

## PS 115: The Oldest Slots Strategy Live | AK Slots in 2020

### Opening

Hello! Today's episode #115 of the Professor Slots podcast discusses the world's oldest slots strategy. Plus, in this episode I'll be covering the current state of slot machine casino gambling in the great U.S. state of Alaska.

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 How to Win a Car from my weekly live stream Q&A session on YouTube.

Further, I reviewed Alabama 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 31, 2020

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

#### OPENING

Hello, slots enthusiasts! How are you? My name is Jon Friedl. Welcome to Professor Slots, a channel that helps you master casino slots so you can win your way to success!

It's great to see you all here again for another Professor Slots podcast episode and live stream. If you're with us live, be sure to say hello and ask your slots-related questions! I'll get to those a little later in the show.

Today we're going to be diving into the world's oldest slot winning strategy which still works.

BODY

## INTRODUCTION

Central computer servers started showing up in casinos around 2012, allowing casinos to move away from paper and clipboards as an accounting method to track their financial performance metrics. Along with having already gotten away from coins ten years before, this automation significantly streamlined casino operations.

But casinos also use these servers to engage in standard casino business practices. For instance, about 1-in-3 casinos will provide a quick taste, a small win, within the first few bets of sitting down at a slot machine in the hopes that you'll spend that along with whatever else you brought with you.

Unless you're very new to my channel, you already know my suggested response when you find common business practice: My winning slots strategy 1: Only Win Immediately also more fondly known as the 5-pull method. Meaning, go from machine to machine and collect the taste from each.

Each one of my winning slot strategies takes this same approach. I found common casino business practices, then figured out how a player might respond so that they have improved odds of winning. And, of course, I also cover casino safety, money management, goals, and all the rest of what slots enthusiasts need to do to master casino slots to win their way to success.

The winning slot strategies I've uncovered so far, and I've given numbers to seven of them, are based on the casino having a central computer server connected to all the slot machines.

The point of today's live stream is this: One option already existed before central servers arrived. Now, there are many. Before, there was only one: Open a slot machine, refer to that machine's Probability Account Report (PAR), and turn up the odds for a while. (Thanks, Chris Magney, for the PAR terminology.) To get the best marketing value from this business practice, do it for a slot machine easily visible from a distance by groups of other slots enthusiasts. And, of course, work with accounting to decide on a budget for this hidden promotion.

This isn't speculation. It happened to me. I used to think about slot machines the same way my critics do today. "Slot machines are entirely random! There are laws preventing this and even if they're aren't, casinos must win to keep the lights on!"

What happened to me to change the way I used to think about slots? What caused the birth of Professor Slots? Everything came from my experiencing this casino business

practice first-hand. You might say, it blew my mind. It caused me to rethink how slots work. It caused me to reverse engineer what casinos had done to me. To your benefit and mine.

#### INITIAL GAMBLING RULES IN 2003

After my very first casino gambling experiences starting in 2003, I spent more and more time thinking about them without much progress. I wasn't yet thinking about how to win. Rather, I was mostly thinking about the potential dangers of what I was getting into.

Eventually, I made a decision to keep trying to figure out this whole slots gambling thing. I wasn't expecting to win any significant amount of money, not ever. Rather, I was hoping not to lose a significant amount of money.

With this reasoning in mind for proceeding with gaining additional slot machine gambling experiences, I took a long look around where I lived (in central Iowa, at the time) for any nearby casinos within driving distance. As it happened, there was a nice casino relatively nearby. In fact, its size and facilities far exceeded what I'd even heard about casinos being like before.

The local casino had table games, floors of slot machines, a high limit slot room, and horse racing. And, oh, the splendor of the buffet! To all my senses, it was simply delightful. So, with that limited assessment of a gambling establishment, about every month or more I'd take \$25 from my monthly graduate student stipend to go there and fully expected to gamble it all away on slot machines.

But, would I...?

#### SIX MONTHS PLAYING A 25-CENT, 3-CREDIT SLOT MACHINE

For the next few years, this gambling establishment was the only casino I went to. I admittedly had what I still consider to be a fairly wild and crazy time. This casino was the Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino outside of Des Moines, Iowa in the small city of Altoona. I started going there in 2004, with my last regular visit in early 2006 after engineering graduate school and moving away to the east coast of the U.S. to start my career in aerospace, specifically jet engine manufacturing.

I learned many things about playing slot machines during those visits, both what seemed to work and what seemed not to work. Although, it all started out tamely enough.

As mentioned, every few weeks or so I'd take \$25 and play it on slots. After looking around for a while at the various slot machines available, I settled on one machine that I liked. It was a fairly typical \$0.25 denomination, 3-credit slot machine with a forgettable name.

I liked it for two reasons, specifically because:

1. Payout table was easy to read.
2. Reel symbols were relatively simple.

I had no special requirements other than I didn't want to have to keep figuring out the "pay table" every time I moved to a different slot machine. A pay table, just to be clear, is a description of what symbols or combination of symbols results in a win as well as the cash amount of that win.

For 20 visits over a 6-month period, I sat and played with a bankroll of \$25 at this specific quarter-dollar, 3-credit slot machine. If I won any small amount, I'd either take it home to use it as my bankroll on the next visit or put it back in immediately to spend it right then on that machine. For the most part, I found that I was enjoying myself.

I remember this time well. I was experiencing what almost all slots enthusiasts experience when they don't know any better.

Anyway, I happen to be a non-smoker. At the time, this casino was often smoky, especially when a smoker sat next to me and lit up a cigarette or cigar, which bothered my allergies quite a lot. If it became particularly smoky at the casino, I found that after I got home I had to bag my clothes until washday just so that I didn't wake up in the middle of the night with a mild asthma attack.

However, my real dissatisfaction didn't occur until 6 months had passed, when I won my first "big" jackpot. It wasn't a taxable jackpot, i.e., \$1,200 or more, but it happened to be the maximum jackpot that that slot machine had to offer: 4,000 credits for \$1,000.

By then, my gambling records showed that, altogether over 6 months of effort, I'd spent nearly \$500 to win that \$1,000 jackpot. Imagine my sitting there and staring at a jackpot for an amount equal to 10% of my annual gross income and, I naively thought, tax-free to boot.

But why the feeling of dissatisfaction? Yes, I'd made back the \$500 I'd spent over 6 months. Yes, I also had \$500 of profit in my hand. But I had realized that I had only \$500 to show for 6 months of effort. Had I even exceeded minimum wage based on all the hours I'd spent gambling? Not even close.

I appreciated the win and all, I truly did, but I kept thinking that there has to be a better way to win than doing this! My response, my decision, my deliberate approach was, as usual, to do more research! To do more thinking!

With a little thought, I decided that I should search this relatively new thing in 2004 called the World-Wide-Web, i.e., what we of course now call the internet, for any advice it might have for winning when playing slot machines.

#### 2004 INTERNET ADVICE ON CHOOSING A WINNING SLOT MACHINE

The gambling just described took place around the time Google was starting to become available as a decent Internet search engine, including to engineering graduate students such as I was at that time. I proceeded to search online using this remarkable new research tool.

What I read online seemed fascinating. I don't remember the specific keywords I used during my internet searches, and certainly don't remember the URL addresses I ended up finding, but the advice I saw went like this:

1. To win big, bet big.
2. Pick a machine that has multipliers, a second spin, or both.
3. Find a machine at or near the end of a row of machines that is near an area where people naturally group together that has both 1) and 2).

The first suggestion made a certain fine logical sense to me.

The second suggestion was a bit of an eye-opener but certainly seemed like an excellent idea.

The third suggestion struck me as bizarre. Could it be true, that a casino would actively try to engage, to entice, to effectively manipulate its patrons into gambling from within its own property? How completely fascinating! By the way, these days I consider this to be a branch in the field of marketing not entirely unique to casinos.

So, I resolved to try out the suggestions during my next casino visit. This is when my gambling really started to become an interesting story to the people I was talking to, mostly my engineering professors and the staff I most often worked with at the university. Those friends and co-workers were my first audience.

#### INTERLUDE

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

That was excellent!

#### BODY

#### SIX DAYS OF WINNING TAXABLE JACKPOTS ON A \$1, 5-CREDIT SLOT MACHINE

After reading about those suggestions online, and thinking more and more about them, I finally went back to the casino with my recent \$500 in prior winnings. I began hunting through all the slot machines looking for high credit, high dollar amount machines.

I examined slot machines on the casino floor for good candidates, based on the rules of the day and not all that I suggest these days like using my Goodness Ratio, until I found what appeared to be a nice \$1 denomination, 5-credit machine with multipliers included in its reel symbols. Except ... it was located over in a quiet corner of the casino.

It was a Five Times Play machine. I liked this machine because it fit at least the first 2 criteria above. Unfortunately, it wasn't located in a busy area.

I kept up my search, eventually finding the same exact model of slot machine elsewhere in the casino. It was ideally located, assuming the advice I'd gotten from the internet was sound, as the second to last machine in a row near the casino's main bar region.

At the time, I remember being struck by how odd it was that all three criteria could be met with such relatively little effort. I'm much less surprised these days about having an instinct for pattern recognition.

Unbeknownst to me, a wild and crazy time of my life was about to commence. There I was. It's 9 a.m. on a Saturday morning. I'm looking at the best candidate yet based on the suggestions I'd found online for winning at slot machine gambling. I had \$500 in my hand. I was ready to go.

All I had to do now was put my money into the slot machine and start hitting the maximum bet button. I found it surprisingly difficult to put that much money into a machine. I was, well, reluctant.

This reluctance, by the way, is what I now consider to be the main reason for my then near-future success when playing slot machines - EVERYBODY that had been playing that specific slot machine had also found themselves reluctant to put a lot of money into that slot machine. They'd probably felt this way for months, if not a few years.

I think most people had been putting \$20 in, hit max bet twice, then taken their money with any winnings and left. But, not me, no sir! I pressed on with my plan: I proceeded to put the whole \$500 into it and pressed the max bet button until it was gone. Naturally, nothing went according to plan. Again.

See, my bankroll didn't go away. I found myself winning small jackpots, lots of small jackpots each worth less than \$1,200. There were so many of these jackpots that I tried for a little while to use my pen to write hash marks on my palm for each \$25, \$75, \$100, \$200, \$500, \$750 and \$1,000 hits.

But I couldn't keep up with how many of these small jackpots I was winning. I simply ran out of room on my palm to mark down all the hash marks. So, for a while, I just marked down how many \$1,000 hits I got. I ran out of space on my palm once I got to around 60 or so. I might have tried harder, but other interesting things were starting to happen: I won my first ever taxable jackpot. It was for \$1,250. I was overjoyed!

These days, I know more than a few gamblers who've never won a taxable jackpot. They wonder how it feels and ask what it's like. I've seen the look on the faces of other gamblers when they describe it. I've also happened to be sitting next to several gamblers when they've won their first taxable jackpot, with a couple of different responses.

Yes, it's a wonderful feeling, but can also be a big mystery as to what happens next. So, there you are, making bet after bet on the slot machine you're playing when you notice that, this time, the reels have landed on an interesting combination of symbols. They seem familiar somehow. Maybe something you'd seen on the pay table??

Plus, now the machine seems to be locked up and is definitely making lots of additional lights and sounds. Finally, you begin to notice that everyone nearby is looking at you with a strange combination of both delight and envy, maybe saying "Congratulations!" or "Big Money!" What could possibly have just happened?

I can still remember that first time. It was also my first experience with how helpful slot attendants are, which I still appreciate. Nevertheless, it was a completely new experience.

Slot attendants and other casino staff certainly deserve to be praised for how professional, supportive, informative, patient, and generally helpful they are to everyone. But this is especially true when they're working with first-time taxable jackpot winners.

At first, I was mystified as to why the machine wouldn't allow another bet. It had been working just fine a moment before. I'd been winning a lot of small jackpots and, when doing so, always stopped the machine's roll-up sequence.

Without that roll-up's sound effects, because I'd canceled the sequence, it took me a moment to notice the actual amount of the win. At that time, I was not at all aware of the \$1,200 lower limit for taxable jackpots. However, I most certainly realized it was the largest jackpot I'd yet gotten.

These days I'm a laid-off professional who, until a few months ago, used to be an engineer in the aerospace industry, so I'm glad to say that even as a lowly graduate student I had my suspicions of what had happened and so didn't try to tell the slot attendant that the machine was broken.

I'm not sure I'd have ever lived such a mistake down, if only in my own mind. My records show that this first taxable jackpot of \$1,250 occurred at 10:05 a.m. on Saturday, April 3, 2004. Within an hour, I won another taxable jackpot, this second time for the amazing amount of \$3,750.

Let's think about this timing for a moment. Two jackpots occurring 51 minutes apart. But, not 51 minutes of betting occurring between them. About 15-20 minutes was taken up with the casino servicing that first jackpot.

In actuality, there were only about 30 minutes of betting taking place between those two jackpots. I know now that that's pretty close together. It wouldn't be the last time this happened, though. Not at all.

Servicing a taxable jackpot involves more than a few process steps. Even in 2004, for quicker service, slot attendants were equipped with a portable headset for dispatcher communication. They are notified of the taxable jackpot immediately, to hurry over to the waiting patron. The servicing itself is a process with multiple steps, some of which the patron is aware of and others which they are not directly involved with.

Setting aside the questions asked and explanations given during the servicing of my first jackpot, the servicing of a taxable jackpot is relatively straightforward once you've been through it a time or two.

The process for servicing a taxable jackpot has different responsibilities for the three entities involved: the slot machine, the casino staff, and the player.

For the uninitiated, I explain these steps elsewhere. A link is in the show notes and video description.

Despite all the assistance and professional services being provided by the casino staff for these two taxable jackpots, I'd begun to feel slightly emotionally overwhelmed as well as hungry and far too caffeinated to continue in a clear-thinking manner.

Remember, I was also winning quite a few smaller, nontaxable jackpots, most of which was more money than I'd seen at any one time for years as a poor college student.

I went home, ate a late lunch, and tried to get some much-needed sleep. But I couldn't shake the feeling that I really needed to be back at the casino playing that slot machine. Thinking is all well and good, I told myself, but sometimes it's time for action.

So, there I was at the casino at 10 p.m. that Saturday in April of 2004, betting on the same machine as before. Within a quarter-hour of arriving, I won a taxable jackpot for \$1,500. Then, a few minutes before midnight, I won my biggest jackpot yet. This jackpot was an

astonishing \$6,250. That did it for me. I was done with my first day of winning taxable jackpots, having won four of them totaling \$12,750.

To put this into perspective, it's necessary to understand that, as a lowly graduate student at the time living on a university's engineering research stipend, that last taxable jackpot was half my annual gross salary. In addition, the total for all four taxable jackpots actually was my annual gross salary.

So, yes, I collected my winnings at the end of that first day, went home, and stayed there ... for a while.

After 4 hours of sleep, I was back at the casino. That Sunday, I stayed from about 6 a.m. until around Noon, winning three more taxable jackpots for a total of \$6,500 that day, not including the usual uncounted number of small, nontaxable jackpots.

I also tried playing a few other slot machines, these with \$5 denominations instead of the \$1 denomination machine I had been playing and winning at, but only lost money with these. That I tried other slot machines is an indication that, despite the distractions of winning on a single slot machine, I was still trying to understand how winning actually worked during slot machine gambling.

That Sunday afternoon and night I remember trying to catch up on my sleep, and how it was so difficult to ignore the ninety-six \$100 bills on my nightstand next to my bed in my cheap studio apartment. Just so I wouldn't have to look, I tried to cover them up with a book, which made me laugh.

It struck me as funny how the book got kind of propped up, almost sliding off that stack of hundred-dollar bills, and was not at all helpful in reducing how distracted I'd become with all that cash just sitting there. I'd most certainly never, ever had that much cash. On Monday morning, I made a bank deposit of \$9,600 and spent the rest of the day working at the university and avoiding the casino.

The next day, on Tuesday, I withdrew \$2,000 from my bank account and returned to the casino after work. From around 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., I won another 4 taxable jackpots, this time totaling \$5,000.

I then did something I thought courageous at the time yet also knew to be un-researched and therefore fairly stupid. When I decided to leave, I noticed the high limit slot machine room. I went in. I admit that I briefly thought about what I was about to do. In my mind, I hadn't even had the \$5,000 in my hand for more than a couple of minutes. So what if I lost \$3,000 of it? I'd still have the remaining \$2,000 that I'd walked into the casino with.

So, after having done no prior research, having made no prior assessment of the high limit slot machines in that high limit room, with barely a careful thought in my head, I

put \$3,000 into one of the \$100 denomination, 1-credit slot machines and hit the maximum bet button until it was all gone. And all gone it truly was.

I lost \$3,000 without a single jackpot, taxable or otherwise. Again, my mistake was I hadn't done a bit of preparation, research, or assessment beforehand. Not. One. Bit. And, with the loss of that much money, almost a third my annual salary at the time, I'd just paid dearly for not doing so.

While the loss of that \$3,000 was a painful personal lesson on what happens when not being prepared, I place a high value on the experience. I believe that that loss prevented far greater gambling losses later.

Imagine, if you will, what would have likely happened if I had won. On that machine, the lowest possible jackpot was over the nontaxable limit. If I'd won it, I'd have felt encouraged to continue then and, most likely, later with other winnings.

However, what would likely have happened if I'd won a medium-sized jackpot for that machine, say \$100,000? Or, far worse, the quarter-million maximum jackpot? That \$3,000 loss taught me, relatively cheaply, to accept that I was truly unprepared to win.

I returned three more times to that casino over the next few days, limiting myself to playing only the \$1 denomination, 5-credit Five-Times-Play game theme slot machine on which I'd been winning taxable jackpots.

While I won only one taxable jackpot each on Thursday and Friday, the smaller, nontaxable jackpots were relatively extensive. I made a decent profit on both trips. On Saturday, however, it all came to an abrupt end.

I'd gambled on 5 days over a 7-day period, sometimes visiting the casino twice a day. I'd won 13 taxable jackpots totaling \$28,500.

At the time, my best estimate for the number of nontaxable jackpots was about twice that, at \$60,000. In hindsight, with what I know now about bankroll cycling, it was more likely twice that, around \$120,000. Not having used a reward's card during that week, I don't really know for sure how much it was.

As mentioned, my first slot machine gambling experiences ended abruptly on Saturday. With \$500 cash in hand, I returned to the casino that morning. I went to the slot machine I'd been winning at and, as usual, inserted the 5 hundred-dollar bills.

Again, as usual, I then proceeded to make the maximum bets of \$5 each. That \$500 bankroll was gone in 15 minutes without a taxable jackpot, although I do recall winning a single nontaxable jackpot for \$25. To say that I was stunned is an understatement.

Over the next weeks and months of 2004, I would return less and less often each time with less and less cash, and always have the same lackluster result. For some reason I didn't yet understand, it was over. But the thinking had only just begun. Over this same time, and the next year and the year after that, I began to develop theories. I began to reverse engineer my experience. I began to truly understand what had happened.

#### TEN YEARS OF THOUGHTFUL REFLECTION

I finished engineering graduate school, at least this one, and got my first professional job working as an engineer in Connecticut. Naturally, early on I went to one of Connecticut's casinos to try to win again, Mohegan Sun it was, but it was obviously nothing like the same experience. This encouraged me to get back to thinking and working to understand what the heck had happened to me at Prairie Meadows over those six days of winning.

What did I know? I knew that, after six days of playing at all different times of the day for most days of that week, this one slot machine near the bar had suddenly gone from paying out huge numbers of small wins as well as hand pay jackpots to not paying out more than a few dollars, if that. It didn't take much thought to realize that its odds of winning had been significantly lowered.

At some point between when I left on Friday night and came back in on Saturday, casino staff had physically opened the machine and manually lowered its payout odds. I hadn't even known that the odds of winning on a slot machine were adjustable.

If I had known, I would have made an effort to gamble while I could still win, especially on those two days when I didn't gamble at all. I had no idea such a physical change could and would eventually happen but, then, I was ignorant about a lot of things regarding slot machine gambling. How could I not be, with so little preparation?

My idea about how the slot machine stopped paying out was to think about why it had been paying out in the first place.

Why am I going on about this? What point am I making? Well, here's my point: 9 years, 7 months, 10 days, 6 hours, and 6 minutes later I went into another high limit slot room, much better prepared, and proceeded to kick its butt.

#### OLDER-STYLE VERSUS NEWER-STYLE SLOT MACHINES

Starting in 2012 until only a few years ago, it was important to understand whether your casino had a central server to which all the slot machines were connected. I used to have to explain to slots enthusiasts how to tell the difference, mostly by examining the players club card interface: Was it an LED sign or a touch screen?

Of course, that's all over now except for riverboat casinos with hulls instead of floors and convenience store slot machines.

#### RULES FOR WINNING ON OLDER-STYLE SLOT MACHINES

A casino has promotional funds available to encourage gambling in many ways. You might even call it marketing. Receiving email flyers in the mail is casino marketing, but there's also marketing designed to encourage you to stay at a casino once they get you there.

Setting up certain kinds of slot machine near common areas where winning can be seen by many patrons at once, who then go off to gamble themselves at other slot machines, is simply a non-advertised promotional event. And, because promotional funds have a limited budget, these slot machines are not always going to be set up to win.

If not set to win, which should be obvious after less than 20 bets, a slots enthusiast wishing to use this strategy needs to recognize that is simply the situation at that time.

To implement this particular strategy, come back and try it at a much later time, like months later. Further, consider when is the best time of the year to try this strategy.

What time of the year might a casino be using their promotional funds to encourage gambling? A clue can be found from my own experience from 2004, which occurred during the first week of April.

Less than coincidentally, this is precisely when slot gambling is at its peak each year. Winter is over, spring has arrived, and parents wanting to go on family vacations are still waiting for children to get out of school. This is when people most want to gamble, and when casino operators prepare for them to do so.

Otherwise, if you've successfully found a winning slot machine, what then? Are you ready for what comes next, to optimize performance and maximize profits? In other words, what's the plan?

When I won 13 taxable jackpots over 6 days using this strategy more than a decade ago, my performance was not optimal nor did I maximize profits. Why? Put simply, I was not prepared to win. I played that winning slot machine for only a few hours at a time. I even skipped two of the 6 days it was set up to win!

To truly optimize performance and maximize profits when using this strategy, at least one trusted partner is necessary. Optimal play with this approach is to keep playing without stopping for anything, except momentarily due to paperwork for taxable jackpot hand payouts.

The basic plan should be to never stop playing that winning slot machine 24 hours a day for 7 days a week. Again, have at least one trusted partner. Even so, fair warning, it'll be exhausting.

Further, it will become important, if possible, to not cause a technician to service the slot machine. I'd suggest limiting one's own personal use of the cash-in and voucher in/out features of the slot machine. Avoid filling the cash bin or using all the voucher paper.

Eventually this winning slot machine will be due to have its odds of winning changed by the casino based on their schedule. As we have discussed in other live streams, you can try to prevent remote changing of the odds by leaving your card or bankroll in the machine as much as possible.

## SUMMARY

Is this a winning strategy? Yes, it is. It's the original winning strategy from which all others branch out from. Now, it has seven younger siblings. Or maybe we should call them grandchildren.

It still exists itself, only changed in so far as it's no longer a casino's only option to encourage you to stay and spend money at a casino. Meaning, the casino now shares its marketing budget with the other strategies like the 5-pull method.

Before, when all alone, this marketing tool was designed to rattle the most hardened slots enthusiasts, to metaphorically make the casino go boom and shake the windows. Not that casinos have windows which is, again, marketing. Nowadays, it's mostly just that slot machine over by the bar on which you can make a nice little profit. Mostly. Usually. Watch for it, now that you know to look for it. Sometimes, it still goes boom.

## CLOSING

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

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

## 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.

## 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 Alaska slot machine casino gambling in 2020. Here goes!

Alaska slot machine casino gambling exists in the form of Class II electronic gaming machines at community bingo halls. Many locations also offer pull-tabs. Cruise ships offer onboard casinos when cruising in international waters.

## Relevant Legal Statutes on Gambling in Alaska

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

- Pull-Tab Sites: 21
- Poker Rooms: Not available
- Bingo: 19
- Lottery: Not available
- Pari-Mutuel Wagering: Not available

In 1960, the state legislature established a law allowing charitable fundraising events to offer games of skill. With this statute in place, the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) of 1988 allows tribes to offer Class II electronic games as well as other games of skill such as pull-tabs.

## Slot Machine Private Ownership in Alaska

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:

Private ownership of a slot machine in Alaska is legal if not offered as a gaming device used for real-money gambling.

## Gaming Control Board in Alaska

Alaska does not have a state gaming commission, gaming control board, or state lottery.

As established by federal law, the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) regulates Alaska's Class II, bingo-style gaming facilities through the IGRA.

These community bingo halls also offer bingo-style gaming machines and pull-tab games, a type of paper-based lottery card, recognized in 1960 by a state statute as a skill-based game.

## Casinos in Alaska

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

In Alaska, there are a handful of American Indian tribal community bingo halls as well as several international cruise ships making seasonal visits to Alaska's coastal cities.

The largest community bingo hall in Alaska is MIC Gaming Hall having bingo-style electronic games and pull-tabs.

## Non-Tribal Casinos in Alaska

There are no land-based, commercial casinos in Alaska, but international cruise ships visit Alaska's coastal cities. These ships have onboard casinos open for passengers while cruising in international waters.

## American Indian Casinos in Alaska

Seven or so community halls in Alaska offer bingo, pull-tab games, or both. As usual when there are too many casinos to mention here, a complete list and map is on my webpage for this state at [professorslots.com/AK](http://professorslots.com/AK).

## Other Gambling Establishments

As an alternative to enjoying Alaska slot machine casino gambling, consider exploring casino options in nearby Canada or onboard cruise ships to international destinations.

- Anchorage: Crystal Cruises – Crystal Serenity.
- Juneau: Royal Caribbean International – Radiance of the Seas.

Chances Prince Rupert Casino in British Columbia, 50 miles from Ketchikan, has 100 slot machines and 12 table games.

## Our Alaska Slots Community Facebook Group

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

## Payout Returns in Alaska

As is typical in most states with Class II gaming, Alaska has no theoretical payout limits set nor are return statistics publicly available.

## Summary of Alaska Slots in 2020

In summary, Alaska slot machine casino gambling exists as skill-based, Class II electronic gaming machines at community bingo halls, with some locations offering pull-tabs. Cruise ships offer onboard casinos with games-of-chance when cruising in international waters.

## Annual Progress in Alaska Slot Machine Casino Gambling

Over the last year, the Klawock IRA Pull Tab Shoppe closed. Also hopefully only temporarily disrupted is Chances Prince Rupert Casino in Canada as well as Alaskan cruises ships to international destinations.

## 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.

## 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. Next week's live stream will be about the five ways Nevada leads the slots industry.

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. territory of American Samoa.

## 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/episode115](https://professorslots.com/episode115).

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!