

## RE: Public Records Request Form [#564]

Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov>

Wed 5/11/2022 11:28 AM

To: Kyle Oddson <kyleoddson@hotmail.com>; Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov>

Yes, it has.

Thank you,

**Jessica Nelson**

Public Records Specialist | Oregon Lottery®

**Mobile:** 971-719-6411

[publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov)

[oregonlottery.org](https://www.oregonlottery.org)



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**From:** Kyle Oddson <kyleoddson@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 6:19 AM

**To:** Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Public Records Request Form [#564]

That helps quite a bit, and leads to another question—has Megabucks always been 1 through 48? I guess I just assumed so...

Kyle Oddson

917.549.3367

[kyleoddson@hotmail.com](mailto:kyleoddson@hotmail.com)

On May 10, 2022, at 3:52 AM, Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <[publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov)> wrote:

The Lottoamerica source copied weird. [Here it is again.](#)

Thank you,

**Jessica Nelson**

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**From:** Nelson, Jess <[Jess.Nelson@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:Jess.Nelson@lottery.oregon.gov)> **On Behalf Of** Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 3:44 AM

**To:** Kyle Oddson <[kyleoddson@hotmail.com](mailto:kyleoddson@hotmail.com)>; Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests

<[publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Public Records Request Form [#564]

You are totally fine, this is my job! 😊

Finding Powerball and Megamillions information is harder because those aren't our games. They belong to MUSL. I turned to Google but you could also call MUSL directly.

For Powerball, lottoamerica.com (a private website not affiliated with MUSL or a state lottery) says, "[April 22, 1992] Players were required to pick five main numbers from a choice of 45 and a Powerball from a separate set of 45. ... From November 5th 1997, players were required to pick five main numbers from 1 to 49 and a Powerball from 1 to 42.... the number of main balls raised to 53 on October 9th 2002. August 31st 2005 saw the number of main balls increased to 55... January 7th 2009, when the matrix changed again and players were required to select five main balls from a choice of 59 and a Powerball from a pool of 39 numbers.... October 2015, a number of changes were made to the game, with the number of balls in the main pool increasing from 59 to 69, while there was a decrease in the number of Powerballs - from 35 to 26... January 4th 2012 the number of main balls stayed at 59, but the pool of Powerball numbers was reduced to 35... The most recent changes to Powerball came on October 7th 2015. The matrix required players to select five main numbers from 1 to 69 and one Powerball from 1 to 26." Source linked [here](#).

For Megamillions, Iowa Lottery's page had this, "Beginning with the October 31, 2017 drawing, the game matrix changed from "1 to 75" white balls to "1 to 70" white balls, and from "1 to 15" Mega Balls to "1 to 25" Mega Balls." [Source linked here](#).

Does that help? Don't feel bad at all, you can ask as many questions as need.

Thank you,

**Jessica Nelson**

Public Records Specialist | Oregon Lottery®

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[oregonlottery.org](http://oregonlottery.org)



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**From:** Kyle Oddson <[kyleoddson@hotmail.com](mailto:kyleoddson@hotmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 12:23 AM

**To:** Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <[publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Public Records Request Form [#564]

Hi Jessica,

I hate to keep being a bother, I'm just really trying to get right the data you sent. The current instructions for Powerball ([https://www.oregonlottery.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/HTP\\_Powerball\\_Web\\_EN\\_01-18-22.pdf](https://www.oregonlottery.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/HTP_Powerball_Web_EN_01-18-22.pdf)) say that the

power ball is drawn from 1 through 26; based on the results you sent, that clearly changed at some point (possibly multiple times). For example, the drawing on 2 May 1992 had a power ball of 33. The most recent draw I found with a power ball greater than 26 was 12 September 2015. Do you know the history of the power ball range? Similarly, Mega Millions currently says the Mega Ball is drawn from 1 through 25; on 11 October 2013, the Mega Ball drawn was 46 (and that is the most recent Mega Ball I can find greater than 25).

Again, sorry to be a bother, and thank you so much for all your help!

(FYI, I plan on finishing this project within the next few weeks; these questions are nearing their end!)

Kyle

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**From:** Nelson, Jess <[Jess.Nelson@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:Jess.Nelson@lottery.oregon.gov)> on behalf of Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <[publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 3, 2022 10:50 AM

**To:** Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <[publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov)>; Kyle Oddson <[kyleoddson@hotmail.com](mailto:kyleoddson@hotmail.com)>

**Subject:** RE: Public Records Request Form [#564]

Hi again Kyle!

I found someone who knew the answer for Megabucks! May 20, 2001 was the first RNG drawing.

Still working on the Win for Life information.

Thank you,

**Jessica Nelson**

Public Records Specialist | Oregon Lottery®

**Mobile:** 971-719-6411

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**From:** Nelson, Jess <[Jess.Nelson@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:Jess.Nelson@lottery.oregon.gov)> **On Behalf Of** Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 3, 2022 8:08 AM

**To:** Kyle Oddson <[kyleoddson@hotmail.com](mailto:kyleoddson@hotmail.com)>; Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <[publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Public Records Request Form [#564]

Hi Kyle!

I've not been able to find someone who knows the exact date we switched from ball machine to RNG for Megabucks. I've asked a few people who were here over 20 years ago, but most here that long were not involved with that work, and we are past our required retention length for those records. I am sorry. I will try asking around again, but I do not think I will find the exact date.

The number listed for January 26, 2009 is definitely a mistake in my winning records files. Unfortunately, I may not be able to provide a corrected number because that information is again outside of retention length and is only kept for informational purposes. It's been handed down across various employees for 13 years. I'll see if I can find someone who has

a different set of numbers for that day. But our systems, departments and employees have changed significantly since that time.

I'll try to get back to you on this by tomorrow.

Thank you,

**Jessica Nelson**

Public Records Specialist | Oregon Lottery®

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**From:** Kyle Oddson <[kyleoddson@hotmail.com](mailto:kyleoddson@hotmail.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, May 2, 2022 9:24 PM

**To:** Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <[publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Public Records Request Form [#564]

Hi Jessica (or whomever else),

Following up on a few things:

Can you tell me the exact Megabucks date that marked the switch from a ball machine to a number generator? All I know so far is that it happened sometime in May 2001.

Regarding Win for Life--does that game use a ball machine or a number generator? (And if there was a change, when was that?)

The records you sent me for Win for Life have the results from January 26, 2009 as 17 25 31 31

Surely this is a draw-**without**-replacement game...?

Thank you for your help!

Kyle Oddson

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**From:** Nelson, Jess <[Jess.Nelson@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:Jess.Nelson@lottery.oregon.gov)> on behalf of Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <[publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 15, 2022 1:43 PM

**To:** [kyleoddson@hotmail.com](mailto:kyleoddson@hotmail.com) <[kyleoddson@hotmail.com](mailto:kyleoddson@hotmail.com)>

**Cc:** Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <[publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Public Records Request Form [#564]

Hi Kyle!

Apologies this took a bit longer than normal for me, been super busy!

To answer your questions:

Megabucks – Random Number Generator – Switched from ball machine in May 2001

Mega Millions – Ball Machine

Powerball - Ball Machine

You may cite me, if you'd like, or just simply, Oregon Lottery Public Affairs.

Thank you,

**Jessica Nelson**

Public Records Specialist | Oregon Lottery®

**Mobile:** 971-719-6411

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**From:** Wufoo <[no-reply@wufoo.com](mailto:no-reply@wufoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 3, 2022 4:38 PM  
**To:** Oregon Lottery Public Records Requests <[publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov](mailto:publicaffairs.lottery@lottery.oregon.gov)>  
**Subject:** Public Records Request Form [#564]

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<b>Requester Name: *</b>	Kyle Oddson
<b>Phone *</b>	(917) 549-3367
<b>Email *</b>	<a href="mailto:kyleoddson@hotmail.com">kyleoddson@hotmail.com</a>

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**Detailed description of the records you are requesting: \***

Megabucks: all historical draw results available, .csv

Megamillions: Jan 1, 2020 – Dec 31, 2021 draw results, .csv

Powerball: Jan 1, 2020 – Dec 31, 2021, .csv

In addition: I'm a grad student at PSU working on a statistics research project (specifically regarding statistical analysis of pseudorandom number generators). Can you please tell me 1) do all of the three draw games referenced above use pseudorandom number generators to generate the draw results, and 2) if so, when did that become the practice? (I remember the machines with the ping pong balls on the evening news when I was a kid). 3) If you can provide that info, can you please also provide a name & job title I can cite to go along with that info, or 4) if you can't provide that info, can you direct me to somebody who can?

Thank you so much for your help!

Kyle Oddson

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<b>Date</b>	Sunday, April 3, 2022
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