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**Standards of play:**

Ultimate Texas Hold'em features head-to-head play against the player/dealer and an optional bonus bet.

The player/dealer position will be selected as in other games approved by the Bureau of Gambling Control; and the player/dealer will only "bank" the hand (including bonus bets) for two (2) consecutive times before it is rotated in a clockwise fashion around the gaming table.

Players and the player/dealer each receive two cards. They combine them with five community cards to make their best five-card hand.

Ultimate Texas Hold'em lets players bet aggressively. The earlier they bet, the more they can risk and win. If players bet pre-flop, they may risk 3x or 4x their ante. If they bet on the flop, they may bet 2x their ante. If they wait until the river, when all community cards are out, they may only bet 1x their ante.

This game also features an optional bet, the Trips bonus. Players win the Trips bonus if their final five-card hand is three of a kind or higher. Odds will be printed on layout.

**Type of gaming table utilized for this game:**

Ultimate Texas Hold'em shall be played on a table having seven (7) places on one side for the players and the player/dealer for a total of eight seated positions, including a place for the Casino dealer on the opposite side of the table. Each Ultimate Texas Hold'em table shall have a drop box attached to it.

The layout cloth covering the table shall bear an inscription to the effect that the "Player/Dealer only plays with a pair or higher."

The wagering areas shall be designated as follows:

1. For ante wagers on the word "Ante";
2. For blind wagers on the word "Blind";
3. For trips bonus wagers on the word "Trips"; and
4. For play wagers on the word "Play."

**Number of players in the game:**

A maximum of seven players plus the player/dealer position for a total of eight seated positions.



**Type of card deck used:**

1. **Shuffling Machine:** Cards used to play Ultimate Texas Hold'em shall be dealt from an automatic card shuffling device ("shuffler").
2. **Physical Characteristics:** Cards used to play Ultimate Texas Hold'em shall be in standard decks of fifty-two (52) cards.
3. **Number of Decks:** Cards used to play Ultimate Texas Hold'em shall be played with two (2) alternating decks, each consisting of fifty-two (52) cards with backs of the same design.
  - a. The backs of the cards of the two decks are of different color;
  - b. One deck will be shuffled by the automated card shuffling device while the other deck is being dealt or used to play the game;
  - c. Both decks will be continuously alternated in and out of play, with each deck being used for every other round of play; and
  - d. The cards from only one deck shall be placed in the discard rack at any given time.

**Ranking of Hands:**

1. All suits of cards shall have the same rank.
2. Cards shall rank, from lowest to highest, as follows:
  - a. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, jack, queen, king, ace.
3. Hands of cards shall rank, from lowest to highest, as follows:
  - a. 1 Pair                      2 cards of the same value. A higher pair beating a lower pair. Aces shall be high.
  - b. 2 Pairs                      2 different sets of pairs. The highest pair has priority when comparing hands. If the high pairs are the same, then the low pairs are compared, and then the remaining card.
  - c. 3 of a Kind                3 cards of the same value.
  - d. Straight                    5 cards of any suit in sequence. An ace may be counted as high or low.



- e. Flush                    5 cards of the same suit, not in sequence. The value of the highest card in the hand shall decide the ranking between 2 flushes, and where the highest cards in both hands are the same value, the next card and so on.
- f. Full House             3 cards of the same value and a pair (two cards of the same value). The hands take their rank from the threesome.
- g. 4 of a Kind            4 cards of the same value.
- h. Straight Flush        5 cards of the same suit in sequence.
- i. Royal Flush            Ace, king, queen, jack, and 10 of the same suit.

**Betting scheme:**

1. All wagers at Ultimate Texas Hold'em shall be made by placing gaming chips on the appropriate betting areas of the table layout, keeping in mind the table minimum and maximum wagering limits.
2. All wagers shall be placed prior to the dealer announcing "No more bets." No bets shall be made, increased, or withdrawn after the dealer has announced, "No more bets."
3. Before the first card is dealt in a round, each player shall make either:
  - a. An equal wager in the "Ante" and "Blind" circles; or
  - b. An equal wager in the "Ante" and "Blind" circles and a "Trips Bonus Wager."

**An ante wager and a blind wager are required to play the round.**

4. The player/dealer will collect all losing wagers and will pay all winning wagers to the extent of their wager. Once the player/dealer's wager is exhausted, all player wagers not covered by the player/dealer will be returned to the players.

**Dealing procedures:**

1. Immediately before the start of each round of play and after all ante wagers, blind wagers, and any trips bonus wagers have been made, the casino dealer shall:
  - a. Call "No more bets"; and then
  - b. Starting on his/her left and continuing clockwise around the table, deal the cards.
2. All cards shall be dealt face down.
3. When a card shoe is used the cards shall be dealt as follows:



- a. 1 card to each wagering area containing an ante wager and blind wager and then 1 card to the player/dealer; followed by
  - b. A further card to each such wagering area and the player/dealer, so that each player and the player/dealer have 2 cards each; followed by
  - c. 5 community cards in the center of the table.
4. When an automatic shuffler is used the cards shall be dealt as follows:
- a. 2 cards at a time to each wagering area containing an ante wager and blind wager; followed by
  - b. 2 cards to the player/dealer; followed by
  - c. 5 community cards in the center of the table.
5. After the cards have been dealt and delivered to each player and the player/dealer, the dealer shall unload the remaining cards in the shuffler and place them into the discard rack without exposing the cards.

### **Round of Play**

1. After the dealing procedures above have been completed, each player shall examine his or her cards and decide whether to check (do nothing) or to make a play wager three or four times the value of their ante wager. Once players bet, they cannot bet again and they cannot change their bet.
2. When players have made their player wagers (if any), the casino dealer shall proceed to turn over the first three community cards.
3. Players who have not already made a play wager may decide to either check again or to make a play wager two times the value of their ante wager.
4. The casino dealer shall proceed to turn over the remaining two community cards (the turn and the river).
5. When all five community cards are revealed, players who have not yet made a play wager can either fold or make a play wager equal to the value of their ante wager.
6. A player who decides to fold shall place his/her cards face down on the table. The casino dealer shall then, in relation to each player who has folded:
  - a. Collect the ante wager, blind wager, any trips bonus wager (if the hand is not a 3 of a Kind or better) on behalf of the player/dealer, and the player's cards;
  - b. Individually spread out the cards, face down, and count them; and



- c. Place the cards in the discard rack.
7. For all remaining players, the casino dealer will turn over the player/dealer's two cards. Each player and the player/dealer's two cards will be combined with three of the community cards to make the best five-card poker hand.
8. When handling the cards, players shall at all times ensure that the cards remain on or above the area of the table. The cards must not be removed from the table.

**When the player/dealer does not qualify:**

9. Where the player/dealer's hand is not 1 pair or higher, the player/dealer does not qualify. Starting with the player on the player/dealer's left, the casino dealer shall:
  - a. Expose each player's cards, signal a push for the ante and return the ante wager to each player that did not fold;
  - b. Resolve the play, blind, and trips bonus bets normally (see below "When player/dealer qualifies"); and
  - c. Collect, count and place the player's cards in the discard holder.

NOTE: Ultimate Texas Hold'em handles qualifying differently than other games. When the dealer does not qualify, it is not an automatic win for the player.

**When the player/dealer qualifies:**

10. If the player/dealer's hand has a poker value of a pair or higher, the casino dealer reconciles the hands of those players who remain in the game. Starting with the player to the left of the player/dealer, the casino dealer will:
  - a. Bring the player's cards into the "work area" between the player/dealer's hand and the trips bonus wager area and reveal the player's cards;
  - b. Determine the player's best 5-card poker hand utilizing any of the 7 cards available (player's 2 hole cards and 5 community cards);
  - c. Compare the player's hand with that of the player/dealer; and
  - d. Announce the value of the player's hand and whether it wins or loses.
11. A player's hand shall:
  - a. Win if it has a higher poker value than that of the player/dealer's hand;
  - b. Lose if it has a lower poker value than that of the player/dealer's hand;



- c. Constitute a push if it has a poker value equal to that of the player/dealer's hand.
  - d. If a player wins with less than a straight, the blind bet pushes.
12. If a player's hand loses, the casino dealer shall:
- a. Collect on behalf of the player/dealer, in order, the play, ante and blind wagers;
  - b. Determine whether the trips bonus wager qualifies and pay accordingly on behalf of the player/dealer; and
  - c. Collect, count and place the player's cards in the discard holder.
13. If a player's hand wins, the casino dealer shall on behalf of the player/dealer:
- a. Pay the ante wager and play wager on the hand;
  - b. Pay the blind wager if the hand is a straight or better;
  - c. Pay any trips bonus wager if the hand is a 3 of a kind or better; and
  - d. Collect, count and place the payer's cards in the discard holder.
14. If a player's hand constitutes a push, the casino dealer shall:
- a. Pay any trips bonus wager if the hand is a 3 of a kind or better;
  - b. Collect, count and place the player's cards in the discard holder.
15. Winning ante wagers and play wagers shall be paid 1 to 1.
16. Winning blind wager and trips bonus wagers shall be paid in accordance with the approved pay table for the cardroom.
17. Where a player has made a trips bonus wager at the beginning of the round and has received a 3 of a Kind or higher, the casino dealer shall leave the particular cards face up on the table and those cards shall not be collected or discarded until the payout on the hand has been made.
18. If the player receives a 3 of a Kind or higher, the trips bonus payouts are made regardless of whether the hand wins, loses, or pushes.
- NOTE: If the player has a 3 of a Kind or better, the trips bet always wins – even if the player folds.
19. The player/dealer is never required to cover all opposing players' wagers. Payoffs of wagers are limited to the amount of the player/dealer wager. The house never participates as the player/dealer.



The house never takes a percentage of wagers placed in the game. There is no maximum on the player/dealer's wager.

20. The player/dealer position rotates in a systematic and continuous way among the seated players, and no one player may serve as the player/dealer for more than two consecutive hands. The player/dealer button rotates clockwise around the table.



**\*\*Cardrooms must select only one table from the pay table options. Please designate on your cover letter which pay table you would like to utilize.\*\***

### Ultimate Texas Hold'em Paytables

| Hand            | UTH-01      |          | UTH-02      |          | UTH-03      |          | UTH-04      |          |
|-----------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|
|                 | Trips Bonus | Blind    |
| Royal Flush     | 50 to 1     | 500 to 1 |
| Straight Flush  | 40 to 1     | 50 to 1  |
| Four of a Kind  | 30 to 1     | 10 to 1  | 30 to 1     | 10 to 1  | 30 to 1     | 10 to 1  | 20 to 1     | 10 to 1  |
| Full House      | 9 to 1      | 3 to 1   | 8 to 1      | 3 to 1   | 8 to 1      | 3 to 1   | 7 to 1      | 3 to 1   |
| Flush           | 7 to 1      | 3 to 2   | 6 to 1      | 3 to 2   | 7 to 1      | 3 to 2   | 6 to 1      | 3 to 2   |
| Straight        | 4 to 1      | 1 to 1   | 5 to 1      | 1 to 1   | 4 to 1      | 1 to 1   | 5 to 1      | 1 to 1   |
| Three of a Kind | 3 to 1      |          |



**Glossary of terms used in the controlled game:**

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Ante Wager</b>        | The initial wager placed by a player in the ante circle.   |
| <b>Blind Wager</b>       | The initial wager that must be equal to the ante wager placed by each player in the blind circle. Unlike a blind bet made in a standard Poker game, this payout for this bet is based on the value of the hand made by the player. This bet is paid if the player gets a straight or better. |
| <b>Check</b>             | To pass on placing a play wager.   |
| <b>Community Cards</b>   | Cards dealt face upward which can be used by all players to complete their best possible hand.   |
| <b>Fold</b>              | In relation to a hand of cards, means to no longer continue with the hand.   |
| <b>Play Wager</b>        | An additional wager made by a player on his/her hand.  |
| <b>Player/Dealer</b>     | Seated-position that, for any given hand of play, all other players at the table are playing against. The player in that position is also referred to as the player/dealer.  |
| <b>Poker Value</b>       | In relation to a hand of cards, the ranking of that hand as determined by the ranking of hands in the rules.   |
| <b>Round of Play</b>     | One complete cycle of play during which all wagers have been placed, all cards have been dealt and all remaining wagers have been paid off or collected in accordance with the game rules.   |
| <b>Trips Bonus Wager</b> | An additional wager which is paid if the player gets 3 of a kind or higher regardless of whether he or she beats the player/dealer.  |