

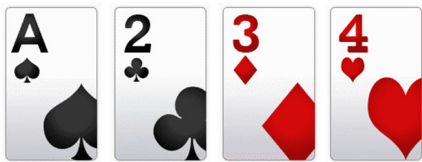
WASHINGTON STATE GAMBLING COMMISSION

BADUGI

Overview

1. Badugi is a nonpatented nonhouse-banked poker card game. It is played as a “lowball” poker game.
2. Badugi is played using one standard deck of 52 cards. Joker cards are not used in the game. Badugi can be played with 2-8 players on one poker table.
3. Badugi is a draw game, meaning that after the cards are dealt, each player will have the opportunity to discard any number of cards from their hand and receive new cards to improve their hand. Badugi has three of these draw opportunities during the course of the game.
4. The object of the game is to form the lowest four-card poker hand according to the rules below:
 - Card suits are used in the game to determine hand strength;
 - The ace is always low in the game;
 - Straights do not count;
 - Where a player has two or more cards of the same suit, only the lowest one counts toward the player’s hand;
 - Where a player has a pair, only one of the cards count towards the player’s hand;
 - A four-card hand of four different suits and no pairs is called a “Badugi”;
 - The lowest four-card “Badugi” hand wins the pot. If there are no four-card “Badugis,” then the lowest three-card hand wins the pot, and so on.
5. Badugi hand rankings are as follows:

a. Badugi



Four-card hand “Badugi” (four different suits). If multiple players have a “Badugi,” the player with the lowest high card wins.

b. Three-Card Hand



Since the hand above has two spades (2 and 3), only one of them counts. Therefore, this hand is a three-card low hand of 2-4-5.

c. Two-Card Hand



The hand above has two spades (3 and 5), so only one of them counts. In addition, the hand contains a pair, so only one of the cards in the pair counts. Therefore, this hand is a two-card low hand of a 3-4.

d. One-Card Hand



The hand above has four cards in the same suit, so only one of them counts. Therefore, this hand is a one-card low hand of a 2.

Note: If multiple players have the same number hand (e.g. 3-card hand) and the same highest card, the player with the next lowest card wins. Discounted cards are never used to break ties. For example, if player #1 has 8-5-3 and player #2 has 8-5-2, they would both have a 3-card hand with an 8 as the highest card. Their next highest card (5) is also the same value. Player #2 would win the pot because the last card (2) is lower than player #1's last card (3).

Betting and Dealing Procedures

1. Badugi may be played with forced antes for all players or a traditional poker betting structure involving blinds. Wagering limits and betting rounds must adhere to WAC 230-15-135.
2. Cards may be shuffled by the dealer or by an approved shuffle machine. After the cards are shuffled, the dealer deals each player four cards face-down. A round of betting takes place.
3. After the first round of betting, the first draw takes place starting with the player to the dealer's immediate left. Note: If a dealer button is used, the first draw would take place starting with the player to the button's immediate left. Each player may discard any number of their cards in exchange for new cards. After all players have the chance to draw additional cards, another round of betting takes place.
4. After the second round of betting, the second draw takes place starting with the player to the dealer's immediate left. After all players have the chance to draw additional cards, another round of betting takes place.

5. After the third round of betting, the third draw takes place starting with the player to the dealer's immediate left. After all players have the chance to draw additional cards, the last round of betting takes place. Overall, there are four betting rounds.
6. The player with the lowest hand wins the pot. Any "Badugi" (i.e. four-card hand) beats any three-card hand. Any three-card hand beats a two-card hand. Any two-card hand beats a one-card hand.

Irregularities

Card room operators must document in their internal controls how they will address various irregularities applicable to Badgui (e.g. misdeals, cards exposed, incorrect number of cards, etc.).

Card room operators may make immaterial modifications to these game rules. However, the changes must be properly documented in their internal controls. All other WAC rules related to the operation of nonhouse-banked card games must be followed where applicable.