



# DIVISION OF GAMBLING CONTROL

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NUMBER 2

TRIBAL CASINO ADVISORY

APRIL 30, 2004

## CALIFORNIA ROULETTE AND CALIFORNIA CRAPS AS HOUSE-BANKED CARD GAMES

**In furtherance of the Government-to-Government relationship existing between the State and the Indian Tribes of California that are authorized by Tribal State Gaming Compacts now in force to conduct Class III gaming, the Division of Gambling Control, as a component of the State Gaming Agency identified in those Compacts, will from time to time provide information in the form of advisories concerning its practices on matters within the scope of its responsibility under those Compacts. The purpose of an advisory is informational. An advisory does not constitute legal advice.**

A California casino has added two new games, California Roulette and California Craps, to their list of approved games. California Roulette is very similar to the traditional game of roulette, with the exception that cards are used rather than a ball-bearing wheel, and the types of bets permitted. California Craps is also very similar to the traditional game of craps, with the exception that cards are used rather than dice, and the types of bets permitted.

*California Roulette:* This game uses a deck of 38 cards, with each number having a suit and color similar to a traditional deck of playing cards. The cards are numbered identical to the numbers found on a roulette wheel. To play the game, wagers are placed on single or multiple numbers, or on colors, and the cards are placed in an automatic shuffler, which the dealer activates to produce a card. The card produced determines the winning and losing bets. Players can make all the basic roulette bets based on a selection of numbers or color. The player can also bet on the suit of the card that will be drawn, and on the card that will be ejected from the shuffler last after the draw is taken. To make this last bet, a player bets the last card is either between 1 and 18 or 19 and 36. The Division does not consider California Roulette to be the game of roulette because California Roulette is a banked card game. The game of roulette is specifically prohibited by name as being illegal to deal, play, carry on, open, cause to be opened, or conducted, under California law.

*California Craps:* In this game players bet on the outcome of the initial and subsequent card draws, with the course of the game determined by the card draws. The object of the game is the placement of a successful bet. To play the game, six cards, consisting of an Ace, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 are placed in each of two mechanical card shufflers. When the dealer pushes a button, one card is randomly ejected from each machine, and the total of both cards is used to establish the "point." The cards used to determine the "point" are placed back into their respective decks and all of the cards are returned to the shuffler for a second draw. The second and subsequent draws determine the winners and losers of most game bets and whether the game will continue.

Players can make all the basic bets traditionally placed in the game of craps, as well as two unique bets, “Top Card” and “California Craps Straight.” The Division does not consider California Craps to be the game of Craps because California Craps is a banked **card** game. **(The game of Craps is a banked game played in which dice determine the outcome and for that reason is illegal to deal, carry on, open, cause to be opened, or conducted, under California law.)**

The Division of Gambling Control considers California Roulette and California Craps, as described, to be house-banked card games which may be offered by the Tribes at their casinos if the Tribe has a signed Compact with the State of California.

*For more information regarding this advisory, contact the California Department of Justice, Division of Gambling Control, at (916) 263-3408.*