Dear Editors of the UNLV Gaming Research & Review Journal:

We are excited to submit our article, “A Mechanistic Model of the Wash Shuffle and Monte Carlo Exploration of its Impact on Card Shuffling in Texas Hold’em” for consideration to your journal. We confirm that the research in this manuscript is original work performed by us and has not been published elsewhere, nor is it currently under review in any other journal.

In this manuscript, we develop a model for the wash shuffle, which to our knowledge has never appeared in the literature before at any reasonable level of realism. Then, we investigate the degree to which adding the wash prior to the standard methodology for manual shuffling in a casino card room is still insufficient for randomizing the deck of cards.

While casino poker rooms continue to increase their adoption of automatic shufflers, many still rely on their dealers to manually shuffle the decks of cards. Of particular note is that major tournament stops, including the World Series of Poker in Las Vegas, NV, are only able to equip a relatively small handful of their tables with automatic shufflers, leaving the vast majority of tables in use without. Thus, our findings are of great importance not only to ordinary casino poker rooms that do not have automatic shufflers, but also to much of the play at the biggest events in the game of poker.

We have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

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Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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