

**2011 Clubs New Zealand
North Island Texas Holdem Poker Tournament**

COMPETITION RULES

1. All players must be affiliated Chartered Club members.
2. Minimum age to play is 18 years. Each location reserves the right to set the minimum age requirement.
3. Players will be allocated the exact same amount of chips as their starting stack.
4. Seating assignment will be determined by random draw prior to tournament commencement.
5. During breaks, the Tournament Director will colour up by removing the lower denomination chips. (Any odd number amount of chips will be rounded up to speed up play.)
6. To determine the first dealer position of each table, cards are placed down and each player will draw one card. The player with the highest valued card will start the deal.
In the event that two or more players draw the same valued card, those players will redraw until one card value is higher than the other.
7. The deal, calling and raising will rotate clockwise in order of turn.
8. The small blind is posted by the player immediately left of the dealer, the big blind is posted by the player two seats to the left of the dealer.
9. Players are required to post their blinds. When a player is absent from the table for any reason, their blind will be posted from the absent players stack, hand is folded if player is still absent when all hands have been dealt.
10. The dealer must shuffle the deck at least three times, player to the right of the dealer will make the cut. (All players must cut.)
11. **If either of the first hole cards are dealt to player 1 or 2 is exposed, a misdeal results.** The dealer will retrieve card/s, reshuffle and re-cut the cards. **If any other hole card is exposed due to dealer error, the deal continues.** The exposed cards cannot be kept. **After completing the hand, the dealer replaces the card with the top card on the deck and the exposed card is then used for the pre-flop burn card.** If more than one hole card is exposed, this is a misdeal and there must be a re-deal. All remaining cards are to stay on the top of the deck until betting is done. Dealer must **Burn and Turn** in sequences, dealer will burn one card and turn the three flop cards. Once again no cards are to be taken off the top of deck until betting is done. At this point the dealer will burn one card and expose the turn card. The same applies prior to the river card.
(The dealer is not permitted to presort cards at any time.)
12. Burn cards must be kept visible to all players at all times during the hand.
13. Players must show two cards to win the hand.
14. **New players to the table must take a hand, unless the seat they are taking will be the small blind or the dealer position.** In these situations the player must wait for the dealer button to pass.
15. **If the flop card is prematurely exposed,** the board cards are returned to the remainder of the deck, reshuffled, re-cut and dealt out in normal sequence. The burn card stays on the table. **If the turn card is prematurely exposed,** the dealer burns again and deals what would have been the river card in the turn cards place. The card that was exposed is then reshuffled back into the deck and the river card is dealt without a burn card. (As there are already two burn cards.)
16. When two players are left at the table the dealer will always be small blind.

17. When a player is absent, the dealer will always deal the player in. A dealer is instructed to kill the hands of all absent players immediately after dealing each player a starting hand. (The dealer will always deal to the chips, not the player.)
18. If a player does not have enough chips to call a bet or place a blind, that player will go All In. If this occurs, the other players with chips left will continue the hand and bet into a side pot.
19. **The minimum bet is equal to the big blind unless a player is going All In. The minimum bet remains the same amount on all betting rounds. If the big blind does not have sufficient chips to post the required amount, any player who enters the pot on initial betting round is still required to enter at least the minimum bet (unless going All In) and a pre-flop raiser must at least double the size of the big blind. At all other times when a player goes all in for less than the minimum bet, a player has the option of just calling All In.**
20. When a player goes All In and the bet is called by one player, the players will turn their cards face up for the showdown and continue the hand.
21. Once a player has lost all his/her chips they are required to leave the table immediately.
22. **If two or more players are eliminated on the same hand, the player with the most chips at the start of the hand will finish in the higher position.**
23. The dealer is responsible for placing the burn cards and muck cards in the muck pile. If at any time a player's hand is either accidentally or purposely thrown into the muck pile, the cards are dead and cannot be played in that hand.
24. **No one can turn over any of the burn or muck cards at any time during the hand.**
25. Chips are to remain on the table at all times unless a player is being moved to another table.
26. Cards must remain above the table at all times.
27. Any advice on a hand must come from the Tournament Director. (No other player may give advice on how to play a hand.)
28. Please adhere to all poker etiquette. This includes splashing the pot, information about your hand and string betting.
29. The only player that may touch the chips in the pot is the acting dealer. If you need to make change from the pot, state your intentions and get permission from the acting dealer.
30. As players are eliminated, tables will be broken down. Tables with the least players will be moved onto remaining tables until the final table is reached.
31. Players are not required to play with five or less players unless they are playing on the final table.
32. The amount of players per table is dependent on the Tournament Hosts.
33. Seating positions for the final table shall be decided by card draw. With the highest card value being seated in first position, Small blind just left to the dealer, second highest, Big blind and so on.
34. **All finals tables are to have an independent dealer.**
35. **All bets must be equal to or greater than the previous bet or raise for that betting round. (Bet or Raise, they are two different rules.)**
36. **The Tournament Director has final decision on all disputes.**

Any inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.

The Tournament Director reserves the right to ask any player to leave the table and tournament.

The hosting establishment always reserves the right to ask anyone to leave their place of business at any time.