

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - May 2, 2003

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Out With The Old, In With The New? For *Lotto Texas*™, It's A Whole New Ball Game™

(Austin, May 2) - It's the oldest on-line game the Texas Lottery™ has, and in just a few days, it will be a whole new ball game. Saturday's drawing will be the last that uses a 6-of-54 matrix, where players have to match 6 of 6 numbers to win the jackpot. As that play-style exits, It's a Whole New Ball Game™ for *Lotto Texas*.

"Since it began, our flagship game has produced 474 winners through April 1. *Lotto Texas* has created millionaires in the Lone Star state, neighboring states and even other countries," Texas Lottery Commission Executive Director Reagan Greer said. "With the possibility of jackpots reaching between \$65 million and \$100 million and better overall odds of winning a prize, we anticipate players are going to be very enthusiastic about the new *Lotto Texas* game."

Lotto Texas has always been the most popular of the Texas Lottery's on-line games since sales started on November 7, 1992, eight weeks ahead of schedule. The first *Lotto* drawing was held at 9:59 p.m. on Wednesday, November 14.

In the original matrix, *Lotto* players chose 6 of 50 numbers. When the matrix changed in July 2000, players then chose 6 numbers from a field of 54.

Sales begin Sunday for *Lotto Texas* in its new configuration, with the first drawing set for Wednesday, May 7. Players will choose 5 numbers from one field of 44 and a Bonus Ball number from a second field of 44.

When the balls drop for the last time Saturday in the 6-of-54 game, the *Lotto Texas* jackpot will be worth an estimated \$7 million.