

Speaker 1: Hello. This is Jon Friedl, and you're listening to episode one of Professor Slots.

Speaker 2: Jon Friedl from the Professor Slots blog reveals all his slot machine casino gambling strategies, as well as tips and tricks for thriving in the casino environment. Choose winning slot machines, and identify your gambling goals. Being entertained, earning comps, winning take-home cash, or combining them. Jon has won 90 taxable jackpots and a luxury car in nine months of slot play, and made a profit at slots gambling since 2013.

Speaker 1: Hello, and welcome to the Professor Slots podcast show. This is episode one. My job is to explain.

My name is Jon Friedl, aka Professor Slots. That's what I call myself. I'm an adjunct professor at two different universities, teaching decision analysis and basic engineering concepts. A little bit of this and a little bit of that. During the day, I work full time as an aerospace engineer, and my story is that, about ten years ago, I spent some time at a casino, in graduate school, and I thought that was kind of interesting. And some things happened, I'll talk about them in a later episode. Some things happened where I won a bunch of jackpots, each one over \$1,200, a taxable jackpot, and all are a very short amount of time, and ... I'll save the actual story for later.

So I took a break, while I launched my career, and moved around a bit in the country, and then settled where I am now. And, yeah. So I work full time, and now on the side I've started to do this. Because I had a recent casino experience, which I will talk about in another minute or so, just to give you a bit of that history. But I thought, "I have the skills, the presentation ability, the technical skills, a little bit of software, hardware, microphones, that sort of thing, due to some past interest in audio, to put together a podcast." And it's not really a barrier with someone with my technical background.

By which I should say I do have a lot of college degrees. I have to fess up here. Eight of them. Mostly in physics and engineering. Three associate's, one of them in mathematics. Two bachelor's degree, physics and engineering. Off to graduate school. Master's degree in applied physics, then a engineering doctorate. Yes, it's Dr. Jon Friedl. Don't call me Dr. Friedl or anything like that. Just call me Jon. There's one person in the world who calls me doctor and I'm trying to get them to quit.

And then off to an engineering management degree, for those of you who are keeping count. And it's all been wonderful. I started a couple more degrees, but I'm unlikely to finish them. I'm on a tenure plan for those. I'd hoped to get to double digits, but that's just me.

So this first part, I am trying to be a little bit personal and don't worry, I won't mention too much of that in the future. There's some interesting stories, but only those that are related to slot machine gambling and casino visits, and all that sort of thing.

But just to wrap it up here, yeah. So I'm a slot machine gambling enthusiast. I spent some time doing that about ten years ago, and then launched my career as an

aerospace engineer, so I didn't have too much time. And then I came back to it, and things had changed. And I'd had some successes ten years ago, and some successes very recently, and I thought, "Gee, this is interesting stuff. And it seems like I know a few things. I can figure out how the casino operates, and I see the patterns. And I'm very good with machines." I don't mean that I take them apart, necessarily, but I know how they ebb and flow, and function, and I see ways to use them in ways that maybe hadn't been thought of.

It's like ... I imagine it's like playing a guitar or a musical instrument. There's people who are just ... Make the darn thing just stand up and dance. I can do that with slot machines.

Okay so that's briefly me. I think you might have gotten a few facts and a few ideas about how I express myself. And that's all good. Wanted to briefly do that in this first episode. I don't expect to do too much of that again, but ... Hello, I'm Jon. Nice to meet you.

Okay. So on today's episode, I want to introduce you to not Jon Friedl, but Professor Slots, because you're here to talk to and listen to Professor Slots. So let's talk about how I became what I call Professor Slots.

A couple of years ago, I returned to casinos. They put up a new one, near where I lived, not too far from where I lived, maybe 20 minutes away. And I went. And I took some extra overtime pay, back when I was getting a little bit of overtime pay, and I would spend maybe, take \$500, and I'd leave when I had \$250, honestly. I played some of the machines that I'd played ten years before, because I was familiar with them. I wasn't really trying to do too much. I was just enjoying myself, entertaining myself. And so I would spend \$500, and I'd leave when I got down to \$250, and that was that.

I was mostly playing the one I liked, a five times play machine, \$1 bet. Is that right? Yes. \$1 bet, with a three credit max. And so I was playing that, and I'd play once a month, perhaps. Started in March, went a month without going, and then went back. And it was just taking \$500, and getting down to half that, and leaving.

Well, after about six months of that ... I'm not even sure I got a player's card. I might have gotten a players' card. I got a few points. All became very important later. And then I sat down, and that one day I brought in \$800. And before I got to \$400, I won a jackpot. A taxable jackpot, which in case you don't know, is \$1,200 or more. That's a taxable jackpot, where taxes are automatically withdrawn. In the state of Ohio, they automatically withdraw federal, or excuse me, state and city, if there is a city, that the casino is located in, with local taxes, and federal is optional.

So, I won \$3,250 in a single jackpot. A single bet. And I was upset. Because I realized, I had just spent six months, and spending \$250 per visit, maybe six visits, so call it \$1,500, and I'd just recouped it. I recouped that \$1,500 that I had lost over six months, and I had an extra \$1,500, \$1,700 extra. After taxes about \$1,500 extra, for the year. For all that work. For all those trips. And I was upset, because I'm like, "Okay, so," don't take this

very precisely, "It's like an extra paycheck." Or an extra week's worth of pay, however you want to put it. And I was frustrated, because I wanted to do better than that. And I thought I could do better than that.

So I decided that, at the time I was trying to be less analytical and more ... See here, getting a little personal again, trying to be less analytical and a little more passionate, because you didn't get a lot of that in graduate school. So I decided to be upset, and passionate, and really had to work at it.

And so I said, "Dang it, let's just do something here." And so I looked around and I thought, "Look at that. That's a high limit slot room. I've never been in that before. I think I'm gonna go in there." And I walked through the place, I looked around, I looked at each machine, I found some that seemed interesting, others that seemed like I should steer away. Didn't really understand what I was looking for, but definitely had some feelings to go by, some initial feelings that I developed further later.

And I picked one. I sat down at a Wheel of Fortune machine. \$5 bet. Three credits, so each bet was \$15. So \$5 denomination, three maximum credits, \$15 bets. And I proceeded to put the whole \$3,200 ... Well actually, I think at that point I had \$3,400. I put in most of that. There was an upper limit on how much you can put into the machine at any one time. And I put in \$3,000. And I started betting.

And it wasn't too long, before I won another taxable jackpot. And then, another one. And then, another one. And it was a busy night, Friday night, and lots of people all around me winning as well. In fact I met a guy named Bubba. And he was there with Justin. And, "Hey Bubba. Hey Justin." And they would win jackpots too, or at least Bubba would. He was definitely a, high roller? Well, I'm not sure if that's appropriate for slots players, but that's what I'll call him.

And so we got into a contest. He would say, "Number three." And I would say, "Number four." And he would say, "Number four. Number five." And I would say, "Number five." And so we started having a contest across the room from one another, shouting out when we got another one. Now he got to ten. He got to ten taxable jackpots. I only got to seven. So, Bubba, you won. But then you always did. So, yeah he played it hard.

Later on I got better, and better things happened, but certainly for the first night in a high limit slot room ... So I walked out with around \$7,000. I could look up the exact amount. Records are very important. And I thought to myself, "Okay, I got something. I got something here."

So I proceeded, in the next nine months, with ... There's a lot of stories in there. I wrote them all down for a book and I'll talk about that in a minute. But for the next nine months, I won more and more taxable jackpots. That's jackpots worth \$1,200 or more. I particularly had a hard time with the one that was \$27,000, but I got more later than that.

So yeah. So I won 90 of them. 90 taxable jackpots, that's nine zero, in nine months. I went beginning in the middle of November, until the end of December. That was three years ago. And it took me a year to write the book, and get the thing set up for here.

In any case, yeah. At the end of that nine months, I'd started going to two casinos, I'd figured out a bunch of things, all of which I'm sharing with you, but it does take time to write these articles and et cetera. But yeah, I'm looking to share everything that I've learned, as best I can, about how I did all that. And at the end of the nine months, August 31st of that year, I did the obligatory Mercedes Benz E350 coupe.

Didn't take the car. 99% of the people who win a car at a casino, don't take the car. I took the cash. Car was worth, I researched it beforehand, you should do that, just in case ... Researched it beforehand, and it was worth \$65,000, new. But it had been rolled off the lot. So it was worth \$35,000. Depreciation just rolling it off the lot, you know? You gotta watch that. And they were offering \$40,000 in cash. And because I'd done the research, I knew to take the cash.

So they gave me \$40,000. Now that was not a taxable jackpot, that was a miscellaneous 1099 form, and I'll talk about that some time in the future, about what that difference is. But so they gave me \$40,000 and they wouldn't give me all cash, darn it. [inaudible 00:11:55] to walk me out, why not? I collect those little bands by the way, the \$10,000 bands that hold a hundred hundred dollar bills?? I have five of them.

But that night if they had given me ... They gave me \$20,000 in cash and a \$20,000 cashier's check, because they didn't want to give me \$40,000 worth of cash. And so I would have seven of those bands that I like to collect, but I don't. I only have five. Any case, that's what I like to collect. That's a joy for me.

So yeah. 90 taxable jackpots, nine months, Mercedes Benz E350 coupe, took the cash, \$40,000. And that's when I realized that ... Before that I thought I could write a book. I was taking notes about the stories and the people I had met, and et cetera, and et cetera, and how I was winning, and all the patterns that I was seeing. And then when I won the car I thought, "You know what? I could write a book, because how can you write a book about slots if you didn't win a car?"

So I decided that, with everything that was going on, some of the new stuff at this new casino, renovated casino ... One was a new casino, built from the ground up. The other one was completely renovated. They moved it, and moved the race track, horse track, a distance. So completely renovated. And it had an operating system, the newer operating system. This was not an old casino where it was without the modern softwares and other things which I'll go into on other episodes.

But yeah, so a lot has changed in casinos lately, and my job is to explain those changes, and how to discuss the rapid updates in gaming technology. There's operating systems. More and more people are going into casinos. More and more casinos are popping up everywhere. And with the flood of people going, paperwork is so hard that they've automated things with various software packages, so that the people working there can

get it right and handle the crowds that like to visit. So I figure if some of those crowds might like to know how to do all this stuff, and hopefully this podcast will reach out to them and I'll be able to help them.

In all seriousness, I am trying to help. I don't know yet how many people would be interested in this. I wonder about who that I might see at a casino would be online with a smartphone or have a iTunes Apple account, or listen to podcasts, or be on Twitter. So I hope for success, and success is to have you go to professorslots.com/subscribe. If this works, I will start having other things to offer, but only if you suggest it. So I will ... In a year, six months, less, more, when I've got more of an audience, because I'm just starting, I will ask you what you want. Do you want an online course? Do you want a webinar? Do you want a book, or the book? So it's available but ... What specifically would you, would help you the most? So I'm learning. And I've got a lot to say, and I'll keep on saying that, but I also need to listen. So I will do that.

So I, getting back to this, I have made a gambling profit, that first year. Although the first year was only from middle of November to the end of that year, that was 50 taxable jackpots in six weeks. I jumped to top tier, did not know what that was. Went all the way up to ... Got the cruise ship, got the trip to the casino in Las Vegas, all of these things.

So when I became a top tier player's club individual, I didn't know. I didn't know anything about that. Justin who I mentioned earlier came over and chatted one time, and he's like, "So I see you got the entry level card there. You might want to go over to the booth and have them upgrade that." "Oh yeah? There's an upgrade?" I say. "Yeah, you might want," and he was very kind to me. So I have articles now about how to go about doing this, and you can take a look at that. And you can find those articles on my website, professorslots.com. I try to write those once every week or so, and then every week I have a series on gambling in each state, working through all the states, and U.S. territories, and of course the federal District of Columbia.

So other things that I have for you is, I took a bunch of quotes out of my book, and put them up on Twitter every day, several times a day. Feel free to take a look at those. It's the best advice I have. Some of them are terminology. You know what a candle is, right? That's the light on top of a slot machine indicating that service is needed, either because of a fault, or because you won a jackpot. And that is just some of the terminology. There's many terms, and I've written down what those are. Things like bankroll. The money you take to a casino, even though technically you could withdraw from an ATM. That's still a bankroll. So it's the stake or the money that you have to bet. And for goodness' sakes, please, do not bet more than you can afford. That's rule number one.

So, on Twitter I have these posters, and winning slot tips of the day, and there's many of them. I also have for you ... That's completely free of course, and completely free again, is my free report where I have researched and found the top seven online resources for improving your gambling performance, including the one I've used. And I've talked about that show and I'll talk about it at the end of the show, and that's at professorslots.com/subscribe.

Okay. So I thought you might be interested in some pictures, so I know this is a podcast and I can't show you the pictures on the podcast, but I can describe them, and they are up on the ... I'll have some show notes for this and that'll be up on professorslots.com/e1.

So on that show notes, I will show a couple of jackpots that I won, me standing there in one of them. And you'll see behind me the bonus spin on a Wheel of Fortune, where the maximum jackpot ... It's a \$5 denomination, three credit machine that I was describing earlier. So each bet was \$15. I bet \$15. I did not win anything on the wheels, the reels, but I did win on a bonus. This was the last reel, came up spin, and that meant that I got a bonus round. And the bonus round was a wheel, that is shown in the picture, and it spun. And it landed on \$5,000. So this was a trip that I took to a casino. I spent, and I used the things I know about winning at casinos, which I'll explain in exhaustive detail, but it'll take me more time than this podcast has available. And I won \$5,000, so that's what the picture shows.

So, I went to the casino with \$500, and one of the first things that happened was I won \$5,000, which is a taxable jackpot. And then once the attendant came and the machine locked up of course, the usual thing. They came, took my driver's license, fill out the form, and they left, and they came back with \$5,000. Yeah. Unfortunately, no band.

And of course it was not \$5,000. It was what was left after city, mandatory city and state taxes were removed. So slightly less than that. And then they left me, and just as they were walking away, they say the thing that they always say. "Good luck. We'll be back the next time you win." And I pressed the button, I think it might have been the fourth time I pushed the button. They had not left the room. And the next one came up, which was, same machine, double, double, red seven. Does that sound exciting or what? This was, again, a three credit \$5 denomination machine, \$15 bet, and what do you know? I've got \$6,400. \$6,400 jackpot. That happened, again, they came back, took my driver's license, filled out the forms. They went away, they came back with cash minus city and state taxes, and handed that to me.

And at that point, I had a little bit of the \$500 left, and I put a little bit in, for another five minutes of play. Maybe spent a hundred bucks, maybe a hundred and twenty bucks, and I was like, "I'm done." So I left. And I was there for 45 minutes. I was in the casino, from out of my car, opening the door to the casino, to leaving the casino, shutting the door behind me and walking over to my car, 45 minutes. And about 20 to 25 minutes was spent filling out paperwork and waiting for them to come back, with the cash. So that was about 20 minutes. Maybe a little bit less. About 20 minutes that I spent walking from the front door to the high limit area, sitting down by the machine I wanted to play, that I was ready to play, that I thought would be the one winner that I wanted, and then walked out. So call it 15 minutes. 15 minutes of actual play time, and I won, after taxes, just over \$10,000.

So that was that. And I have a couple pictures here. I don't mean to go on about it. I'm not trying to make anyone feel bad. I want you to enjoy the experience. I want you to enjoy the experience yourself. So I will talk about how I did all this, in exhaustive detail,

in upcoming episodes, and on articles I've already written on my website, and more to come. There's things you need to know.

This player club card, free cruises. Free trips. That's worth something. And then, you just don't want to give it away. Just don't want to not take what is part of the profit of going to a casino and betting. Even if it's a free dinner. If you play a penny machine. Please don't. You want to ... Making a \$3 bet on a penny machine is spending a lot more money than you would if you spent 75 cents on a quarter machine with three credits. So be careful about some of these things. I talk about them on my website.

So this is my introductory ... Oh, I should mention one more thing, which is the downloadable book. What is it called? It is called Learning to Win: How to Make a Profit at Slot Machine Gambling. It is 237 pages. This is not a pamphlet. This regales you with my stories, exactly what I learned, how I learned it, the patterns that I saw, some of my finances. The way to keep records. Just endless stuff. It was the first thing that I did and perhaps not the wisest thing for me to do. I'm very glad to have written it, but as I'd mentioned earlier, I need an audience to tell me what they need. And I'm not sure that it's an ebook. But I wanted to write down everything that I remembered, everything that I had learned for myself, if nothing else. And maybe the book is what you will end up wanting. It is on my website, not exactly easy to find, but if you go to the show notes, there will be a link to it. And I'm currently, at this moment, offering it for, you guessed it, \$77.77. It's only available on my website.

So I will talk about other things that I'm offering as free as I can possibly make them, but this is the one thing I am selling because I just don't want to give it away. And later on I'll convert it into an online course or whatever else that you need from me.

So, that PDF downloadable document, Learning to Win: How to Make a Profit at Slot Machine Gambling, by yours truly, Jon Friedl, PhD, 237 pages, is available on my website if you care to have it. Or you can just wait and read the articles, going into more and more detail as I talk to people and find out what they need, and it's a little more focused. But if you can't wait, the book is there for you.

Okay, so that's the end of the episode. I plan to have the next episode come out very soon for you, where I'll have amazing content for the show. So if you are someone who wants better success at slot machine casino gambling, please subscribe to the show and if you have a moment, head over to iTunes and leave a rating and review. That would help so much. Until the next episode, have fun, be safe, and make good choices. Bye.