

PS 97: Know the rules BEFORE you break them! | Oklahoma Slots in 2020

Opening

Hello! Today's episode #97 of the Professor Slots podcast discusses State Regulations & Legal Gaming Classifications. Plus, in this episode I'll be covering the current state of slot machine casino gambling in the great U.S. state of Oklahoma.

Thank you for joining me for the Professor Slots podcast show. I'm Jon Friedl and this is the podcast about slot machine casino gambling. It is where I provide knowledge, insights, and tools for helping you improve your slot machine gambling performance.

On Last Week's Episode...

In case you missed it, on my last episode I went over more on keeping gambling records from my weekly live stream Q&A session on YouTube.

Further, I reviewed Ohio slot machine casino gambling in 2020.

I hope you enjoyed listening to my last episode as much as I enjoyed making it for you.

Call to Action #1 (add sound effect afterward)

Remember to visit professorslots.com/subscribe to get my Free Report Revealing ... The top 7 online resources for improving your gambling performance, including the one I've used as a top-tier slot machine casino gambler.

YouTube Q&A Session from Saturday, June 28, 2020

Here's the audio recording of my latest live stream Q&A session.

OPENING

Hello, slots enthusiasts! How are you? It's great to hang out with you again for another Professor Slots podcast episode and live stream.

Today we're going to be diving into another way to improve your theoretical payout percentage by assessing casinos, choosing candidate slot machines, and identifying your gambling goals. This time, we'll be talking about what your state has to offer in terms of gaming regs. There's a lot of variety out there!

That's coming up!

But first, if you're with us during the live stream, make sure to say hello to everyone in the live chat. Let us know where you are at or where you play slots. I'll check in with the live chat in a few moments. And, as always, be sure to ask your slots-related questions!

BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hi, my name is Jon Friedl. Welcome to Professor Slots, a channel that's all about mastering casino slots so you can win your way to success. If you've ever walked into a casino, looked around, and wondered what's going on with slots, I can help.

Thanks again for joining us today, whether you are listening on the podcast, watching this video later, or here with us on the live stream at Noon Eastern Time each Saturday. I'm glad you're all here!

Today is Saturday, June 27th, 2020 and this morning the American Gaming Association's live casino tracker shows 782 U.S. casinos have re-opened and 207 remain closed. That's right, another 48 casinos opened in the last week, we're up from 74% last Saturday to nearly 80% of U.S. casinos having re-opened. For updates, visit AGA's live casino tracker using this convenient link: ProfessorSlots.com/tracker.

Let's check in with the Live Chat to briefly say hello....

BODY

That was excellent!

As with my earlier live streams, my intent with this show is to answer your questions. The questions I'm answering aren't just from those from the Live Chat taking place right now.

My intent is to use this time together to answer questions from my audience. If you're currently in the live chat, then ask. If you're new to YouTube, you'll need to sign up for a free YouTube account to use the live chat feature. But, please be aware that sometimes your questions are so excellent that I may well need to think about them for a bit before answering. Why? Because you're smart people and some of your questions can be challenging and, frankly, deserve more than an off-the-cuff response. If the question is on-topic for a specific live stream, sometimes called a clarifying question, I'll do my best to answer it then.

If you're listening to this as a podcast later, then call 702-90-SLOTS and leave me your question in my voicemail. That number also accepts text messages. If you call, don't worry, it goes directly to voicemail. I used to use my business phone number, but callers would kind of freak out when I picked up. It did seem to make their day, though.

Anyway, if you call in or text your question, I'll answer it on the next podcast episode or as soon as possible. Remember to let me know if I can use your voicemail on the podcast, because I won't do so without your express permission.

And, finally, for those of you watching this video recording after the live stream is over, the easiest thing for you to do is leave your question as a comment below. Or, call or leave a message at 702-90-SLOTS. Or, email me at jon@ProfessorSlots.com where Jon is spelled J-O-N.

Whichever way I get your questions, I'll do my best to answer them on my next live stream. I'm also collecting questions from emails, my consultation sessions, and from comments in my state-by-state slots communities on Facebook.

My business approach here is to provide a free and efficient way to answer one person's question because it is likely a question many others are quietly wondering about.

I should also mention that if you have an urgent need for quick answers to many questions. For you, I'd recommend my relatively inexpensive consultation session where you'll have my undivided attention to address any of your slots-related gambling questions or concerns. Sign up at ProfessorSlots.com/consult. If you've been holding off on signing up for a consult, don't. I'll be increasing its cost in about a week. In all seriousness, it'd be best for you to lock in a consult now.

I look forward to your wonderful questions, wherever you are and however you ask them!

Today's topic is more on state gaming regulations and what you need to know as well as getting to know common legal gaming classifications. Both topics are articles on my website with links to them available in the video description as well as in the podcast show notes at ProfessorSlots.com/episode97 by the time my next episode airs.

I'm talking about these today because of several questions I've gotten but also because it's the next step. My winning slots strategies are, at a high level, business-related. I can't make you more lucky when you flip a coin in the air by somehow making it land on heads more often. In terms of slot machines, I can't make the random number generator in a slot machine cause a jackpot more often. But, see, the casino CAN do that. And I can and have been explaining to you how to take advantage of the casino doing that.

For instance, as best as I can tell during my travels to casinos far and wide, about one-third of casinos have set up their slot machines to offer a taste to players within a few bets of their sitting down to play. The casino gives them this taste to get them to stay, spend that, then spend whatever else they've brought. As you may have heard me say before, my winning slots strategy is to take advantage of this casino business practice and collect tastes from many slots machines by using my 5-pull method. Officially, I call it my Winning Strategy 1: Only Win Immediately. A link to this article is in the YouTube

description and podcast show notes. Also, its video is coming soon, too. Videos of all my winning slots strategies are coming soon to YouTube.

I'm talking about state regs and gaming classifications because it's the next step after what we've been discussing the last few weeks on my live streams. Some slots enthusiasts, especially those without a lot to choose from, will just jump right past picking a casino to play at. They'll not concern themselves with which slot machine to choose. And they might not even consider keeping records to determine how they are doing at meeting their goals.

Yet, if you're a slots enthusiast and you're here with me know, you do choose to be interested in one or more of these. That's why I've discussed each over the last four live streams. But once you've assessed your casino, chosen candidate slot machines, identified your goals, and started keeping gambling records, we still have one more area in which to improve your gambling performance by raising your baseline payout percentage for winning at slots.

What is it? It's your gaming jurisdiction. In general, world-wide, it's called your gaming jurisdiction. And since this broadcast is going out world-wide, I'll use that term. But in the United States, these gaming jurisdictions are our 50 U.S. states and five U.S. territories (America Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) as well as the lone federal district, the District of Columbia containing Washington, DC.

If you're located in Canada, then your gaming jurisdiction is one of Canada's thirteen provinces: Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan, and Yukon.

Now, I am calling every state or province a gaming jurisdiction but not everyone agrees. For instance, slot machine manufacturers talk about gaming jurisdictions which allow some form of gaming. Of the U.S. states, only Hawaii and Utah completely prohibit all forms of gaming. Hawaii does it for economic reasons (the state can make ten times on income taxes for travel resorts than from a casino occupying the same about of land) while Utah prohibits all gaming for religious reasons.

Not that there isn't plenty of illegal gaming going on in lots of states, even if the state prohibits it. (I'll come back to illegal gaming in a moment.) And that's why I call every state a gaming jurisdiction. First, even one law on gaming, say an amendment in the state constitution banning all gambling, is a gaming regulation. That alone, I say, makes that state a gaming jurisdiction.

And perhaps I should have mentioned this sooner, but why should you care? You should care because you have a choice to make which WILL influence your slots gambling performance. You can ignore it if you want but, depending on the gaming jurisdiction,

you may well be leaving winnings on the table. Wait, we're slots enthusiasts, so maybe a table game reference is inappropriate. How about, just giving away our bankroll to the casino?

So, here's my question for you. Where are you? Take a minute. Look around. Are you driving? Do you travel? Throughout a year, vacationing or staying at home or visiting family, where do you play slot machines? Personally, I live in southwestern Ohio but am not far from Indiana or Kentucky. My family is in Michigan. When traveling to see them, I drive by Detroit – which means I pass near Caesars Windsor in the Canadian Province of Ontario. Otherwise, it wouldn't take much driving for me to reach Pennsylvania or, in a slightly different direction, West Virginia.

For me, five states and one Canadian province is readily available to me within only a few hours-worth of driving. Yes, I understand from many people's comments in my state-by-state Facebook slots communities that our favorite casinos are often our nearest casinos sometimes, for a lucky few, only a few miles away.

Yet, five states can be a lot to learn about to improve your slots gambling performance. In a moment, we'll talk about what you might learn. I understand it's a lot. When I started with my Professor Slots business a few years ago, I decided to offer slots enthusiasts an online resource to help with exactly this. And it's been going strong ever since.

Three years ago, this month, I started publishing weekly articles on my website where I provided every bit of useful information I could find on each U.S. state, U.S. territory, and the federal district. Since there are 56 of these, it took me about 13 months to go through all of them.

Two years ago, early next month, I began again, adding additional sub-sections as I gained experience in what every state has to offer. I finished weekly state-by-state articles over another 13 months near the end of July last year. I'm now on my third time through. You may be interested in knowing Ohio was last week and Oklahoma is this week.

For this third series, one update I added were state maps its casinos. When I start the series over again for the fourth time, I'm considering adding another section on the pros and cons of each state with its neighboring states. Why? Because I've started to notice that some bordering states are battling it out with one another to capture income tax dollars from slots enthusiasts. It's more than competitive out there – some places are so intense it's practically a border war. Over you! And the next series will have other improvements. Suggestions are welcome.

These state-by-state articles are linked to the top menu on my website at ProfessorSlots.com. A faster way to go directly to you the state you're interested in is use

ProfessorSlots.com slash followed by the state's two-letter postal designation. For example, ProfessorSlots.com/OH to reach my Ohio article.

For those of you who enjoy staying on YouTube, for the longest time the only videos I published were these state-by-state articles turned into videos. I've since hidden them from plain sight on YouTube, but I'll make them unhidden again sometime this weekend. I've also made an efficient way to watch them, which is to start with your home state but then, once the video ends, let the next videos play as I've set up the following videos to, one by one, circle around that home state. Each state-by-state video is only a few minutes long, of course.

Okay, so we've covered why you need to know about your favorite gaming jurisdictions. How let's talk about what you might find that is potentially so valuable to improving your odds of winning at slots.

In my overall gaming regulations article and upcoming video, also episode #14 if you're a podcast listener, I start off with explaining how regulations change within each gaming jurisdiction because of the popularity and acceptance in each gaming jurisdiction. You don't need to look any further than recent and sweeping changes in legalized sports betting to find the best example I can offer.

Next, I explain what all a gaming jurisdiction might try to regulate. These include laws but also a legal structure. Yes, laws are needed but so are how to implement those laws, enforce them, perform investigations, offer gaming reports to the public, issuing gaming licenses, and a whole lot more.

Yes, Nevada is a fine example to all other U.S. states, not to mention to the rest of the world, for more than 80 years. But other states have special needs that a land-locked desert state perhaps doesn't cover.

All this seems straightforward if not exactly easy, right? But let's complicate matters a bit with a big-time federal law called the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1989. At a high level, that federal act says that, if your state doesn't completely prohibit gaming and, further, that your state has American Indian tribes which have federal-recognition status, not easy to get by the way, then those tribes can offer certain games. At the least, these are Class I tribal ceremonies. Somewhere in the middle is Class II, which is community bingo halls. In the last decade or so, this has led to less card bingo and more bingo gaming machines. And, at most I suppose I can say, there's full-on Class III slot machines like those found in most casinos in Las Vegas and elsewhere in Nevada.

While this federal act is common for every state, every state enacts it slightly differently. How? Well, which games, if any, has the state not prohibited? To come to a mutual agreement to that question and more, state governments and tribes have to negotiate an agreement called a tribal-state gaming compact which has to be subsequently approved by the federal government. We'll go over all that at another time.

But, for now, if the state you're interested in has tribal casinos, then most of the gaming regulations you're looking for are in these gaming compacts.

I think one of the issues affecting the gaming industry in the U.S. is one very small aspect of gaming compacts. It seems so small but it's so very impactful. Remember from a few minutes ago when I mentioned how the popularity and acceptance of gaming matters to changes in the gaming industry of any gaming jurisdiction? Like changes in sports betting?

Well, this small but significant thing I have concerns about with tribal-state gaming compacts is that most of them includes legal language which states they are good for 30 years. Some state they are valid forever.

We don't have to look further than Oklahoma, especially during January this year, to see what kind of conflict exists.

Now, many of them include wording like "unless mutually agreed to re-negotiate by both parties." So, some updates have taken place since the early 90s, like converting from coin-operated machines to voucher technology.

But these long-term compacts are starting to get dated, especially as slots and betting technology advances. Thinking past not using coins any more, what about central servers? What about sports betting? What about in-state competition between tribal and commercial casinos, where commercial casinos can make relatively quick changes to gaming regulations through the state legislature to, perhaps, take advantage of inflexible statements in slow-to-change gaming compacts?

Okay, so this is the kind of situation the U.S. gaming jurisdictions are in. What can you do about it? Well, use my online resource with its state-by-state articles. See if your state or states offer slot machine theoretical payout percentages. Now, compare them. What about return statistics? Does your state or states make these publicly available? Are these reports by week, month, or year? Are they by casino, state regions each with a group of casinos, slot machine denomination, slot machine denomination AND casino (lucky you!)?

Now, when I've talked about these differences between states in terms of what's available, some slots enthusiasts have been ... less than pleased with what their state has when compared to other states. For example, only five states offer return statistics by slot machine denomination.

That's great to have – but only 45 out of 50 states offer that. What if your state doesn't have it? Well, frankly, that's when I come in. Using observational skills and understanding how a casino is using business practices to "market" slots play to their patrons, we don't need to know gaming return statistics by slot machine denominations.

Yes, knowing those statistics is helpful because they eliminate quite a bit of the work you'll otherwise need to perform. But it's just one source of information.

Having both the most detailed statistics as well as knowing how casinos and gambling works is the true ideal situation. But lots of slots enthusiasts win without knowing those statistics. And I'm the guy explaining how.

Let's switch over to the Live Chat again and see what questions they might have...

Finally, we've lost a member of our slot enthusiasts' community. Richard from our Oklahoma slot enthusiasts community let us know that his wife Robin passed away suddenly last Sunday and asks that we keep him and his family in our thoughts and prayers. You got it, Richard. As many other members have commented on your post, we're so sorry for your loss. Please accept our sincerest condolences.

Richard also told us that Robin watched the Oklahoma group's posts like a hawk!

CLOSING

Join your local slots community on Facebook to get the latest on casino re-opening in your area. Share your casino trip reports and see what your local slots enthusiasts are sharing. Every state has a private Facebook Group slots community. Find yours at [ProfessorSlots.com/FB](https://www.ProfessorSlots.com/FB).

Watch more of my videos to improve your slots gambling performance.

Have fun, be safe, and make good choices! Bye!

Call to Action #2 (add sound effect afterward)

Remember to visit [professorslots.com/subscribe](https://www.professorslots.com/subscribe) to get my Free Report Revealing ... The top 7 online resources for improving your gambling performance, including the one I've used as a top-tier slot machine casino gambler.

Introduction

This is the second segment of the show on slot machine casino gambling. Here, I provide a brief overview of the current state of gambling in a U.S. state, territory, or the federal district emphasizing, by far, anything of interest to slot machine casino gamblers.

Up next is Oklahoma slot machine casino gambling in 2020. Here goes!

Oklahoma slot machine casino gambling consists of 131 American Indian tribal casinos, casino resorts, travel centers, and “gasinos” along with two pari-mutuel racetracks with slot machines.

No theoretical payout limits have been set for tribal casinos in Oklahoma. In addition, no return statistics are publicly available.

Relevant Legal Statutes on Gambling in Oklahoma

The minimum legal gambling age in Oklahoma depends upon the gambling activity:

- Land-Based Casinos: 18
- Poker Rooms: 18
- Bingo: 16
- Lottery: 18
- Pari-Mutuel Wagering: 18

In November 2004, Oklahoma residents approved a State-Tribal Gaming Act through a referendum. This vote enacted a model tribal gaming compact allowing tribes to use new gaming machines and card games. Based on this generic model, 31 tribes negotiated state-tribal compacts with the state of Oklahoma.

Slot Machine Private Ownership in Oklahoma

Next up is a usually short statement about slot machine private ownership, which I have included in case you live in this U.S. state and are considering owning a slot machine. Here it is:

In Oklahoma, it is legal to own a slot machine privately if it is 25 years old or older.

Gaming Control Board in Oklahoma

Oklahoma’s state-tribal compacts regulate tribal gaming in Oklahoma. However, the state of Oklahoma provides oversight under these compacts, which is the legal responsibility of Oklahoma’s Gaming Compliance Unit.

Based on the Oklahoma Gaming Compliance Unit Annual Report 2018, Oklahoma’s casinos prefer offering more Class II games due to Class III games requiring up to an extra 6% of revenue to the state.

The state also collects exclusivity fees from Class III machines. In 2015, 57% of all gaming machines in Oklahoma were Class III games.

Casinos in Oklahoma

In this section, I'll discuss Oklahoma gambling establishments.

As of mid-2019, 31 American Indian tribes operated 131 facilities offering Class III gaming through tribal-state gaming compacts with the state of Oklahoma. These locations include two racetracks offering pari-mutuel wagering and slot machines.

The largest casino in Oklahoma is also the largest casino in the world. This WinStar World Casino and Resort has 7,400 gaming machines.

The second-largest casino is Choctaw Casinos & Resorts – Durant with 4,300 gaming machines.

Non-Tribal Casinos in Oklahoma

Oklahoma has no non-tribal, commercial casinos.

American Indian Casinos in Oklahoma

The 106 largest tribal casinos in Oklahoma include two pari-mutuel racetracks with slot machines. As usual when there are too many casinos to mention here, which is definitely the case for Oklahoma, a complete list and map is on my webpage for this state at professorslots.com/OK.

Other Gambling Establishments

As an alternative to enjoying Oklahoma slot machine casino gambling, consider exploring casino options in a nearby state. Bordering Oklahoma is:

- North: Colorado and Kansas
- East: Arkansas and Missouri
- South: Texas
- West: New Mexico

To visit any of my articles on these U.S. states, simply visit ProfessorSlots.com followed by its two-letter postal designation. For example, my Colorado slots article is available at ProfessorSlots.com/CO.

Our Oklahoma Slots Community Facebook Group

Are you interested in sharing and learning with other slots enthusiasts in Oklahoma? If so, join our Oklahoma slots community on Facebook at professorslots.com/FBOK. All you'll need is a Facebook profile to join this private Facebook Group freely.

There, you'll be able to privately share your slots experiences as well as chat with players about slots gambling in or near Oklahoma. Again, use this convenient link I've created to go directly to our Group on Facebook: professorslots.com/FBOK. Join us!

Payout Returns in Oklahoma

No theoretical payout limits are legally set by Oklahoma's state-tribal compacts. Further, no return statistics are publicly available.

Summary of Oklahoma Slots in 2020

In summary, Oklahoma slot machine casino gambling consists of over a hundred tribal facilities with electronic gaming machines existing as casino resorts, casinos, convenience stores, travel centers, bingo halls, and more.

Gaming regulations come from a generic tribal-state compact, used by 31 tribes in Oklahoma to legalize Class II bingo-style and Class III Las Vegas-style gaming. It does not include theoretical payout limits nor require that tribes make return statistics publicly available.

Annual Progress in Oklahoma Slot Machine Casino Gambling

Over the last year, Bordertown Casino and Arena closed when the Eastern Shawnee Tribe decided to reassess its business plans and close the facility in December 2019. Also, the Texoma Gaming Center in Kingston became the Texoma Casino.

In early 2020, Governor Kevin Stitt of the State of Oklahoma demanded the state's tribes update their tribal-state compacts. At issue was an attempt to improve the state's gaming revenue by increasing income from exclusivity payments for monopoly casino rights. Ultimately, Oklahoma's tribes united against the Governor, resolving the "bitter feud."

Call to Action #3 (add sound effect afterward)

Remember to visit professorslots.com/subscribe to get my Free Report Revealing ... The top 7 online resources for improving your gambling performance, including the one I've used as a top-tier slot machine casino gambler.

On the Next Episode of Professor Slots

Part I of the next episode of the Professor Slots podcast is a live stream Q&A session on YouTube.

Remember, my weekly Q&A session on YouTube is on Saturdays from Noon until 1 p.m. Eastern Time. Bring whatever slots questions you have, and I'll do my best to answer them. An easy-to-remember link to my YouTube channel is ProfessorSlots.com/Live. Feel free to stop by anytime during my hour-long Q&A.

Part II of the next episode of the Professor Slots podcast is another brief overview of the current state of gambling in a U.S. state, territory, or the federal district. Next time, I'll be talking to you about the great U.S. state of Oregon.

Closing (closing music)

That's the end of another great episode of the Professor Slots podcast. Thanks so much for listening!

Show notes for this episode are on my website at professorslots.com/episode97.

I plan to have the next episode come out very soon for you, where I'll have more amazing content for the show.

Until the next episode: Have fun, be safe, and make good choices! Bye.

320-character description:

Gaming regulations vary depending on the state. Your state may be very different from your neighboring states. Which one should you pick? And tribal casinos? Gaming machines also have different classifications, where one Class may well be restricted by state law while another Class isn't. Plus, Oklahoma slots in 2020.

156-character description:

Gaming regulations vary depending on the state. Your state may be very different from its neighbors. Which one should you pick? Plus Oklahoma slots in 2020.

