

Texas Lottery Commission Press Release - March 6, 2002

Contact:

Kristina Tirloni, 512.344.5144,

## Texas Lottery Commissioners Approve The First Ever Day Drawing In Texas

(Austin, March 6) - - Today, the Texas Lottery Commission voted in favor of creating the first-ever-day-drawing for the Texas Lottery's mix of online games. The first *Pick 3* Day Drawing will be on Monday, April 29th, at 12:27 p.m. The game will remain exactly the same, only now it will occur twice daily, Monday through Saturday, with the second *Pick 3* drawing of the day at 9:59 p.m.

To play *Pick 3*, players select three numbers each from 0 to 9, with four choices for how they can play their 3-digit combination (Exact Order, Any Order, Exact/Any Order or Combo). Cost to play will remain as little as 50 cents for a single Exact or Any Order play, or as much as \$360 on a Combo play where the numbers are played for twelve draws.

Last week's *Pick 3* sales totals were the 3rd highest in the game's history, a record \$4,890,090.50. *Pick 3* was the lottery's second online game, which began in October of 1993.

In other developments, the Texas Lottery also proposed changes to the lottery's *Cash 5* game. The proposal included the following modifications:

- Overall odds of winning change from 1 in 100 to 1 in 8, making it easier to win prizes
- Players will win a guaranteed prize of \$2 for matching just two numbers
- Drawings will be held six nights a week instead of four
- Players will choose five numbers out of 37 instead of 39

The proposed changes make Texas the only state in the U.S. to have a 5-of-5 game that gives a \$2 cash prize for matching only two numbers. It is also the biggest cash prize offered at that prize level.

Currently, *Cash 5* players choose five numbers from 39. Tickets cost \$1 per play. Players win cash prizes by matching 3, 4, or 5 numbers. Prize amounts are approximately \$25, \$500, and \$57,000 respectively. All prizes are pari-mutuel.

The proposed changes will be published in the Texas Registry for a 30-day public comment period, and a public hearing to discuss the proposed changes is scheduled for April 4, 2002, at 9 a.m.

Tonight's Lotto Texas jackpot is worth an estimated \$4 million.