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Games Department Three Card Poker Manual



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INTRODUCTION

Three Card Poker is an exciting new poker derivative game which offers two games in one with three ways to play and four ways to win. Three Card Poker is a three-card stud poker game

played with one 52 card deck, with no joker. The player and dealer each get three cards. The layout consists of seven positions with each position having three spaces marked "Ante", "Play", "Pair Plus" and "6 Card Bonus", respectively. A bet against the dealer may be made and is called the "Ante", which after seeing the hand, can be backed up by a bet of the same amount called the "Play". If the player does not wish to make the play bet, he folds, and his ante is taken forfeit. The last bets, called "Pair Plus" and "6 Card Bonus", are bets on the hand value and do not play against the dealer.

The player may bet the **Ante OR Pair Plus, the Ante AND Pair Plus, Ante AND 6 Card Bonus, OR all three bets**. The player cannot bet on the "6 Card Bonus" itself alone.

The Ante or Pair Plus, Ante and Pair Plus, Ante and 6 card bonus or all three are the opening bets for the players. Once these bets are made the cards are ready to be dealt.

If the player has made an Ante bet and believes that he can beat the dealer's hand with the three cards dealt to him, he may make an additional **Play** wager **equal** to the **Ante** bet. Once all Play bets have been made, the dealer will turn his cards over and arrange them in the best three-card hand. The dealer then in turn reveals the hands of each player and pays or takes the bet(s) as appropriate.

There is also an optional Three Card Poker Progressive wager. Players must make either or both Ante wager **OR** Pair Plus wager to place the Three card Poker Progressive side bet. All bets must be made prior to any cards being dealt to the players.

OPENING THE TABLE FOR PLAY

- A. A Three Card Poker deck consists of 52 playing cards. All jokers are removed and are not to be used.
- B. When a new deck is put into play, the seal will be broken, and the deck opened by the casino games supervisor at the table where it is to be put into action. The casino games supervisor and the dealer will check both the front and back of all the cards for any flaws or marks. The cards will be washed, shuffled, and then cut by the dealer. Should any abnormalities appear, the Table Games Supervisor and Pit Manager will be notified immediately, and the deck replaced.
- C. Once a deck has been put into play, it is the dealer's responsibility to ensure that it is kept in good condition.
- D. Decks will be changed no more than approximately every 4 hours throughout the gaming day and at the discretion of the Table Games Supervisor.
- E. The Dealer may ask for a new deck at any time they believe it is necessary, because of the cards sticking together or any abnormality occurring during play.

SHUFFLING PROCEDURES

Automatic Shuffler

- A. Two (2) different colored single decks will be used.
- B. While one deck is in play, the automatic shuffler will be shuffling the other deck.
- C. Dealer and Table Games Supervisor will inspect both decks, front and back, for any flaws or marks.
- D. One deck will be put into the discard rack while the Dealer washes, shuffles the other and loads the other deck into the automatic shuffler. The deck in the discard rack will now be washed, shuffled, and then spread face down on the layout until ready for play. Any new cards will be washed and shuffled before being put into the automatic shuffler.
- E. When there is a malfunction with the automatic shuffler, a backup automatic shuffler will be exchanged on the game, if available, or the Dealer will shuffle by hand.
- F. Incorrect number of cards to any player OR the dealer will constitute a misdeal for the entire table. **An exception would be if the Dealer omits the third card the Dealer Hand and is realized prior to any player discarding.**
- G. After shuffling the automatic shuffler, the Dealer will deal out three (3) consecutive cards which the dealer will distribute to each player and themselves. Before the dealer gives themselves cards, they will insert a cut card into the ejection tray lifting out his cards with the cut card underneath. (This is used to ensure that the bottom cards are not exposed).
- H. After each hand is complete the dealer will box, spin, riffle the cards and cut one time before placing in the automatic shuffler.

Standard Shuffle (used for changing cards only)

– must use machine to shuffle on game with Three Card Progressive wager payout -

- A. A standard shuffle is performed to ensure a consistent, random mix of cards.
- B. Since the dealer will shuffle the deck of cards with every hand, it will not be necessary to call "shuffle" before shuffling the cards.
- C. The shuffle will consist of the dealer demonstrating a box, spin, square and then separating the deck into two equal stacks then riffling.
 - 1. The deck will be shuffled twice as described above (without a spin).
 - 2. The deck will then be "stripped".

3. Repeat steps 1 & 2
 4. End with one more riffle and cut.
- D. Once the deck has been shuffled, the Dealer (not the players) will cut the deck. The deck will be cut by placing the cut card in front of the deck and then cut the top half of the deck with one hand onto the cut card. The bottom half of the deck will then be placed on the top half of the deck. The dealer will always attempt to cut as close to the middle as possible. No cut card is needed when putting the cards into a shuffle machine.
- E. While shuffling the dealer observes to see if all players electing to play the ante bet have done so. The dealer will check that all the players electing to play the pair plus bet have also done so.
- F. Upon a new deck being entered into play and after it has been inspected and counted, it will be washed by the Dealer. To complete a proper wash of the cards, the dealer will put all the cards from one deck face down on the layout and create a thorough mix of them together. Then the dealer will go through the standard shuffle procedure twice before dealing.
- G. Standard shuffle will be used unless instructed otherwise by a supervisor.

RULES OF PLAY

BETS: The following bets or combination of bets may be made for each hand:

1. Bet ANTE to play against the dealer (Allow for Progressive wager), OR
2. Bet PAIR PLUS to play hand value only (Allow for Progressive wager),
3. Bet ANTE and PAIRPLUS to play both (Allow for Progressive wager),
4. Bet ANTE and 6 CARD BONUS to play both (Allow for Progressive wager),
5. Bet ANTE, PAIRPLUS and 6 CARD BONUS to play all (Allow for Progressive Wager).

Wager amounts may differ on ANTE, PAIRPLUS and 6 CARD BONUS bets.

HANDS: Each player and the dealer receive three cards.

PLAYER BETTING AGAINST THE DEALER

In order to play against the dealer, the player must make an ANTE bet. If the player does not like cards they received, they will fold/forfeit their ANTE bet. If the player likes the cards they have received, they can place a PLAY bet **equal** to ANTE bet.

DEALING PROCEDURE

Automatic Shuffle

- A. Once all bets have been made, the dealer will take the first set of cards from the automatic shuffle machine and place them to the left of the player's bets, spreading the cards face down to verify 3 cards. The dealer will continue until all spots with wagers have received cards.
- B. The dealer will then take the next set of cards, which will be the dealer's hand, and fan the cards to verify that there are three cards. Next, the dealer will take the remaining cards out of the machine-check for a red light- and place them in the discard holder. At this time, the dealer will square up their hand indicating to the players that they are now allowed to look at their hands.
- C. Folded hands should be pushed forward by players alongside their bets. Losing bets are taken first and then cards are taken as player folds. Folding hands will be fanned face down to verify three cards, then placed in the discard rack. If a player has made an ANTE bet and decides to "call" he or she will place an additional wager exactly equal to the ANTE bet in the PLAY wagering area. His cards are then placed face down and tucked underneath his PLAY bet. If the player is only betting on the PAIR PLUS, they will place the cards face down, tucked under his bet, if the hand is a winning hand. Once the player has placed a wager in the PLAY betting area, they have committed to playing the hand.

Standard Shuffle (used for changing cards only)

– Must use machine to shuffle on games with Three Card Progressive wager payout. This would only be allowed on a Three Card game without the Progressive wager payout-

- A. The dealer must announce "No More Bets" before dealing to each player with a bet and to self, starting from left to right in rotation. Cards are dealt face down on the left side of the player's bets and are dealt one at a time from the handheld deck. Every player is dealt one card before they are dealt a second card, until they all have three (3) cards.
- B. The dealer shall, as neatly as possible, deal the cards one on top of the other but spread slightly so you can see the number of cards given, and push the cards to the player when the third card is dealt.
- C. The dealer's last card is placed on top of the dealer's first two cards. The dealer's hand is kept directly in front of the chip tray and spread slightly so that the dealer can visually see the number of cards they have received. After the dealer receives their last card, the dealer will "square up" the three cards.
- D. All unused cards will be placed into the discard holder.
- E. Players may view their cards immediately after a green light from the shuffler has been received.
- F. Folded hands should be pushed forward by players alongside bets. Losing bets and cards are taken as a player folds. Folding hands will be spread face down to verify three cards,

and then placed in the discard rack. If a player has made an ANTE bet and decides to "call", he or she will place an additional wager exactly equal to the ANTE bet in the PLAY wagering area. His cards are then placed face down underneath his PLAY bet. If the player is only betting on the PAIRPLUS, he will place his cards face down alongside his bets if he has a winning hand or will fold if he does not have a pair or higher. Once the player has placed a wager in the PLAY betting area, he has committed to playing the hand. Players are eligible to win the 6 Card Bonus on folded hands. If there is a 6 Card Bonus bet present and the player wishes to fold, the dealer will collect the losing bets and tuck the cards under the 6 Card Bonus bet.

PAYOUT PROCEDURE

- A. The dealer will verify that each guest staying in the game with an ANTE has placed a PLAY bet of exactly the same amount and that all players' cards have been set face down on table.
- B. The dealer's hand is then exposed, and the best possible Three Card Poker hand is created. The cards are ranked from left to right, allowing the players to clearly read the hand. **The Dealer should talk through the hands and the payouts.**
- C. If the dealer does not have a queen high or better, it is a non-qualifying hand and does not play. Therefore:
 - 1. There is no action on the PLAY bet. It is a push.
 - 2. The ANTE BONUS is paid on a straight or better.
 - 3. All ANTE bets are paid.
 - 4. The PAIR PLUS bet is paid on a pair or better.
 - 5. The 6 CARD BONUS bet is paid on three of a kind or better.
 - 6. The Three Card Poker Progressive bet is paid on straight or better.
- D. If the dealer has a queen high or better, it is a qualifying hand and plays. Therefore:
 - 1. The PLAY bet is paid or taken as applies.
 - 2. The ANTE BONUS is paid on a straight or better.
 - 3. The ANTE bet is paid or taken as applies.
 - 4. The PAIR PLUS bet is paid on a pair or better.
 - 5. The 6 CARD BONUS bet is paid on three of a kind or better.
 - 6. The Three Card Poker Progressive bet is paid on straight or better.
- E. When the dealer plays and the player and dealer hands are the same, it is a tie. The ANTE and PLAY bets push, but any ANTE BONUS, PAIR PLUS, 6 CARD BONUS and THREE CARD PROGRESSIVE bets are paid if applicable.
- F. Bets are paid or taken from the back forwards, in this order: PLAY, ANTE BONUS (pay only), ANTE, PAIRPLUS, 6 CARD BONUS and THREE CARD PROGRESSIVE. The ANTE BONUS payout is paid separately from the ANTE payout, before any ANTE payout and is set to the side of the ANTE payout. The ANTE BONUS is paid even if the ANTE

loses.

- G. Pay and take from right to left. A player's hand will be spread diagonally to the left side of player's bets so that all cards can be clearly seen by surveillance. After bets for a hand are paid (right of the player) or taken, that hand will be folded to the discard rack.
- H. All 5-card and 6-card Royal Flushes will be paid out last (after all other players' hands have been addressed). Pay/Take the other bets for that winning spot but leave the 6 CARD BONUS wager and cards until the end.
- I. Payouts are made to the right of the bets. Even money payouts are to be sized into when paying with the same color as the bet. Payouts in excess of even money may be sized into from a stack (e.g. three times for 3 to 1) or broken down by the bet area.
- J. Large payouts, including payouts with black or higher and a combined hand payout of over \$500, should be cut out in the dealer's work area, with separate payouts for each bet, working from the back PLAY bet first, pay each bet separately. **DO NOT COMBINE ALL PAYOFFS AND HEEL THE BETS.** The 6 CARD BONUS payouts are brought out separately and paid after the other bets but before moving on to the next player's hand. A Games supervisor should be called to verify the payout.
- K. Progressive payouts will be paid from right to left. Jackpots will be paid from left to right.

OUTCOMES AND PAYOUTS

PLAYER AGAINST DEALER - OUTCOMES & PAYOUTS

Dealer plays with Queen high or better.

- A. If the dealer does not play, there is no action on the PLAY bet (it pushes) the Ante will be paid at 1 to 1.
- B. If the dealer plays and player beats dealer, the PLAY bet wins 1 to 1 and ANTE bet wins 1 to 1.
- C. If the dealer plays and dealer beats the player, both the ANTE and PLAY bets lose; however, the Ante bonus may be paid as outlined below.
- D. If the dealer plays and dealer's hand ties the player's hand, there is no action on either the PLAY or ANTE bets (they push); however, the ANTE BONUS may be paid as outlined below.

ANTE BONUS FEATURE WINS EXTRA PAYOUT

The following hands (when dealt to the player) are always paid a bonus on the ANTE bet **regardless** of the dealer's hand.

STRAIGHT (3 cards in a sequence unsuited):	1 to 1
THREE OF A KIND (3 cards of the same value):	4 to 1
STRAIGHT FLUSH (3 cards in sequence Suited):	5 to 1

PAIR PLUS OUTCOMES & PAYOUT

Pair Plus is a separate and independent wager that allows the player to bet on the value of their hand. The bet does not play against the dealer's cards. The following hands are paid on Pair Plus bets:

PAIR (2 of the same value)	1 to 1
FLUSH (3 in the same suit)	3 to 1
STRAIGHT (3 in sequence unsuited)	6 to 1
THREE OF A KIND (3 of same value)	30 to 1
STRAIGHT FLUSH (3 in sequence suited)	40 to 1

*On any hand other than those described above, the Pair Plus bet loses.

*The Pair Plus will be eligible to win if the player folds with his Ante wager, cards will tuck under the Pair Plus wager.

6 CARD BONUS PROCEDURES

6 Card Bonus is a separate wager, made in conjunction with the Ante and/or Pair Plus wagers, that allows the player to bet on the value of their 6-card hand by using the dealer's cards to complete their 6-card hand.

- A. The 6 Card Bonus bet is an optional wager, placed before any cards are dealt, based on the player's 3 cards and the dealer's 3 cards combined to make the best hand.
- B. A player must make a Pair Plus **and/or** Ante wager to be eligible to bet on the 6 Card Bonus.
- C. The 6 Card Bonus and the Pair Plus amounts are unrelated provided they meet the table minimum on the Pair Plus and/or Ante (i.e. a player could bet \$10 on Pair Plus and \$20 on the 6 Card Bonus).
- D. The 6 Card Bonus minimum is \$1(regardless of the table minimum) and maximum is \$100, and the bets must be in \$5 increments and can be larger than the other bets.
- E. Players may bet for the dealer provided the player has a Pair Plus and/or Ante bet for their hand. The highest paid out for the dealer bet will be 5-card Royal Flush.
- F. Players must make the wager before any cards are dealt.
- G. The 6 Card Bonus is based on the player's 3 cards and the dealer's 3 cards combined to make the best 5 card hand.
- H. If the player has a qualifying hand (3 of a kind or better), the dealer will pay according to the pay table.

- I. If the player's hand does not qualify, the dealer will collect the wager when settling the hand.
- J. The player can win the 6 Card Bonus even if they choose to fold the hand. In this case, take the Ante and Pair Plus wagers (lock them up) and then tuck the cards (face down) under the 6 Card Bonus wager and settle that wager in sequence after exposing the dealer's hand.
- K. A Pit Manager, Shift Manager and Surveillance must be notified immediately if Royal Flush is dealt. A W2 or W8 will be required for these payouts.
- L. 5-Card Royal Flush will be paid out last. Pay/Take all other bets for this spot but leave the 6-Card Bonus wager and cards to be addressed after all other players have been paid/taken and surveillance has verified the hand. Winning guests must remain seated at the game.

M. Pay Table:

Hand	Odds/Payout
5-Card Royal Flush	1,000 to 1
5-Card Straight Flush	200 to 1
Four of a Kind	50 to 1
Full House	25 to 1
5-Card Flush	15 to 1
5-Card Straight	10 to 1
Three of a Kind	5 to 1

On any hand other than those described above, the 6 Card Bonus bet loses.

- N. Game Protection is **always** important.
We are going to highlight a few things to keep in mind but please adhere to all policies and procedures that are required of this game.
 1. A shuffle machine is required for this game at all times. If the machine breaks down, wait for a replacement machine before dealing with the next hand. If no spare is available, a machine will be taken from another **non**-Three Card Poker game. **Do not hand-shuffle** on this game.
 2. **It is extremely important that surveillance can easily read every card. You must expose the cards diagonally -with no more than 1 pip covered. NEVER COVER THE MIDDLE OF THE CARD.**
 3. Players switching cards on a poker game has always been a concern, it's imperative that we keep this from happening. Always make sure the players keep their cards above the

table and in full view of the cameras. Do not allow yourself to be distracted and be on high alert when making change or doing anything that could draw your eyes off the cards when guests have them in their hands. Do not allow people to sit at the table that are not playing and do not allow guests to stand directly behind players, blocking camera views. If you suspect someone is trying to cheat, immediately and discreetly inform your supervisor.

Three Card Progressive Payouts

- A. Three Card Poker Progressive is an optional side bet. It can be wagered with Ante or Pair Plus or Both along with 6 cards bonus wager.
- B. It is either a linked or solo progressive side bet that requires a \$1 wager to be eligible for the qualify payouts.
- C. A folded hand will **not** be eligible for winning the progressive wager.
- D. All bets will be placed prior to dealing any cards.
- E. A folded hand will still qualify for Envy Bonus.
- F. Toke wager will not be allowed on this side bet.
- G. Envy Bonus are listed as follows:

<u>Hand</u>	<u>Payout</u>	<u>Envy Bonus</u>
Ace-King-Queen of Spades	100%*	\$100
Ace-King-Queen of Hearts, Diamonds or Clubs	500 for 1	\$25
Straight Flush	70 for 1	N/A
Three of a Kind	60 for 1	N/A
Straight	6 for 1	N/A

GENERAL RULES

- A. Prior to the first card being dealt, each player places a bet on the ANTE, or on PAIR PLUS,

or on Both bets. If they bet on either or both, they may bet on the 6 Card Bonus.

- B. Original bets on the ANTE, PAIR PLUS or 6 CARD BONUS may not be increased, decreased or withdrawn after the first card has been dealt.
- C. The PLAY bet will be exactly the same amount as the ANTE bet.
- D. Each player may play only one hand and may not bet on or against another player.
- E. Any incorrect number of cards dealt to either a player or the dealer constitutes a total misdeal.
- F. An exposed card does **not** constitute a misdeal. The dealer will turn the card over and continue dealing, unless it's the dealer's hand.

Players may not show their hand to each other and/or discuss the hand in progress. The players must at all times keep cards above the table, inside the rail, and in their own area. Players may not touch each other's cards. Players must be seated while playing.

- G. Ace is always high except in the "3, 2, Ace" sequence, which is played as the lowest straight or (if suited) the lowest straight flush.
- H. As the mathematics of three card combinations are very different to that of five card combinations, the order of hand ranking is different to that of 5-card poker and is as follows (with the lowest hand first and in increasing order):

HIGH CARD
PAIR
FLUSH
STRAIGHT
THREE OF A KIND
STRAIGHT FLUSH

TABLE MINIMUMS AND MAXIMUMS

- A. Minimum and maximum bet limits will be prominently posted on all games and will inform players of the lowest wager and of the highest wager allowed.
- B. When a player wagers less than the posted table minimum and the dealer does not notice it before the cards come out, the dealer will pay or take the amount actually bet and inform the player of the table minimum.
- C. The house minimum on the Pair Plus wager will range from \$5 to \$100. The maximum wager on the Pair Plus is \$300.

- D. The house minimum on the Ante/Play wagers will range from \$5 to \$100. The maximum wagers on both the Ante and Play bets will be \$300.
- E. The house minimum on the 6 Card Bonus wager is \$5 (and must be bet in \$5 increments). The maximum wage is \$100.
- F. The House minimum and maximum on Three Card Poker Progressive side bet is \$1.
- F. The maximum bet a player can make for a dealer is 10% of the table maximum if the player is betting the table maximum. If the player is not betting the table maximum, the player bet, and the token bet cannot exceed the table maximum plus 10%.
- G. Players may bet \$1 - \$25 for the dealer on the 6 Card Bonus (provided the player has a pair plus bet for their hand).
- H. *NOTE: Table minimums and maximums can change!!!

CHANGING DEALERS

Dealer Relieving and Being Relieved

1. The incoming dealer should enter the game from behind and to the left of the outgoing dealer.
2. Continue to deal until the relief dealer is physically at the table.
3. The incoming dealer should tap the outgoing dealer on the shoulder and enter the game.
4. Three Card Poker dealers will not be relieved by another dealer until all work has been completed for a given hand. Before exiting the table, the outgoing dealer will be spreading the cards on the table. The incoming dealer will then reshuffle according to procedures before proceeding.

TAKING TIPS

- A. Soliciting of tokens is strictly prohibited.
- B. A token bet may be placed on all four bets, except Progressive side bet. **No** PLAY token bets are to be placed without an ANTE token bet. An ANTE token bet does **not** have to be backed up with a PLAY bet. Token bets should be placed to the dealer's left of the player's bets. All bets will be paid full odds. Max odds for the 6 Card Bonus is 1,000 to 1.

- C. Both the wager and payoff of all winning token bets must be taken down. Token wagers may **not** be "parlayed".
- D. The token wager should always be paid **after** the player's wager, not before.
- E. Winning token wagers should be tapped once lightly on the tray and placed in the tip container.
- F. If a player throws a token and does not specify that the dealer gambles the token or gives the dealer an option to gamble or keep the token, the dealer **must** take the token.
- G. Tokens will not be colored up without notifying the casino games supervisor.
- H. If a player's token wager is more than allowed, the dealer can accept the excess as a direct token and deal to the remainder. The dealer should explain this limitation to the player and make the transaction before dealing the cards so there is no confusion if the wager should lose.
- I. The maximum bet a player can make for a dealer is 10% of the table maximum if the player is betting the table maximum. If the player is not betting the table maximum, the player bet, and the token bet cannot exceed the table maximum plus 10%.