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## ***Historic Agreement Brings Powerball® to Texas Beginning January 31***

*Multi-state game to generate additional revenue for the Foundation School Fund*

**Austin** – In the largest lottery agreement in U.S. history, *Powerball*® and *Mega Millions*® will launch their partnership this weekend, creating the largest market ever for jackpot games. As of this Sunday, the Texas Lottery® will begin sales of *Powerball* tickets at 16,000-plus licensed retailer outlets around the state. Texas players will have their first chance to win in the *Powerball* drawing on Wednesday, February 3.

*Powerball* joins the popular *Mega Millions* game which has been available in Texas since 2003. Thirty-three jurisdictions, representing a combined population of 199 million people and 147,000 retail outlets, will offer the two multi-jurisdiction jackpot games, giving Texas Lottery players four opportunities a week to play for large jackpots. The market for these games has the potential to expand to 45 jurisdictions representing 291 million people and 182,000 retail outlets.

“We are excited to add *Powerball* to our mix of games, and we welcome the new states to *Mega Millions*. As the number of people playing both games increases, we could see jackpots rising higher and faster than ever before,” said Texas Lottery Commission Deputy Executive Director Gary Grief.

Since *Powerball*'s inception on February 10, 1988, and *Mega Millions*' inception on August 31, 1996, the games have generated an astonishing \$17.6 billion for good causes in the states where they are played, causes such as education, senior programs, local towns and the environment. In Texas, *Powerball* is projected to generate \$35 million per fiscal year in additional revenue for the Foundation School Fund, which supports public education in Texas.

“Our mission is to generate revenue for the state of Texas,” said Grief. “This agreement between *Mega Millions* and *Powerball* will allow us to do just that. Ultimately, Texas education will be the big winner.”

To mark the introduction of *Powerball* to Texas, the Texas Lottery is planning special Customer Appreciation Days at lottery retailer locations throughout the state during the month of February. Information about these events can be found at [www.txlottery.org](http://www.txlottery.org).

**More Information**

For more information on *Powerball*, please visit [www.powerball.com](http://www.powerball.com).

For more information on *Mega Millions*, please visit: [www.megamillions.com](http://www.megamillions.com).

For more information on the Texas Lottery, please visit: [www.txlottery.org](http://www.txlottery.org).

**About *Powerball* and *Mega Millions***

*Powerball*, formerly known as *Lotto America*, began on February 10, 1988. The base jackpot starts at \$20 million. *Powerball* drawings are held Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10:59 p.m. Eastern Time, 9:59 p.m. Central Time and 7:59 p.m. Pacific Time.

*Mega Millions*, formerly known as *The Big Game*, began on August 31, 1996. Sales of *Mega Millions* in Texas began on December 3, 2003 and included the Megaplier® add-on feature. The base jackpot starts at \$12 million. *Mega Millions* drawings are held Tuesdays and Fridays at 11:00 p.m. Eastern Time, 10:00 p.m. Central Time and 8:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

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**Note to Editors:** High-resolution *Powerball* and *Mega Millions* logos are available by contacting Robyn Smith at 512-344-5477 or [robyn.smith@lottery.state.tx.us](mailto:robyn.smith@lottery.state.tx.us).



	Mega Millions®	Powerball®
<b>Cost</b>	\$1 per wager	\$1 per wager
<b>How to play</b>	Choose five numbers from 1 to 56 and one Mega Ball number from 1 to 46. Match five numbers and the Mega Ball to win the grand/jackpot prize. There are nine ways to win a prize.	Choose five numbers from 1 to 59 and one Powerball number from 1 to 39. Match five numbers and the Powerball to win the grand/jackpot prize. There are nine ways to win a prize.
<b>Game odds</b>	Overall odds of winning a prize are 1 in 40.	Overall odds of winning a prize are 1 in 35.
<b>Odds of winning the jackpot</b>	1 in 175.7 million	1 in 195.2 million
<b>Add on games</b>	Megaplier®	Power Play®
<b>Add on game details</b>	For \$1 more per playboard, players could increase their non-grand/jackpot prize winnings by 2, 3 or 4 times! Players could win \$1,000,000 without even hitting the jackpot.	For \$1 more per playboard, players could increase their non-grand/jackpot prizes by 2, 3, 4 or 5 times with Power Play. Players matching all 5 white balls (second prize) who have played Power Play automatically win \$1 million regardless of the multiplier number drawn.
<b>When do pools close?</b>	9:45 p.m. CST	9:00 p.m. CST
<b>When and where is the drawing?</b>	11 p.m. EST every Tuesday and Friday at the studios of WSB-TV in Atlanta, Georgia.	10:59 p.m. EST every Wednesday and Saturday at Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida.
<b>Largest jackpot</b>	\$390 million, won March 6, 2007 by two players (NJ and GA). U.S. record. (Jackpot was advertised at \$370 million.)	The largest single ticket winner was \$365 million, won Feb. 18, 2006 by ConAgra Foods work pool in NE. Second highest U.S. jackpot.
<b>Base jackpot</b>	The jackpot starts at \$12 million.	The jackpot starts at \$20 million.
<b>Second prize</b>	\$250,000	\$200,000
<b>Lowest Level Prize</b>	Match just the Mega Ball and win \$2.	Match just the Powerball and win \$3.
<b>Prize payment options</b>	26 equal annual payments or cash option	30 graduated annual payments or cash option
<b>Start date</b>	Aug. 31, 1996	Feb. 10, 1988
<b>Number of jurisdictions involved</b>	35 jurisdictions beginning January 31	42 jurisdictions beginning January 31
<b>Population</b>	249 million	241 million
<b>Organizational structure</b>	Administrative responsibilities are shared by the states involved.	Powerball is administered by the Multi-State Lottery Association.
<b>Can tickets be cancelled?</b>	No, all sales are final.	No, all sales are final.
<b>Retailer jackpot bonus</b>	1% of advertised grand/jackpot portion won in Texas; \$1 million cap; pari-mutuel	1% of grand/jackpot portion won in Texas; \$1 million cap; pari-mutuel