



**Staff Proposed Rule Making
New, Amended, and Repealed Rules**

WAC 230-03-018, 230-05-126, 230-05-132, 230-05-160, 230-05-170
New Rule WAC 230-03-028 & 230-06-048

**July 2025 – Discussion only
May 2024 – Initiate Rule Making**

Tab 7: July 2025 Commission Meeting Agenda.

Statutory Authority 9.46.070

Who Proposed the Rule Change?

Washington State Gambling Commission Staff

Background

BOLD = Changes made since May 2024 Commission Meeting

The Washington State Gambling Commission has been working to replace the current legacy IT systems since March 2023 in an effort to modernize technology. As we approach implementation of the new IT systems, commission staff has identified several chapters of WAC Title 230 that will need to be updated. These rule changes will correspond to the new capabilities of the new IT system and allow for more efficient processes for staff, licensees, and applicants. For example, the new IT systems will allow for electronic submission of documents, electronic notification, and electronic service of documents.

These rule changes will likely affect several different WAC chapters, including but not limited to permitting and licensing rules (230-03), fees (230-05), rules for all licensees (230-06), fund-raising event rules (230-09), bingo rules (230-10), and hearing rules (230-17).

At the May 2024 Commission meeting, Commissioners approved initial rulemaking to address necessary changes associated with IT modernization. Since the May 2024 Commission meeting, staff have worked with contractors to develop new IT systems. As we near implementation of the new systems, staff have identified the following rules to be created or amended:

- WAC 230-03-018 One annual change of bingo premises allowed. This proposed rule change simplifies the application.
- WAC 230-03-028 (NEW RULE) Online application requirements. The goal is to have all applicants, licensees and permit holders to apply online. However, in the case of individuals who are unable to do so, this allows for a waiver for good cause. Good cause for preventing submissions online would apply to those who don't have access to the internet or another circumstance which would prevent an individual from submitting online.
- WAC 230-05-126 Online filing and payments required with waivers available upon request for good cause. Polaris will create a more efficient and streamlined process for filing reports and paying fees online for licensees. This rule changes clarifies who must file reports and pay fees online. This will allow for waivers if an individual is unable to do so online. Waivers will be granted for good cause such as if an individual does not have internet access.
- WAC 230-05-132 Late filing of quarterly license reports or late payments of quarterly license fees – Penalties. The proposed changes:
 - Clarify the due date of the quarterly license fee to be due at the end of the month following instead of 30 days.
 - Allow us to extend filing requirements for quarterly reports.
 - Allow licensees additional time or the ability to have fees waived for good cause.

- **WAC 230-06-048 (NEW RULE) Gambling equipment inquiries.** Inquiries for us to determine if equipment meets the definition of gambling equipment require an application and a deposit before we conduct the review. Inquiry submissions will be accepted online with a flat fee:
 - The proposed changes would require amendments to WAC 230-05-160 and WAC 230-05-170 as well to establish the associated fee.

Attachments:

- New and revised WAC 230-03, WAC 230-05, and 230-06 sections.

| |
|---------------------------------------------|
| Staff Recommendation |
| These rules are for discussion only. |

WAC 230-03-018 One annual change of bingo premises

allowed. (1) Once each license year, a bingo licensee may apply to play bingo at a different location (special property bingo).

(2) The bingo activity is limited to:

(a) Three consecutive days; and

(b) Sixteen consecutive hours each day.

(3) The application must be submitted ~~include the following information and fee,~~ at least fifteen days before the event. ~~first date, which includes:~~

~~(a) Name and address of the proposed location and dates of activity; and~~

~~(b) Names and addresses of all persons who have an interest of any kind in those premises; and~~

~~(c) Amount of rent, if any, that would be paid for the use of the premises; and~~

~~(d) Rent calculation.~~

(4) The special property bingo permit must be posted on the premises during the event.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 9.46.070. WSR 08-03-062 (Order 623), § 230-03-018, filed 1/14/08, effective 2/14/08.]

WAC 230-03-028 Online filing required. (1) All applicants, licensees, and permit holders must submit the following, if available, online:

(a) All new, renewal, and change applications, and

(b) Gambling equipment submissions and inquiries.

(2) If you are unable to submit online, you must request a waiver in writing. Waivers will be granted if an individual or organization can show good cause. The reasons for good cause include:

(a) You do not have access to the internet using your own computer or similar equipment; or

(b) Some other circumstance or condition exists that, in our judgment, prevents you from submitting online.

**WAC 230-05-126 Online filing ~~and payments~~ required with
waivers available upon request for good cause.** (1) All
licensees must submit the following online, where applicable:

- (a) Renewal application and base license fees; and
- (b) Quarterly license fees; and
- (c) Quarterly license reports.

(2) We may waive these requirements if a licensed
individual or organization can show good cause. The reasons for
good cause include:

(a) You do not have access to the internet using your own
computer or similar equipment; or

~~(b) You do not have a bank account; or~~
~~(c) Your bank is unable to send electronic fund
transactions; or~~

~~(d)~~ (e) Some other circumstance or condition exists that, in
our judgment, prevents you from submitting online.

~~(3) We may waive these requirements if a licensed
individual can show good cause. The reasons for good cause
include:~~

~~(a) You do not have access to the internet using your own computer or similar equipment; or~~

~~(b) You do not have a bank account or credit card; or~~

~~(c) Your bank is unable to send electronic fund transactions; or~~

~~(d) Some other circumstance or condition exists that, in our judgment, prevents you from submitting online.~~

~~(4) You must request a waiver when applying for a new license or permit.~~

(53) A waiver will cover all fees and reports required under subsection (1) of this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 9.46.070, 9.46.075, 9.46.140, 9.46.153, 9.46.210. WSR 21-16-072, § 230-05-126, filed 7/30/21, effective 8/30/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 9.46.070. WSR 18-05-026, § 230-05-126, filed 2/9/18, effective 5/1/18.]

WAC 230-05-132 Late filing of quarterly license reports or late payment of quarterly license fees—Penalties. (1) Licensees who do not file their quarterly license reports and/or pay quarterly license fees by the end of the month following within

~~thirty days from~~ the end of each quarter are in violation of this chapter.

(2) The commission may, for good cause shown in writing, extend the time for making and filing any return, and may grant such reasonable additional time within which to make and file returns as it may deem proper.

(3) Licensees will be afforded one thirty-day late filing and payment period after their quarterly license reports and quarterly license fees are due. However, a twenty-five dollar fee will be charged for each day a licensee fails to file a quarterly license report or pay quarterly license fees during the thirty-day late filing and payment period.

(3) A licensee's failure to file quarterly license reports or pay quarterly license fees during the thirty-day late filing and payment period could result in administrative action against your licenses.

(4) The commission may, for good cause shown in writing, reduce or waive late filing fees as it may deem proper.

~~(4)~~ (5) Licensees will be responsible for paying any outstanding license fees including, but not limited to, late

fees and any additional costs associated with the collection of these fees before a license suspension is lifted or a new licensing application is approved.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 9.46.070. WSR 18-05-026, § 230-05-132, filed 2/9/18, effective 5/1/18.]

WAC 230-05-160 Charitable or nonprofit organization fees.

Bona fide charitable and nonprofit organizations must pay the following fees:

(1) Annual licenses:

| License Type | Base License Fee | Gross Gambling Receipts Rate | Maximum Annual License Fee |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Amusement games | \$70 plus \$70 per approved location | 0.774% | \$1,600 |
| Bingo | \$70 | 0.488% | \$17,600 |
| Card games - House-banked | \$11,000 | 1.550% | \$64,000 |
| Card games - Nonhouse-banked | \$70 | 0.456% | \$1,600 |
| Combination | \$140 | - | - |
| Fund-raising equipment distributor | \$295 | 1.516% | \$1,120 |
| Punch board/pull-tabs | \$715 | 1.516% | \$16,000 |
| Raffles | \$70 | 3.583% | \$3,200 |
| Raffles - Credit Union | \$70 | 3.583% | \$3,200 |
| Raffles - Enhanced | \$5,500 | 0.456% | \$51,200 |
| Raffles - Electronic* | \$5,500 | 3.583% | \$51,200 |

* Commission will bill for actual expenses related to verifying/investigating electronic raffle operating and system requirements.

(2) Event licenses or permits:

| License Type | Base License Fee | Gross Gambling Receipts Rate | Maximum Annual License Fee |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Fund-raising event | \$200 | 3.318% | \$1,600 |
| Recreational gaming activity | \$70 | - | - |
| Special property bingo/change of bingo premises | \$35 | - | - |

(3) Change fees:

| Change of: | Fee |
|--------------------------------------------|-------|
| Name | \$110 |
| Location | \$110 |
| Fund-raising event location, date, or time | \$55 |

(4) Other fees:

| Transaction | Fee |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Add a new amusement game location | \$70 |
| Duplicate license | \$55 |
| Review, inspection, and/or evaluation of gambling equipment, supplies, services, games, or schemes | Deposit and cost reimbursement |
| <u>Gambling equipment inquires</u> | <u>\$500</u> |

[Statutory Authority: RCW 9.46.070. WSR 23-11-093, § 230-05-160, filed 5/18/23, effective 6/18/23; WSR 21-21-079, § 230-05-160, filed 10/18/21, effective 11/18/21; WSR 20-04-011, § 230-05-160, filed 1/24/20, effective 2/24/20; WSR 18-05-026, § 230-05-160, filed 2/9/18, effective 5/1/18.]

WAC 230-05-170 Fees for other businesses. All other

business organizations must pay the following fees:

(1) Annual licenses or permits:

| License Type | Base License Fee | Gross Gambling Receipts Rate | Maximum Annual License Fee |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Agricultural fair bingo (annual permit) | \$220 | - | - |
| Call centers for enhanced raffles | \$5,280 | - | - |
| Commercial amusement games | \$550 plus \$70 per approved location | 1.198% | \$17,600 |
| Distributor | \$770 | 1.516% | \$11,200 |
| Fund-raising event distributor | \$310 | 1.516% | \$1,600 |
| Linked bingo prize providers | \$1,650 | 0.048% | \$32,000 |
| Manufacturer | \$1,650 | 1.516% | \$40,000 |
| Manufacturer's special sales permit | \$275 | - | - |

| License Type | Base License Fee | Gross Gambling Receipts Rate | Maximum Annual License Fee |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Punch board/pull-tab service business permit | \$275 | - | - |
| Gambling service supplier | \$330 | 1.516% | \$11,200 |
| Major sports wagering vendor | \$30,000 | - | - |
| Mid-level sports wagering vendor | \$5,000 | - | - |
| Ancillary sports wagering vendor | \$2,000 | - | - |

(2) Events or permits:

| License or Permit Type | Base License Fee | Gross Gambling Receipts Rate | Maximum Annual License Fee |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Recreational gaming activity | \$70 | - | - |
| Special property bingo | \$35 | - | - |

(3) Change fees:

| Change of: | Fee |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name | \$110 |
| Location | \$110 |
| Business classification (same owners) | \$110 |
| Corporate stock/limited liability company shares/units | \$110, and cost reimbursement for investigating the transaction and qualification of each substantial interest holder |
| License transfers | \$110 |

(4) Other fees:

| Transaction | Fee |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Add a new amusement game location | \$70 |
| Defective punch board/pull-tab cost recovery fees | Up to \$110 |
| Duplicate license | \$55 |
| Pre- and post-licensing investigations | Cost reimbursement |
| Review, inspection, and/or evaluation of gambling equipment, supplies, | Deposit and cost reimbursement |

| Transaction | Fee |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| services, games, schemes, or group 12 amusement games | |
| <u>Gambling equipment inquires</u> | <u>\$500</u> |

[Statutory Authority: RCW 9.46.070. WSR 23-11-093, § 230-05-170, filed 5/18/23, effective 6/18/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 9.46.070, 9.46.075, 9.46.140, 9.46.153, 9.46.210. WSR 21-16-072, § 230-05-170, filed 7/30/21, effective 8/30/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 9.46.070. WSR 18-11-055, § 230-05-170, filed 5/10/18, effective 6/10/18.]

WAC 230-06-048 Gambling Equipment Inquires. You must submit an inquiry and pay associated fees to our Agency to determine if your equipment qualifies as gambling equipment, supplies, services, or games.