

Progressive Jackpot Dispersals

Fact Sheet

This fact sheet provides information on Progressive Jackpot Dispersals

What are Progressive Jackpots?

Progressive jackpots are prize amounts on a gaming machine that accumulate as the machine is played. These amounts consist of monies provided by patrons when playing gaming machines.

What are Progressive Jackpot Dispersals?

Progressive Jackpot Dispersals (dispersals) are the accumulated gaming machine progressive prize/jackpot amounts left on a machine when it is either disposed or converted. Examples of disposal or conversion of a gaming machine may include the replacement/removal of a machine or the updating of software.

The intent of dispersals is to return accumulated jackpot amounts to patrons through appropriate 'dispersal' to progressive jackpot machines or systems within the venue, or to transfer these amounts via payment to the Secretary. Amounts transferred to the Secretary are paid into the Community Development Fund (for payments from hotels) and into the ClubGRANTS Fund (for payments from registered clubs).

What happens to a dispersal when a gaming machine is disposed or converted?

At times, venues may seek authorisation to replace, update, remove, or disconnect gaming machines from the premises through qualified gaming technicians. These changes are authorised by the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority (Authority) through the Centralised Monitoring System (CMS), via Quickchange, maintained by MAX.

When a machine is disposed or converted, any accumulated jackpot amounts from that machine are recorded in the CMS. If the amount is not immediately transferred to a progressive machine/system or payment to the Secretary has not been made, the remaining amount is recorded as an outstanding financial liability for the venue.

What are the methods of actioning dispersals?

Section 82(2) of the Gaming Machines Regulation 2019 (GMR) provides three methods of actioning dispersals:

1. any accumulated progressive jackpot amounts are transferred to an authorised progressive gaming machine or an authorised progressive system in the hotel or on the premises of the club, or
2. any accumulated progressive jackpot amounts are paid to the Secretary, or

3. the Authority, in exceptional circumstances, approves of an alternative proposal to use any accumulated progressive jackpot amounts and the Authority is satisfied that those amounts are to be used in accordance with that proposal

When must a dispersal be actioned?

Section 82(2) of the GMR states that transfers and payments to the Secretary must occur at the time of disposal/conversion of the machine.

Approvals from the Authority for an alternative proposal must be obtained prior to disposal/conversion of the machine.

Approved alternative proposals must be actioned within the time frame designated by the Authority.

Compliance

Instances of non-compliance may result in enforcement action, whereby a maximum of 50 penalty units may apply.

Contact

To find out more about dispersals, contact L&GNSW:

Online: liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au
Phone: 1300 024 720

You can also access gaming machine legislation at legislation.nsw.gov.au.

For enquiries, or to submit an application to the Authority for an alternative proposal, please contact the Probity & Approvals, Gaming & Wagering Team at gaming.probity@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au.