

Every Question Has Its Answer

Numerous questions have arisen from the operation of Michigan's new legalized lottery, and some of these are presented here -- along with the answers.

Q: Is a person who wins a major prize eligible to try again?

A: You can win as many times as your luck will allow. Any time you buy a ticket, you have a chance.

Q: Do I have to be a Michigan resident to participate in the lottery?

A: Not at all. Out-of-state visitors are welcome to buy tickets, even encouraged to do so. If they win, they will have to pay federal taxes like anyone else, and also will be responsible for payment of whatever taxes apply in their own state. Whatever they spend for tickets will stay in Michigan.

Q: What should a person do if he loses a lottery ticket or if it is stolen?

A: First, take the precaution of filling any ticket out on the back where there is space for name, address, zip code number, telephone number, social security number and your signature. Make a separate record of the lottery numbers. If your ticket does come up missing, report it

to the regional lottery office. If it is a winner and someone else tries to claim a prize, you will have a good chance of establishing ownership. The regional office for this area is at 14650 W. Eight Mile Rd., Oak Park.

Q: Suppose that instead of losing a ticket, a person finds one. Then what does he do?

A: Be honest, of course, and give it back to the person whose name and address are on the back. But if that information isn't given, you might as well keep it. If it turns out to be a winner, take it to a claim office and tell the truth. If no one else can prove ownership, your claim might be valid.

Q: What happens when a person dies after winning a major prize that would be paid off in installments over several years?

A: The payments would continue to your estate.

Q: What sort of a schedule has been set up to make the installment payments?

A: Well, suppose you win \$50,000 in one of the weekly Super Drawings, qualifying you for \$10,000 a year for five years. You would receive a check for the first \$10,000 at the time of the drawing and a similar check on the anniversary date

of the drawing for the next four years. In other words, all installments will be "anniversary" payments.

Q: What other prizes will be paid in installments?

A: The \$1 million winner will get \$50,000 per year for 20 years; \$200,000 will be split at \$20,000 a year for 10 years, and if you win \$100,000 it will be paid \$20,000 a year for five years. If you win \$10,000, \$5,000 or \$1,000 you will collect the total amount immediately.

Q: Where does a person who holds a winning number go to make his claim?

A: The nearest Secretary of State branch office, where you will be required to fill out a one-page form which will be forwarded to the Lottery Bureau headquarters at Lansing.

Q: It has been announced that a Million Dollar Drawing will be held every time ticket sales have reached 30 million. The total eligibility list will include 120,000 of the \$25 winners, yet there will be only 120 ticket finalists who will take part in the drawing. How will these 120 be selected?

A: First, consider that mathematically every million tickets will include 4,000 of the \$25 winners. Multiplied

by 30, that brings the figure to 120,000. All of them will be paid by check and the new number on that check stub will be all-important. At the 30 million mark, a number will be drawn and there will be 120 matching stubs. The holders of those stubs will be the lucky ones. At the Million Dollar Drawing, 110 of them will win \$1,000 each. Seven will take home \$5,000 apiece and there will be one winner at each of the other three levels: \$50,000, \$100,000 and \$1 million.

Q: How old must a person be before he can legally buy a ticket?

A: You must be at least 18 years old to buy tickets.

Q: Is there any chance that counterfeit tickets will be in circulation?

A: There's always that chance, but it will be almost impossible to get away with. Be sure you buy tickets from a licensed sales agent. Furthermore, official tickets are printed on a special paper as hard to counterfeit as dollar bills. Also, the paper will disintegrate if anyone tries to alter a number on the front or erase a name. Forging or altering a ticket is a felony punishable by up to five years in prison and a \$1,000 fine.

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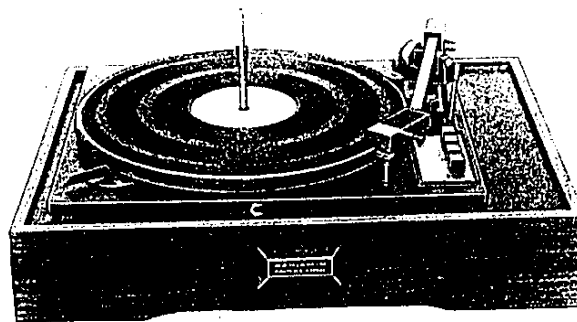
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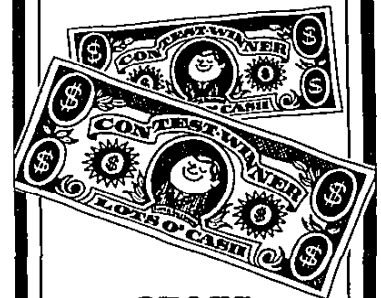
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