

## PS 116: Nevada and Election Results Live | AS Slots in 2020

### Opening

Hello! Today's episode #116 of the Professor Slots podcast discusses five ways Nevada leads the world's gaming industry along with a word about state election results for approving sports betting and more. Plus, in this episode I'll be covering the current state of slot machine casino gambling in the great U.S. island territory of American Samoa.

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 the world's oldest slots strategy from my weekly live stream Q&A session on YouTube.

Further, I reviewed Alaska 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, November 7, 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 how the leadership coming out of Nevada's gaming industry matters to the world's gaming industry including slots.

BODY

## INTRODUCTION

When thinking about gambling in the U.S., most people's minds will gravitate towards the city of Las Vegas, with all its lights, glamour, and casinos. While much has changed with regards to the gaming industry in the last 10 years, with so many more casinos available closer to home for most people, at the same time Nevada's gambling reputation as an innovative leader remains true. Let's discuss how Nevada provides and maintains this leadership role despite no longer being the epicenter in the U.S. for real gambling itself.

Taking a step back for a moment, however, why is Nevada's leadership role important to a slots enthusiast? It's crucial because of your state's gaming regulations.

As I've mentioned, for example, you as a slots enthusiast can take advantage of your gaming jurisdiction's public reporting of actual return statistics, assuming they offer them, to improve your baseline odds of winning.

If you want to know what direction your gaming regulations might well be heading towards, in preparation of these changes, it is essential you understand how Nevada's example to others constitutes a leadership role for other legislatures and gaming board commissioners.

## HOW THE U.S. GAMING INDUSTRY EXPANDED, HISTORICALLY

First, a brief history lesson. Before May 26, 1978, the only legal casinos in the U.S. were those available in the state of Nevada. For many years after this date when Atlantic City's first casino opened, U.S. casinos existed only in Atlantic City, New Jersey and within the state of Nevada.

A nationwide scarcity of casinos lasted until the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988, quickly followed in 1989 by Iowa's legalizing the first riverboat casinos by state law.

New state gaming regulations allowing casino gambling in other states occurred later that same year. These early adopters include South Dakota legalizing gambling in Deadwood as well as Illinois and Indiana legalizing riverboat casinos, all during a very busy 1989.

The next decade saw this gaming industry expansion grow even faster, with Connecticut, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and other states quickly legalizing casinos by the end of 1993.

Furthermore, legalized cruise ship gaming occurred in 1991 while Michigan legalized gambling in the city of Detroit in 1996.

By 1994, 13 states had legalized casinos. Excepting Nevada and possibly New Jersey, saying that these states underwent a steep learning curve would be an understatement.

Luckily, the state gaming board commissioners from these states could follow an excellent example: Nevada state gaming regulations.

For those interested in more detailed history, see “A Chronology of (Legal) Gaming in the U.S.” by George Fenich which documents U.S. gaming industry developments from gambling sailors on Columbus’s ships in 1492 until 1996. I’ll add a link to this report to the video description and podcast show notes.

By around the late 1990s, this tremendous and unprecedented gaming industry expansion had sputtered to a near halt. Why? Because states regulate and enforce gambling operations at all non-tribal casinos, and no states had previously established gaming regulations in these states. Prohibitions, yes. Legalization, no.

We can still see the consequences of this unpreparedness today. States like Oklahoma have tribal gaming compacts which good until perpetuity with changes only possible if both the tribe and state agree.

Sure, they’ve agreed to update these compacts to add using Ticket-In, Ticket-Out technology in place of coins, but how much the state receives in fees and income taxes remains unchanged from the establishment of these compacts despite the tremendous growth of tribal gaming in Oklahoma.

If you don’t think this matters consider the pressure this has placed on the state legislature to find more gaming income. While I am not as immersed in Oklahoma politics as I probably should be, it amazes me that the state of Oklahoma limits non-residents to \$17,000 in gambling deductions on their Oklahoma state income tax return. That’s right, only \$17k in gambling deductions for non-state residents.

For several years a row, I’ve exceeded \$100k in gambling deductions which Ohio allowed me to deduct, thereby allowing me to only pay income taxes on my profits. If I’d been limited to \$17k, I’d have paid thousands of dollars more in state taxes and, just like that, about 10% of my profits would have been eaten away at.

Yet many slots enthusiasts have yet to learn my winning strategies and/or find casinos where they can be successfully used at. Those slots enthusiasts from Texas, Louisiana, and other states bordering Oklahoma who also gamble in Oklahoma with a similar performance that do well enough to break even would suddenly have an additional \$3,000 or more tax bill. Ouch!

And why is this happening? It's one consequence of the terms of early tribal gaming compacts. I sympathize with state negotiations back in 1989, because who could possibly know what would happen over the next 30 years, like the Oklahoma Governor's hissy fit back in January.

But because of its early adoption of gambling, only Nevada had the needed professional experience to provide assistance with both the regulation and enforcement of gaming regulations. This professionalism wasn't just with regards to the state laws and the legislature that had enacted them, but also with negotiating tribal compacts which they were doing at the same time as many other states.

Why? Because they had and have a large group of academics and attorneys who, for many years, had been challenging Nevada's gaming laws in court. This resource contributed significantly to an overall refinement of Nevada gaming laws as well as the development of a substantial amount of precedence with regards to case law.

Because of this valuable, decades-long activity, a core of gaming industry specialists was available to help other states besides Nevada to generate comprehensive gaming regulations in other states.

#### PERCEPTION IS REALITY - THE VIRTUAL WORLD OF LAS VEGAS

There is an awful lot to say about the gaming industry in Nevada. These dialogues and monologues include quite a few gambling blogs, podcasts, and social media channels devoted to all things Las Vegas.

These personalities and even celebrities appreciate Nevada's leadership role with regards to the gaming industry as well as in the entertainment industry. After all, gambling and entertainment often go hand in hand.

But for those people who have never traveled to Las Vegas, they still often know about whatever portion of Las Vegas shows up in movies like Casino and Next as well as television shows like CSI: Crime Scene Investigations, Pawn Stars and various shows called Vegas or Las Vegas.

So, there is another aspect to Las Vegas, which is the perception of Las Vegas. While typically far less than accurate, an understanding of gambling in Las Vegas matters. So many people believe in the glamour of the casino and gambling lifestyle based on what

they have heard about Las Vegas. Perspectives come from their favorite movies, television series, as well as other online sources like “what’s happening in Las Vegas” articles and podcasts.

Why this is important comes in once a casino opens within easy driving distance to individuals who have no real experience gambling, but think they do because it’s long been an integral part of some of their favorite television shows and movies.

However, when it comes time to enter a casino, several preconceived notions can get in the way. For example, they could consider casinos to be high crime areas. Or, that gamblers often win big without trying too hard. For these individuals, the perception of fictional shows has become a reality for them.

As a result, there can be a steep learning curve to understanding what a real casino environment is like, and well as understanding and practicing the necessary skills for thriving in a casino environment.

First, they unlearn what they think they know. Then, they learn it right. This retraining can be expensive in time, money, or both.

In my opinion, the worst circumstance is never entering a casino simply because fictional shows have taught someone to be afraid of them for reasons that don’t exist.

Another circumstance, nearly as unfortunate, I’ve already mentioned: Having severe misunderstandings about how casinos work. If you don’t understand how to “shop” at a specific business, many businesses have a sales representative that explains what they have to offer in terms of what you need.

For example, consider if you’ve gone to a pool store to buy a residential pool. The sales rep will explain the differences between above ground and below ground pools, as well as the immediate and long-term costs involved.

Now, have any of you had a similar conversation with a casino employee? Anyone? Anyone? Bueller? You can bet you haven’t!

My point here is that casinos are not going to tell you anything except how to spend money. Those casino employees that regularly interact with casino patrons are reprimanded and can even lose their jobs if they suggest a gambler stop gambling, even under the worst circumstances of problem gambling.

My primary consideration here is, casinos don’t educate their patrons to gamble well. And television and movies are often unrealistic about the casino environment. All of this is less than useful and at worst dangerous misinformation.

It's your responsibility to educate yourself about gambling. That's why many of you bought my book, watch my videos, and listen to my podcast. And as I point out sometimes very specifically with links and discussions about every U.S. state gaming jurisdiction, if you want to educate yourself, a great resource is your state's gaming commission or the gaming commission of the state in which you gamble. And all of them, in the beginning, were based on Nevada's state gaming regulations, before being customized for each gaming jurisdiction.

This doesn't just apply to U.S. gaming jurisdictions, but for every gaming jurisdiction in the whole world.

#### LEGALIZED SPORTS BETTING: NEVADA WAS FIRST

Nevada's gaming industry leadership role can be seen in the May 14, 2018 ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court, which ended the nearly nation-wide ban on sports betting. It was "nearly" a nation-wide ban because only Nevada legally allowed sports betting.

That's right: Nevada was always fully exempt from the federal law from 1992, the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act of 1992 aka PASPA aka the Bradley Act, which had initially banned sports betting. Again, Nevada's leadership in the gaming industry is not at all new.

Officially, the PASPA of 1992 exempted sports lotteries in Oregon, Delaware, and Montana as well as licensed sports betting pools in Nevada. One component of the law provided a 1-year opportunity for states with licensed casino gaming to pass laws permitting sports wagering. This portion was meant to include New Jersey, despite their later failing to meet that deadline.

To be clear, the court ruling does not legalize sports betting. Instead, the U.S. Supreme Court said that the PASPA violated the 10th Article of the U.S. Constitution.

They reasoned that the federal PASPA illegally empowered the federal government to order states to disallow sports gambling. This court ruling on May 14, 2018, removed only this specific application of that empowerment.

So now, as with most types of gambling in the U.S., sports gambling will need to be allowed by law in states that wish to legalize sports betting. And, changing state laws can sometimes take a while. Stay tuned to your state's legislature to follow if and when legal sports betting is legally allowed in your state.

Sports betting is not an area I focus on. My niche is casino slots. But I feel I need to point out that the Supreme Court ruling was in May 2018. A few states were able to get sports betting on the ballot by the November 2018 election, but most were not.

Well, this week was the November 2020 election. Ignoring most of what has been happening this week and focusing on something that hasn't gotten a lot of attention yet is ... most states have gotten voter approval for their sports betting ballots and more.

The more part includes residents of the city of Bristol, Virginia enthusiastically approving the state's first casino to open there. A casino I will also mention which has been under construction for some time in anticipation of this approval.

And Colorado has approved updating its state constitution with a host of changes to gambling, from permitting sports betting to lifting the \$100 bet limit. Being able to bet more than \$100 hardly affects slots, but it sure does affect table games!

Comment below with the changes approved in your state. For the podcast listeners, send me an email with any such changes at [jon@professorslots.com](mailto:jon@professorslots.com) or comment in your state's Facebook slots enthusiasts community. Thanks!

Getting back to Nevada's leadership role, the 2018 Supreme Court ruling allows states to develop laws that legally allow sports betting. Only Nevada has had an operational sports betting system. Other states now have the opportunity to adapt their sport betting laws based on Nevada's successful application.

When I first began researching the gaming industry, I learned something about illegal gambling, which completely astonished me. What surprised me was how common it was along with how much money was involved.

Did you know that illegal gambling is a \$150 billion per year industry? In the U.S., this is mostly from unlawful wagering of professional and amateur sports. States losing its associated income tax revenue is highly relevant to straining state budgets.

Concerns about sports betting have been that it will lead to the gamification of sports. Gamification is when fans become more focused on gambling than following a team.

Others, like trade groups that represent casinos, have predicted that the ruling would generate revenue without endangering the integrity of sports competitions.

Analysts also believe it's likely to be a boon for media companies, as allowing sports betting will likely benefit them due to fans becoming more deeply invested in sporting events, which in turn will result in higher ratings for these companies.

Whatever the case may be, Nevada's practical and operational experience with decades of existing sports betting will be an essential factor. As mentioned, it won't just be the how-to aspect of running significant sports betting pools, but also through providing an example of high-quality legislation and case law.

## INTERLUDE

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

That was excellent!

## BODY

### NEVADA STATE GAMING REGULATIONS

Nevada is known to have world-class state gaming regulations. The 80+ year history of the Nevada Gaming Control Board has developed a robust gaming regulatory framework.

This development was only possible thanks to long-standing contributions from both state policymakers as well as ongoing challenges to the Nevada system by those with new and innovative ideas.

Consequently, Nevada is extensively used by other gaming jurisdictions, both domestically and internationally, as an excellent example of what works.

Most of these gaming regulations and case documents are online at the joint website for Nevada Gaming Control Board and Nevada Gaming Commission. For example, there are:

- Agendas & Dispositions
- Statutes & Regulations
- Licensee Information
- Gaming Employee Registration
- Tax Forms
- Statistics and Publications

The gaming control board well-organized structure expresses an implicit depth and breadth. For example, it consists of the following six divisions:

- Administrative
- Audits
- Enforcement
- Investigations
- Tax & License
- Technology

Also found, as a type of newsfeed timeline, are "Industry Notices & Technical Bulletins" as well as "Upcoming Events." I especially found the "I Want To..." menu to be quite an



excellent example of useful information found online at the Nevada Gaming Control Board and Nevada Gaming Commission.

This online resource shows the transparency and thoroughness of the Nevada Gaming Control Board. Need a form? Here you go. Want to submit information about a public investigation? That's here, too. How about compliance training? Yes, it has that! What about a variety of gaming legislation references? Yes, indeed, those are there are well.

Without putting too fine of a point on it, the Nevada Gaming Control Board and Nevada Gaming Commission have a comprehensive depth and breadth of information available for the world.

## NEVADA AND INTERNATIONAL GAMING JURISDICTIONS

As mentioned, Nevada's regulatory framework has developed a reputation around the globe as the leader through its 80-year history and long-standing contributions.

Legislative and government leaders, gaming commissioners, board members, and dedicated employees have made these contributions. Further contributions came from gaming lawyers, accountants, advisors, and members of the academic community who have challenged the system with continued new ideas.

At the end of 2011, for example, Nevada was the first U.S. state to have gaming regulations in place for Internet poker play despite online poker play being against U.S. law. This was indicative of Nevada gearing up for if and when federal lawmakers eventually approving legislation removing these barriers.

In the leading up to these new regulations from 2011, Nevada received attention for its leadership role for doing so, with one gambling conference in Las Vegas referring to Nevada as "the gold standard of gaming regulation."

Nevada gaming regulators, such as former chairman Dennis Neilander of the Nevada State Gaming Board, discussed with news reporters about regularly talking with government officials from around the world that look to Nevada for guidance.

In his own words, Neilander has said, "It's usually an exchange of ideas," Neilander said. "They'll ask about the structure of the agency or about best practices. How the industry is regulated differs around the world. Some things that work well in Nevada may not work as well in Singapore, Australia or Canada or among the various states."

Neilander continued this interview with the Las Vegas Sun in its 2011 article *Is Nevada still the national leader in gaming regulation?* by stating such conversations started with him saying, "Here's what works for us in Nevada. It may not work exactly like that for

you or you may need to modify it, but it's served us well." Or, "Here's what hasn't worked for us."

## SUMMARY

Nevada's leadership role is vital to you because of your state's gaming regulations matter. Slots enthusiasts can take advantage of a state's public reporting of actual payback returns to improve your baseline odds of winning.

Furthermore, the gaming industry in the U.S., and indeed, the world, is a dynamic environment. Frankly, a lot is going on. It hardly matters which gaming jurisdiction you are in either domestic or internationally. Wherever you are, change is coming.

In preparation of these changes, if you want to know what direction your state's gaming regulations might well be heading towards, try to understand how and why Nevada's example constitutes a leadership role for other gaming regulators.

Knowing more about Nevada's gaming regulatory framework will help to prepare you for those coming changes. And, hopefully, allow you to continue the level of slots play you are accustomed to or will enable you to improve on it.

As a final note regarding the relatively high reputation of Nevada's gaming regulatory framework, the Las Vegas Sun has reported "Some gaming jurisdictions have even contemplated approving licensees automatically if they've made it through a Nevada licensing investigation."

## CLOSING

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

## 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 American Samoa slot machine casino gambling in 2020. Here goes!

American Samoa slot machine casino gambling does not exist. Island residents enjoy bingo.

## Relevant Legal Statutes on Gambling on American Samoa

The minimum legal gambling age in American Samoa does not exist because all gambling activity is illegal on this U.S. island territory.

Legally, bingo is not gambling here and is a popular pastime of residents on the island.

## Slot Machine Private Ownership on American Samoa

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

The legality of private ownership of a slot machine on this island territory is unknown.

## Gaming Control Board on American Samoa

As gambling is illegal, American Samoa has no gaming control commission.

## Casinos on American Samoa

In this section, I'll discuss American Samoa gambling establishments.

There are no land-based casinos on the islands of American Samoa. Bingo exists, especially in the capital city of Pago Pago.

American Samoa's Pago Pago Cruise Port Terminal is a tourism stop for cruise ships from international destinations such as Sydney, Australia and Auckland, New Zealand.

## Non-Tribal Casinos on American Samoa

Tautua Hall, located in Pago Pago, the capital of American Samoa on the island of Tutuila, holds bingo games on Mondays thru Saturdays each week.

International cruise ships visiting the Pago Pago Cruise Terminal have onboard casinos available to passengers while cruising in international waters.

## American Indian Casinos on American Samoa

There are no tribal casinos on the U.S. island territory of American Samoa.

## Other Gambling Establishments

As an alternative to enjoying American Samoa slot machine casino gambling, consider exploring casino options in a nearby state or territory. Near American Samoa is:

- Northeast: Hawaii
- Northwest: Guam and Northern Mariana Islands

To visit any of my articles on the U.S. state and island territories, simply visit ProfessorSlots.com followed by its two-letter postal designation. For example, my Hawaii slots article is available at ProfessorSlots.com/HI.

American Samoa is located halfway between Hawaii and New Zealand in the South Pacific. Pago Pago International Airport, also known as Tafuna Airport, has weekly flights to and from Hawaii.

Hawaii is located 2,600 miles to the northeast of American Samoa. The U.S. territories of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands are 3,600 miles to the northwest.

Otherwise, Samoa, formerly known as Western Samoa, is 50 miles northwest of American Samoa. It is a former colony of the British Empire with international flight options to the U.S., Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and more.

The independent nation of Samoa approved gambling and established a gaming control commission in 2010 with the Casino and Gambling Control Act. The Gambling Control Authority regulates gaming on Samoa, including a significant horse racing track on its capital of Apia.

The principle notion for casino operations on Samoa is an operator running a junket-based business. Junkets are when an operator brings guests in from another location, houses them, and looks after their daily needs while they gamble.

Provisions of Samoa's Act does not permit locals entry to the casino. Gamblers must hold either a foreign passport or be a registered guest at a resort or hotel.

## Our American Samoa Slots Community Facebook Group

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

## Payout Returns on American Samoa

No theoretical payout limits or return statistics exist for the U.S. territory of American Samoa as gambling is illegal.

## Summary of American Samoa Slots in 2020

In summary, American Samoa slot machine casino gambling does not exist. Bingo is popular among residents but is not gambling according to the territorial government.

## Annual Progress in American Samoa Slot Machine Casino Gambling

Over the last year, there has been no change in the slots gaming industry of American Samoa.

## Call to Action (add sound effect afterward)

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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. Next week's live stream will be about what would happen if you won a \$60k hand pay jackpot. As my old martial arts instructor used to say, "Are you ready?"

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://www.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 Arizona.

## 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/episode116](https://professorslots.com/episode116).

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!