

# PS 111: Rewards Clubs Live | West Virginia Slots in 2020

## Opening

Hello! Today's episode #111 of the Professor Slots podcast discusses casino rewards clubs. Plus, in this episode I'll be covering the current state of slot machine casino gambling in the great U.S. state of West Virginia.

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 casino safety from my weekly live stream Q&A session on YouTube.

Further, I reviewed Washington 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 (add sound effect afterward)

Remember to visit [professorslots.com/subscribe](https://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, October 2, 2020

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

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## Introduction

This is the next 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 West Virginia slot machine casino gambling in 2020. Here goes!

West Virginia slot machine casino gambling consists of five casinos including one casino resort and four racetracks with slot machines. Many retailers have a few video lottery terminals.

The West Virginia state legislature has two sets of minimum and maximum theoretical payout limits depending upon the location of the gaming machine. Limited return statistics are available annually.

## Relevant Legal Statutes on Gambling in West Virginia

The minimum legal gambling age in West Virginia depends upon the gambling activity:

- Land-Based Casinos: 21
- Poker Rooms: 21
- Bingo: 18
- Lottery: 18
- Pari-Mutuel Wagering: 21

In 1994, West Virginia legalized video lottery terminals at their thoroughbred and greyhound racetracks. In 1999, West Virginia began allowing physical reel slot machines at licensed racetracks.

Machine restrictions at these pari-mutuel wagering facilities include approval by the local county and having only:

- Slots
- Blackjack
- Keno
- Many versions of poker

In 2001, West Virginia passed the Limited Video Lottery Act allowing bars and restaurants to have up to five video lottery terminals (VLTs) and fraternal organizations to have up to ten VLTs. The Act also restricted the state to a total of 9,000 VLTs.

## Slot Machine Private Ownership in West Virginia

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 West Virginia, it is legal to own a slot machine privately.

## Gaming Control Board in West Virginia

The West Virginia Lottery Commission controls VLT gaming regulations. This lottery was created in 1984 by amending the Constitution of West Virginia with Article VI, Section 36.

Afterward, West Virginia legalized VLTs with subsequent amendments, acts, rules, and statutes. Each statute is available in the West Virginia Lottery's Rules and Regulations.

## Casinos in West Virginia

In this section, I'll discuss West Virginia gambling establishments.

There are four pari-mutuel racetracks and one casino resort in West Virginia, where their slot machines have 18 different games. In 2019, 1,303 commercial retailers each had between five and ten VLTs, offering eleven games.

The largest casino in West Virginia is Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races with 2,500 slot machines. The second-largest casino is Mountaineer Casino Racetrack & Resort with 1,525 slot machines.

## Non-Tribal Casinos in West Virginia

The four pari-mutuel racetracks with slot machines and single casino resort are too many to mention here but, as usual, a complete list and map is on my webpage for this state at [professorslots.com/WV](http://professorslots.com/WV).

## American Indian Casinos in West Virginia

West Virginia has no federally-recognized tribes and, therefore, no tribal casinos.

## Other Gambling Establishments

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

- North: Maryland and Pennsylvania
- East and South: Virginia
- West: Kentucky and Ohio

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 Maryland slots article is available at ProfessorSlots.com/MD.

## Our West Virginia Slots Community Facebook Group

Are you interested in sharing and learning with other slots enthusiasts in West Virginia? If so, join our West Virginia slots community on Facebook at [professorslots.com/FBWV](https://www.facebook.com/professorslots.com/FBWV). 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 West Virginia. Again, use this convenient link I've created to go directly to our Group on Facebook: [professorslots.com/FBWV](https://www.facebook.com/professorslots.com/FBWV). Join us!

## Payout Returns in West Virginia

West Virginia has two sets of theoretical payout limits including:

- Racetracks and casino resort: 80% and 99.9%
- Commercial retailers: 80% and 92% (or 95%, if approved)

Retailers must obtain individual permissions to have a greater than 92% payout. These high payout terminals must obtain Commission approval twice, including:

- Written consent prior to manufacturing
- Approval before applying for testing

From its 2019 Annual Report, the Commission reported the annual return statistics in West Virginia to be:

- Casino resort: 92.5%
- Racetracks: 89.6%
- Commercial Retailers: 92.1%

## Summary of West Virginia Slots in 2020

In summary, West Virginia slot machine casino gambling consists of one casino resort, four racetracks, and 1,303 retailers with VLT-style gaming machines. Retailers may have

up to five VLTs if a bar or tavern, and up to ten VLTs if a fraternal organization. Up to 18 different games are available on these VLTs, including slot machine game themes.

The minimum theoretical payout is 80% for all VLTs. The maximum theoretical payout is 99.9% for casinos, but 92% for retailers. With permissions, retailers can obtain a 95% maximum theoretical payout for specific VLT machines.

## Annual Progress in West Virginia Slot Machine Casino Gambling

Over the last year, there has been no change in the West Virginia gaming industry.

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### On the Next Episode of Professor Slots

Part I of the next episode of the Professor Slots podcast will include 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 [YouTube.com/ProfessorSlots](https://YouTube.com/ProfessorSlots). Feel free to stop by anytime during my hour-long live Q&A session.

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 Wisconsin.

### 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/episode111](https://professorslots.com/episode111).

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.