

DATE: April 12, 2024

Approved: Omar J. Marrero Díaz

Secretary of State

Department of State Government of Puerto Rico

AMENDMENT TO THE BETTING REGULATION, REGULATION NUMBER 8945 OF **APRIL 6, 2017**

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CHAPTER I. TITLE, LEGAL BASIS, PURPOSE, APPLICABILITY, AND INTERPRETATION.

Section 1.1- Title

This Regulation shall be known as the "Amendment to the Betting Regulation, Regulation Number 8945 of April 6, 2017".

Section 1.2- Legal Basis

This Regulation is promulgated pursuant to Act No. 81-2019, as amended, known as the *Government of Puerto Rico Gaming Commission Act*; Act No. 83 of July 2, 1987, as amended, known as the *Puerto Rico Horse Racing Industry and Sport Act*; and Act No. 38-2017, as amended, known as the *Government of Puerto Rico Uniform Administrative Procedures Act*.

Section 1.3- Purpose

The Puerto Rico Gaming Commission hereby approves these Regulations to amend Section 1603 of Article XVI of the Betting Regulations, Regulation No. 8945 of April 6, 2017, with the aim of codifying the redistribution of payments to winners of the Pool of Six.

Historically, the Pool of Six has been the most popular betting modality among followers of the horse racing industry. However, in recent years, the percentage of play in the Pool of Six has decreased. Recognizing that the horse racing industry heavily relies on revenue generated from betting, it is necessary to modify the distribution of winnings to enhance play in the Pool of Six.

Currently, the player who matches the six (6) winning horses for each race receives sixty percent (60%) of the revenues collected, while the player who matches five (5) winning horses receives forty percent (40%). The amendments adopted through these regulations aim to make the Pool of Six more attractive by increasing the percentage received by the player who matches the six (6) winning horses for each race.

Section 1.4- Applicability

This Regulation shall apply to the acceptance and taking of bets on live thoroughbred horse races and all other races on which the Board of Commissioners authorizes the acceptance and taking of bets, as provided and described herein. Likewise, it shall apply to bets made by any person authorized by the Board and to any person accepting such bets, so that, in conjunction with the complementary regulations of the Horse Racing Bureau, the mandate set forth in the Horse Racing Law is fulfilled, ensuring that races are conducted with the utmost transparency and reliability.

Section 1.5- Interpretation

The words and phrases in this Regulation shall be interpreted according to the context and meaning sanctioned by common and ordinary usage. Terms used in the present tense also include the future; those used in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter, except where such interpretation would result in absurdity; the singular number includes the plural and the plural includes the singular.

This Regulation shall be read in conjunction with other regulatory bodies applicable to the horse racing industry, which are considered supplementary insofar as they are not included in this Regulation.

CHAPTER II. DEFINITIONS

Section 2.1- Definitions

For the purposes of this regulation, the following terms and phrases shall have the meanings as expressed below:

a. Pool of Six: Authorized betting modality in which the bettor can select and combine one or more horses for each race so that one of them finishes in the first position, in each of the races designated for this type of bet.

CHAPTER III. AMENDMENTS

Section 3.1- Amendment to Article XVI of the Betting Regulation

The Section 1603 under Article XVI of the Betting Regulation, supra, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"ARTICLE XVI: POOL OF SIX.

1601.- ...

1602.- ...

1603- Distribution:

- a. In races held in Puerto Rico, the percentage established by the Board of Commissioners through Administrative Order shall be allocated from the Pool of Six corresponding to the winning combinations, and this amount shall be paid into the Special Account of the "Poolpote," as stipulated in Regulation No. 8945.
- b. The remaining amount of the Pool from races held in Puerto Rico, which corresponds to the winning combinations, will be distributed as follows:

- 1. Seventy-five percent (75%) for the combinations matching the highest number of winning horses, referred to as first winners.
- 2. Twenty-five percent (25%) for the combinations matching the highest number of winners except one, two, three, four, or five, as the case may be, referred to as second winners.

1604.- ...

CHAPTER IV. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 4.1- Amendment

This Regulation expressly amends Chapter 4, Article XVI, Section 1603 of Regulation No. 8945 known as the 'Betting Regulation,' approved on April 6, 2017.

This Regulation may be amended at any time in accordance with Act No. 38-2017, *supra*, Act No. 81-2019, *supra*, and Act No. 83 of July 2, 1987, *supra*.

Section 4.2- Severability Clause

If any provision, word, sentence, phrase, section, article, or topic of this Regulation is declared unconstitutional or void by a Court of Justice, such determination shall not affect or invalidate the remaining provisions of this Regulation."

Section 4.3- Validity

This Regulation shall be effective thirty (30) days after its submission to the Department of State of Puerto Rico.

Section 4.4- Approval

In accordance with the provisions of Act No. 81-2019, *supra*, Act No. 83 del 2 de julio de 1987, *supra*, and Act No. 38-2017, *supra*, the Puerto Rico Gaming Commission **APPROVES** this Regulation today, february 7, 2024 in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

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