing the cards in the area marked “Play”.
- 3.10 The Dealer shall expose his cards and compare the Dealer’s hand to each of the Player’s hand. The winning hand shall be the higher ranking three card poker hand.
  - 3.10.1 In the event a Player declines a comparison of his hand against the Dealer’s hand by not exposing his cards, the Player shall be deemed to have a hand that is ranked lower than the Dealer’s hand and the Player’s hand shall be deemed to have no winning “Progressive Jackpot” combinations. Such a hand shall not be returned to play and shall be considered settled. A Pit Supervisor or above may view the cards at his discretion.
- 3.11 If the Dealer does not have a poker hand containing at least one Queen or one card of higher ranking than a Queen, the Dealer shall not compare his hand against the Player’s hand and:
  - 3.11.1 There shall be no payment on the “Play” wagers.
  - 3.11.2 All “Ante” wagers shall be paid in accordance with the Pay Table stipulated in Rule 4.1.
  - 3.11.3 All “Ante Bonus” wagers shall be paid in accordance with the Pay Table stipulated in Rule 4.2 irrespective of the Dealer’s hand.
  - 3.11.4 All “Pair Plus” wagers shall be paid in accordance with the Pay Table stipulated in Rule 4.3 irrespective of the Dealer’s hand.
- 3.12 If the Dealer has a poker hand containing at least one Queen or one card of higher ranking than a Queen, the Dealer shall then compare his hand to each of the Player’s hand and:
  - 3.12.1 Pay the “Ante” and “Play” wagers for those Players whose hand is ranked higher than the Dealer’s hand in accordance with the Pay Table stipulated in Rule 4.1.
  - 3.12.2 Collect the “Ante” and “Play” wagers for those Players whose hand is ranked lower than the Dealer’s hand.
  - 3.12.3 Declare “Stand-off” for those Players whose hand is ranked the same as the Dealer’s hand.
  - 3.12.4 Pay all “Ante Bonus” wagers in accordance with the Pay Table stipulated in Rule 4.2 irrespective of the Dealer’s hand.
  - 3.12.5 Pay all “Pair Plus” wagers in accordance with the Pay Table stipulated in Rule 4.3 irrespective of the Dealer’s hand.
- 3.13 Any Player who has wagered on “Progressive Jackpot” and who has a qualifying hand as stipulated in the Pay Table in Rule 4.4 shall be paid accordingly irrespective of the Dealer’s hand.
- 3.14 Subject to Rule 3.15, all Players who have wagered on the “Progressive Jackpot” in accordance with Rule 3.5 shall receive an “Envy Bonus” in the event that any Player with an “Ante” wager (with or without a “Progressive Jackpot” wager) achieves any of the top two hands stipulated in the Pay Table in Rule 4.4.

- 3.15 If a Player has placed a "Pair Plus" wager (without an "Ante" wager) and he achieves any of the top two hands stipulated in the Pay Table in Rule 4.4, all other Players shall not be entitled to receive the "Envy Bonus".
- 3.16 The order of hands from the highest to the lowest is as follows:
- 3.16.1 Royal Flush is a hand containing three cards of only Ace, King, Queen of the same suit.  
E.g. A♠, K♠, Q♠
- 3.16.2 Straight Flush is a hand containing three cards of the same suit in consecutive ranking other than a Royal Flush.  
E.g. 8♥, 7♥, 6♥
- 3.16.3 Three of a Kind is a hand containing three cards of the same rank.  
E.g. 10♠, 10♥, 10♣
- 3.16.4 Straight is a hand containing three cards of consecutive rank regardless of suit, an Ace may count high or low.  
E.g. 8♦, 7♣, 6♥
- 3.16.5 Flush is a hand containing three cards of the same suit but not in consecutive ranking.  
E.g. 10♥, 4♥, 2♥
- 3.16.6 One pair is a hand containing two cards of the same rank.  
E.g. A♣, A♥, 8♦
- 3.16.7 Three odd cards is a hand containing three cards of different rank that are at least two suits and that are not consecutive.  
E.g. Q♣, 10♥, 6♦
- 3.17 Hands that are of the same order of hands as described in Rule 3.16 but consisting of different card values shall be ranked in accordance to ranking of cards as described in Rule 3.3.1.
- 3.17.1 In the event that the Dealer and Player have hands that are of the same order of hands as described in Rule 3.16 and the hands consist of the same ranking of cards as described in Rule 3.3.1, the hand shall be a stand-off.
- 3.17.2 In the event there are two hands each containing one pair, the hand holding the pair of the highest ranking shall win. If the highest ranking pair held by both hands are equally ranked, the winning hand shall be determined by the highest single unpaired card. If both hands hold one equally ranked pair and a third card of same ranking, the hand shall be a stand-off.
- 3.17.3 A Straight Flush or a Straight containing a four or higher shall be ranked higher than a Straight Flush or a Straight containing a 3, 2 and Ace.
- 3.17.4 In the event the Dealer and Player both have a Straight Flush or a Straight comprising of 3 cards of the same ranking (for example 8, 9, 10 versus 8, 9, 10), the hand shall be a stand-off.

- 3.18 Any "Progressive Jackpot" payout made to a Player shall be in addition to any payment made for the "Ante", "Pair Plus" or "Play" wager by the Player on that round of play.
- 3.19 If two or more Players' hands qualify for a "Progressive Jackpot" payout on separate tables, the hand that is first entered into the "Progressive Jackpot" computer system shall be paid first.
- 3.20 If two or more Players' hands qualify for a "Progressive Jackpot" payout during the same round of play on the same table:
- 3.20.1 Where a hand containing a Royal Flush of Spades and lower ranking hands qualify for a "Progressive Jackpot" in the same round of play, the Royal Flush of Spades shall be paid after the qualified lower ranking hands have been paid.
- 3.20.2 Where a hand containing three cards of an Ace, King, Queen of the same suit other than a Royal Flush, Players are only entitled to receive the payout of \$1,250 as stipulated in the Pay Table in Rule 4.4, and shall not be counted in addition to a Straight Flush.

#### 4. Settlement

- 4.1 The "Ante" and "Play" Pay Table

Winning Hand	Pays
Ante	1 to 1
Play	1 to 1

- 4.2 The "Ante Bonus" Pay Table

Winning Hand	Pays
Royal Flush/Straight Flush	5 to 1
Three of a Kind	4 to 1
Straight	1 to 1

- 4.3 The "Pair Plus" Pay Table

Winning Hand	Pays
Royal Flush/Straight Flush	40 to 1
Three of a Kind	30 to 1
Straight	5 to 1
Flush	4 to 1
Pair	1 to 1

#### 4.4 The "Progressive Jackpot" Pay Table

Hand	Pays	Envy Bonus
Royal Flush (Spades only)	100% of the "Progressive Jackpot"	\$250
Royal Flush (Hearts/Diamond/Clubs)	\$1250	\$50
Straight Flush	\$175	N/A
Three of a Kind	\$150	N/A
Straight	\$15	N/A

### 5. Irregularities

- 5.1 If in the course of a round of play, it is discovered that there are extra or missing card/s and/or card/s which do not belong to the deck/s of cards in use or if unshuffled cards are used:
- 5.1.1 The current round of play shall be void; and
- 5.1.2 All outcomes of the previous rounds of play shall stand.
- 5.2 Where the cards have been dealt incorrectly and no Players have handled their cards, the round of play shall be void except if an incorrect distribution of cards can be reconstructed by moving complete hands from one playing position to another.
- 5.3 If an incorrect number of cards is dealt to the Dealer's hand, the round of play shall be void, provided that this is noticed before the commencement of play of the next round of play and the cards cannot be reconstructed.
- 5.4 If two or more cards are incorrectly exposed during the deal, the round of play shall be void.
- 5.5 Unless otherwise stated in these rules, after the Dealer has announced "No more bets", no wager may be placed or increased and any wager so placed or to the extent increased shall be refused and/or shall not be honoured.
- 5.6 Unless otherwise stated in these rules, after the Dealer has announced "No more bets", no wager may be withdrawn and any wager withdrawn shall be won or lost based on the outcome of the round of play.
- 5.7 If an incorrect number of cards is dealt to a Player's hand, that Player's hand shall be removed from play and the wager returned, provided that this is noticed before the commencement of play of the next round of play and the cards cannot be reconstructed.
- 5.7.1 Where a Player was dealt the correct number of cards in the same round of play where the irregularity under Rule 5.7 has occurred, the Player may be permitted to withdraw their wager.
- 5.8 In the event there is any doubt that the correct number of cards has been used in a round of play, the Dealer shall count the cards manually. If the count proves to have too many or too few cards, that round of play shall be void.
- 5.9 At the discretion of a Gaming Shift Manager, should a Player fail to keep his hand confidential or view or attempt to view another Player's hand, he may be prohibited from further play and any existing wager shall be returned to the Player.



- 5.10 Where a Player has wagered in error on multiple playing positions creating a situation where the Player controls more than one hand;
  - 5.10.1 With one or more hands viewed, play shall continue on the viewed hand/s and unviewed hand/s shall be invalidated.
  - 5.10.2 With no hand viewed, the hand first dealt shall be played to conclusion, and the other hand/s invalidated.
  - 5.10.3 At the discretion of a Gaming Shift Manager, a Player's action may be stopped should he attempt to control multiple hands.
- 5.11 Where a Player makes an "Ante" wager and is not present to make a decision for the placement of the "Play" wager, then that hand shall become invalid and the "Ante", "Pair Plus" and "Progressive Jackpot" wager (if applicable) returned.
- 5.12 Where a Player makes a "Progressive Jackpot" wager and does not place an "Ante" and/or "Pair Plus" wager;
  - 5.12.1 Prior to the Dealer announcing "No More Bets", the Player shall either place an "Ante" and/or a "Pair Plus" wager, or cancel the "Progressive Jackpot" wager.
  - 5.12.2 After the Dealer has announced "No More Bets", the "Progressive Jackpot" wager shall be deemed invalid, and the amount of the "Progressive Jackpot" wager returned to the Player at the conclusion of the hand in play.
- 5.13 Once the outcome has been determined, winning wagers that are under the minimum shall be paid one time only and losing wagers shall be collected one time only. All future wagers irrespective of outcome by the same Player that are under the minimum shall be returned.
- 5.14 Winning wagers that are over the maximum shall be paid to the maximum only. Losing wagers that are over the maximum shall be collected to the maximum only.
- 5.15 Any wagers over the maximum or under the minimum paid or collected in previous rounds of play shall be considered settled.
- 5.16 In the event of a power failure:
  - 5.16.1 If no outcome has been established (i.e. none of the available wagers has conclusively won or lost), Players shall be given the option to withdraw their wagers. A Player taking the option to withdraw must withdraw all his wagers. The round of play shall then be concluded.
  - 5.16.2 With an outcome established (i.e. any of the available wagers has conclusively won or lost), play shall continue and the round of play shall be concluded.

## **6. General Provisions**

- 6.1 If an irregularity occurs that is not covered by these rules, it shall be referred for the decision of the Gaming Shift Manager.
- 6.2 Any positions or functions that are outlined in these rules may also be performed by any person acting in that position or holding a higher position.

Appendix "A" This layout is available with 4 to 7 playing positions.

