

University Policy Regarding Gambling Events
(Including Texas Hold'Em Poker, Casino Nights, Raffles (Games of Chance)
and Internet Gambling)

Over the course of the year there have been several discussions about the opportunity for registered student organizations to hold Texas Hold'Em Poker events, Casino Nights and other games of chance as recreational or charitable fundraising events. Since there seemed to be conflicting information coming from various contacts, the University asked outside legal counsel for research and advice on these questions. The University was advised as follows:

Texas Hold'Em Poker

1. The Division of Gaming Enforcement of the New Jersey Attorney General's Office does not specifically recognize Texas Hold'Em Poker as a licensable game of chance at this time. Any organization sponsoring an event for charitable or educational purposes (e.g., a casino night) cannot include Texas Hold'Em Poker as part of the event.
2. There is no prohibition on playing Texas Hold'Em Poker for strictly recreational purposes, which means that no fees may be charged to enter / play and no prizes or other benefits may be awarded to winners. Under these very narrow circumstances, (no entry fees, no prizes or benefits (no cash, no gifts, awards, etc.), Texas Hold'Em Poker (or any other game) would not fall within the definition of a "game of chance".
3. However, given the potential difficulty in policing student play so that it remains strictly recreational (no side bets, etc), outside counsel advises against the University sponsoring or being affiliated with any student or other organization that wishes to hold an event where Texas Hold'Em Poker is to be played.
4. Therefore, Texas Hold'Em Poker is not to be included as a component of any student activity programming, fraternity / sorority programming activity, residential life programming, intercollegiate, intramural / recreational or club sport activity. As such, Texas Hold'Em Poker is not a sanctioned activity and violations could be subject to University sanction.

Casino Nights / Other Games of Chance

1. In order for a qualified organization to conduct a casino night (or other games of chance, bingo / raffles), proper procedure requires:
 - a. contacting the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission (973-273-8000) to apply for an identification number
 - b. upon obtaining an ID b. number, the organization must make application to the municipality where the game / event is to be held (e.g.. Camden City) which application must then be approved by the City Council for that municipality
 - c. The approved municipal application must then be submitted to the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission for final approval.
 - d. The entire process can require several weeks.
2. Organizations hosting casino nights must hire a qualified casino night equipment provider approved by the Commission to provide equipment and run the event. There are certain types of prizes that are not permitted. Questions on permissible prizes should be reviewed with the Office of General Counsel prior to the event.

Internet Gambling

Though difficult to police, all forms of internet gambling are currently illegal. If you have any questions, please contact the Director of the Campus Center.