

Poker rules

Glossary 1:

a dealer - a guy who deals cards

a board - five cards in the middle of the table

a hand - two cards which has player

Basics

First of all dealer deals for each player two cards and five cards face down on the center of the playing table. Then the party begins. Let us highlight important stages in the game:

- 1) *Pre-flop* - stage, when all players have their hands and board is face down
- 2) *Flop* - stage, when first three (out of five) cards of a board are face up
- 3) *Turn* - stage, when first four cards of a board are face up.
- 4) *River* - stage, when all board is face up.
- 5) *Showdown* - stage of determining the winner (it is explained in more detail in the following section)
- 6) *Trade* - this stage is intermediate, which goes between each two stages 1-5 (it is also explained in more detail in the following section)

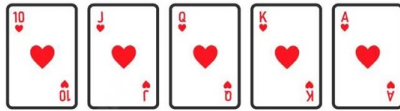
Showdown

There are 10 different combinations in poker and there is a certain order how they are compared. It will be explained further in the rules. This order helps to determine a winner. During showdown each player chooses the best possible combination (usually it happens automatically) in their hand and board combined.

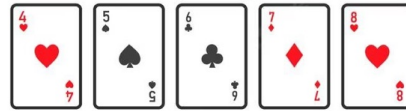
Combinations ranking (in descending order):

Poker Hand Ranking

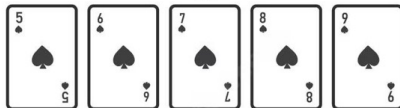
1. Royal Flush



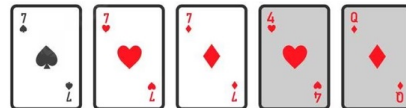
6. Straight



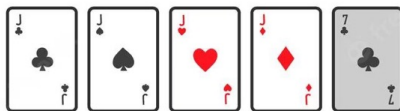
2. Straight Flush



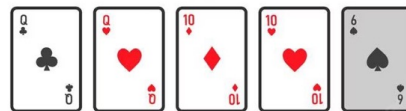
7. Three of a Kind



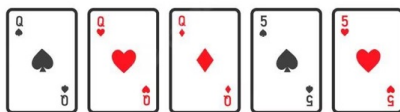
3. Four of a Kind



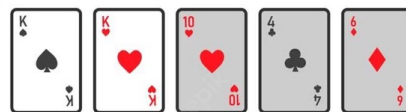
8. Two Pair



4. Full house



9. Pair



5. Flush



10. High Card



1) All combinations are different.

As it was mentioned above, there is a special order which helps us to rank players' combinations. In this case, winner is the player with the most valuable combination.

2) There are several same combinations.

In this case, player wins if their high card in combination is higher than the other players' high cards.

Comment: if two full-houses are compared, then at first Three of a kind compared and if they are equal, pairs are compared.

e. g. 1: Full House 10-10-10 2-2 is higher than full house 9-9-9 A-A

e. g. 2: Flush 2-3-4-5-K is higher than flush 7-9-10-J-Q

3) Otherwise combinations are equal

Glossary 2:

big blind (sb) - initial mandatory bid

small blind (bb) - initial mandatory bid (half of big blind)

Trade

In this stage all players make a decision how much chips to bid. Two players have mandatory bid (big blind and small blind). These bet sizes are defined from the very beginning of the game. The "big blind" sits right after the "small blind" clockwise. Pair (sb, bb) is shifting to the right clockwise every round. Each trade phase begins from the player right after the bb. Then each player has several options:

- 1) Check/Call - it means that if your bid is already max-bid on the table, you can skip your trade-turn, otherwise you bid difference between your bid and max-bid
- 2) Raise - it means that you can raise current bid (rule of re-raise: your raise should increase bid more than previous raise)
- 3) Fold - it means that you can drop your hand, but lose all bided earlier chips.

After end of raises trade stage ends.

Glossary 3:

an all-in - a type of bid when player puts all of their`s chips in a bank

Bank split

There are 2 cases which should be described:

- 1) Regular game without all-in.

In this case, bank is splitted equally between winners (usually 1 player receives all the money).

- 2) One of the players (for instance, Player 1) decided to go all-in. In this case, there can be formed several banks:

1. Main bank - bank which consists of parts of bids equal to all-in of Player 1.
2. Side bank - bank which consists of the rest of bids of other players

If Player 1 wins, he gets money only from main bank. Side bank is distributed between other players according to their hands.

For example, there are 3 players: Player A, Player B, Player C. Player A has 25 chips, Player B has 75 chips, Player C has 100 chips and all of them decided to go all-in.

The main bank of 75 chips is made up of 25-chip bets from players A, B, C. Player B has 50 chips left ($75 - 25 = 50$) and player C contributes the same amount, forming a side bank of 100 chips. Player's C remaining 25 chips ($100 - 25 - 50 = 25$) are not included in the bet.

If player A has a better hand, he will only get the main bank. The side bank will be won by the player B or C depending on the strength of their hands.