



# Virginia Lottery

## **DIRECTOR'S ORDER ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEEN (2021)**

### **VIRGINIA'S COMPUTER-GENERATED LOTTERY GAME MEGA MILLIONS FINAL RULES FOR GAME OPERATION.**

In accordance with the authority granted by §§ 2.2-4002B (15) and 58.1-4006A of the *Code of Virginia*, I hereby promulgate the final rules for game operation in Virginia's Computer-generated Lottery Game "Mega Millions". These rules amplify and conform to the duly adopted Virginia Lottery regulations for the conduct of lottery games.

A copy of the game rules may be requested by sending an email to [publicrecords@valottery.com](mailto:publicrecords@valottery.com). The rules are also available for inspection and copying during normal business hours at the Virginia Lottery headquarters, 600 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia, and at each of the Virginia Lottery offices. A copy of these game rules may be requested by mail by writing to: FOIA Officer, Virginia Lottery, 600 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

This Director's Order becomes effective August 11, 2021, fully replaces any and all prior Virginia Lottery "Mega Millions" Game Rules and Orders, and shall remain in full force and effect unless amended or rescinded by further Director's Order.

/s/Quan Kirk  
Quan Kirk, Deputy General Counsel

08/10/2021  
Date

/s/ Kevin Hall  
Kevin Hall, Executive Director

08/11/2021  
Date



**VIRGINIA'S COMPUTER-GENERATED LOTTERY GAME  
"MEGA MILLIONS"  
OFFICIAL RULES FOR GAME OPERATION**

**A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. In addition to these specific Game Rules, all requirements in the Mega Millions multi-state official game rules, language on the back of the Ticket, and the Virginia Lottery laws and regulations apply to the operation of this Game. The Virginia Lottery *Online Gaming Rules and Lottery Account Terms and Conditions* will also apply when purchases are made online at [www.valottery.com](http://www.valottery.com).
2. Except as may be otherwise provided in **Section P** ("Disputes") herein, in the event of a conflict between any provision in the "Mega Millions" multi-state official game rules and any Virginia Lottery law, rule or regulation, then, as to the Virginia Lottery, Virginia law, rule and regulation shall control.
3. Game Rules, Virginia Lottery laws and regulations, and terms and conditions are on file at Virginia Lottery headquarters.

**B. DEFINITIONS** (for purposes of this Game):

"Account" means the Virginia Lottery account through which a Player's age and identity verification takes place.

"Annual Payout Option" means that the manner in which the Jackpot Prize shall be paid is thirty (30) consecutive graduated annual installments. Refer to **Section H.4.a** ("Prize Structure").

"Cash Option" means that the manner in which the Jackpot Prize shall be paid is an initial cash payment followed shortly thereafter by a lump sum cash payment for the remaining portion of the Jackpot Prize. Refer to **Section H.4.b** ("Prize Structure").

"Claimant" means a Person who presents a Ticket/online Play that he/she presumes to be a Winning Ticket/online Play or a Player with a validated Prize win from a purchased Game.

"Computer-generated Game" means a Virginia Lottery Game that is in direct communication with a Mainframe computer operated by or at the direction of the Virginia Lottery.

"Director" means the Executive Director of the Virginia Lottery as established in Chapter 40 of Title 58.1 (§58.1-4000 *et seq.*) of the *Code of Virginia* or any other employee(s) to whom the Executive Director's authority is lawfully delegated.

“Drawing” means a formal process of randomly selecting numbers in accordance with the Game Rules.

“Easy Pick” means a Game feature that allows a Player to have the gaming system randomly select his/her numbers for an individual Play. The designation “EP” is printed on a retail Ticket to indicate an Easy Pick Play.

“Election” means the irrevocable decision that a Claimant makes within sixty (60) days of becoming entitled to the Prize to receive his/her prize under either the Annual Payout Option or Cash Option method of payment.

“Entitled to the Prize” means the status of a Claimant whose Ticket or online Winning Play has been validated by the Virginia Lottery as winning a Prize, unless Internal Revenue Service policy provides a different definition, in which case the Internal Revenue Service definition shall prevail.

“Fixed Prizes” means a set amount awarded in a Game.

“Future Play” means a Game feature that allows a Player to select numbers for any one (1) future Drawing scheduled after the next most immediate Drawing up to thirteen (13) weeks from the current date. A Future Play can be for one (1) Drawing only. Future Play is not available with Mega Millions online play.

“Game” means the game named in the title at the top of Page 1 of these rules.

“Game Rules” or “Rules” means these rules.

“Jackpot Prize” means the Prize amount awarded for matching, in a single Play online or on a Mega Millions Ticket, five (5) numbers selected from a field of seventy-five (75) and one (1) number selected from a field of fifteen (15).

“Just the Jackpot™” means a feature of the Mega Millions game that allows Players to purchase two (2) Just the Jackpot™ Plays on a single Ticket. Each Just the Jackpot™ Ticket will have two (2) Plays that are eligible to win **only the** Jackpot Prize, and **no other** Prize level. A Just the Jackpot™ Play must match all of the Winning Numbers in order to win the Jackpot Prize, as with a standard Mega Millions Ticket. The price of one (1) pair of Just the Jackpot™ Plays is three dollars (\$3.00). Just the Jackpot™ Plays are offered only as Easy Pick. Just the Jackpot™ is not available online.

“Lottery” means the Virginia Lottery.

“Lottery Board” means the group of seven (7) people, appointed by the Governor of Virginia, with the power to adopt regulations governing the establishment and operation of the Virginia Lottery and to perform other functions that are set out in the *Code of Virginia*.

“Lottery Retailer,” “Lottery Sales Retailer,” or “Retailer” means a Person or entity licensed by the Virginia Lottery to sell and dispense Virginia Lottery products.

“Mega Millions Cut-off” or “Imminent” means the time after which Lottery Plays will not be accepted for that Drawing. The Imminent occurs on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:45 PM Eastern Time for each Mega Millions Drawing.

“Mega Millions Ticket” or “Ticket” means a valid Ticket produced by, or an online Play registered in, the Lottery's gaming system, and sold by the Virginia Lottery for this Game.

“Megaplier” means an add-on feature to the Mega Millions game that provides a chance to increase the amount of any non-Jackpot Prize won. The “Megaplier” number will be chosen from a field of fifteen (15) numbers according to the following relative frequency: five (5) number 2's, six (6) number 3's, three (3) number 4's, and one (1) number 5.

"Multi-draw Purchase" means a Game feature which allows a Player to select Plays for up to twenty-six (26) consecutive Drawings on one (1) Ticket, starting with the next scheduled Drawing. The cost of a Multi-Draw Ticket/Play depends on how many Draws and how many Plays are selected. Multi-draw Purchase for online play allows for up to 104 consecutive Drawings on one (1) purchase.

"Number of Draws" means the number of Drawings for which a Multi-draw Purchase is valid.

"Pari-Mutuel" means the total amount of sales allocated to pay Prize Claimants, at the designated Prize Level, divided among the number of winning Mega Millions Tickets/Plays.

"Partial Easy Pick" means a Game feature that allows a Player to have the gaming system randomly select a portion of his/her numbers for an individual Play. There will be an "EP" printed on the retail Ticket to indicate a Partial Easy Pick Play.

"Party Lottery" or "Lotteries" means one or more of the state lotteries established and operated pursuant to the laws of CA, GA, IL, MD, MA, MI, NJ, , OH, VA, or WA. Participating states may change from time to time. Other state and provincial lotteries may also be licensed to sell Mega Millions.

"Person" means a natural person and may not extend to or be applied to a corporation, company, partnership, association or other entity or when referring to a Lottery retailer, the term as defined in § 58.1-4009 of the Code of Virginia.

"Play" means one (1) wager for a chance to win a Prize.

"Play Area" means a defined area on a Ticket within which distinct numbers, symbols, and/or Game grids are printed that are unique to the Game.

"Player" means a Person who is at least eighteen (18) years of age, who purchases or otherwise validly obtains a Play/Ticket. Licensed Virginia Lottery Retailers and their employees may be Virginia Lottery Players.

"Playslip" means an optically readable card on paper stock issued by the Virginia Lottery that a Player uses to make a Play or Plays. A Playslip has no pecuniary or Prize value and shall not constitute evidence of a Ticket purchase or of numbers selected.

"Plays per Ticket" means the number of Plays printed on a single Ticket or displayed online. A Mega Millions Ticket can have up to ten (10) Plays per retail Ticket. Plays will be marked "A" through "J" on the retail Ticket.

"Present at the Terminal" means that a Player remains physically present at the Virginia Lottery Terminal from the time the Player's order for a Ticket is accepted by the Virginia Lottery Retailer, through completion of the order processing, payment, and delivery of the Ticket to the Player. Players must be present at the Terminal for any purchase.

"Prize" or "Prizes" means the winnings as defined in **Section H** ("Prize Structure").

"Prize Fund" means the number of dollars available to fund all Prizes.

"Prize Level" means the different prizes awarded for correctly selecting one (1) or more numbers which match numbers produced by the Drawing for the Drawing date for which the Play(s) was/were purchased.

"Prize Pool" means the respective number of dollars from the Prize Fund allocated to each of the Prize Levels.

“Prizewinner” means a verified Claimant who is entitled, as a result of successful Play/Ticket validation, to receive a Prize under the rules of a Game.

“Self-service Vending Machine” or “Vending Machine” means an interactive device by which a Player may select a Game and purchase a Ticket without the help of a retail clerk or a Virginia Lottery employee at a Virginia Lottery office or other approved location.

“Terminal” means a device that is authorized by the Virginia Lottery to interact with the Virginia Lottery’s central computer system to issue Virginia Lottery Tickets and to enter, receive and process Virginia Lottery transactions that may include issuing Tickets, validating Tickets and transmitting reports.

“Ticket Message” means a message that may appear on each Ticket that consists of up to seven (7) lines, thirty-six (36) characters per line.

“Unclaimed Prize” means any cash Prize for a Winning Mega Millions Play that has not been presented for payment within 180 days of the valid Drawing date for which the Ticket/online Play was purchased.

“Winning Number(s)” means the five (5) different numbers (one (1) through seventy (70)) and one (1) number (one (1) through twenty-five (25)), randomly selected at each Drawing, that will be used to determine the Winning Play.

“Winning Play” means the Play numbers/symbols making up a single Game Play that match the Winning Number(s).

“Winning Ticket/Online Play” means a Ticket/online Play that has passed all Lottery validation and security requirements and contains the Winning Play(s). Each winning Ticket/online Play must meet Virginia Lottery validation requirements as defined in the Virginia regulations.

“Winning Ticket/Online Play Validation” means the process used to validate a Winning Ticket/online Play following the purchase of a Winning Play as shown on the Mega Millions Ticket. Refer to **Section L** (“Ticket Validation Requirements”).

**C. GAME DESCRIPTION:** Mega Millions is a multi-state lottery Game in which Players select numbers that could potentially match those selected during a random Drawing for a chance to win Prizes. Refer to **Section H** (“Prize Structure”).

**D. ELIGIBILITY:**

1. Minors Purchasing and/or Redeeming Lottery Games/Products: Persons under the age of eighteen (18) are not permitted to purchase or redeem Lottery Games/products. No Lottery Game/product shall be given as a gift or otherwise to any Person under the age of eighteen (18) years. The transferee of any Lottery Game/product from a Person ineligible to purchase/acquire a Lottery Game/product is ineligible to receive any Prize thereof.
2. Eligibility: No officer, employee or Board member of the Lottery, or any officer or employee or board member of any vendor to the Lottery of Computer-generated or scratch game goods or services working directly on a contract with the Lottery for such goods or services, or any person residing in the same household of any such Board member, officer or employee, or any person under the age of eighteen (18) years, shall be eligible to purchase/acquire Lottery games/products. The Lottery will not pay a Prize on a Lottery game/product purchased/acquired by, for, or gifted to or transferred to anyone referenced in this **Section D**, or to the transferee of such Person.

**E. GAME PURCHASE:**

1. Eligible Players may purchase Plays or Tickets, as applicable, via a Lottery Terminal at retail, a Self-Service Vending Machine, online at [www.valottery.com](http://www.valottery.com) or by any means made available by the Virginia Lottery.

2. Price: Except as otherwise noted herein or as otherwise announced by the Lottery, one (1) Mega Millions base Play costs two dollars (\$2.00). The optional feature Megaplier is a chance to increase non-Jackpot winning prizes and costs an additional one (1) dollar (\$1.00) per Play.
3. By purchasing a Play or Ticket, the Player agrees to comply with and abide by the Lottery laws and regulations, these Game Rules, the "Mega Millions" multi-state official game rules, all final decisions of the Director, the Lottery *Online Gaming Rules* and *Lottery Account Terms and Conditions*, as applicable, and all procedures established by the Director for the conduct of the Game.
4. Risk: Players should sign the back of a Ticket after purchase. The Lottery shall not be responsible for any loss incurred as a result of a Player's failure to sign a Ticket. It shall be the sole responsibility of a Player to verify the accuracy of each Game Play printed on the Ticket or the wager information displayed on the wager screen for online play (to include the cost, the numbers selected, and the date(s) of play).
5. The placing of Plays is done at a Player's own risk. The Player acknowledges that a Lottery Retailer shall be deemed to be acting on behalf of the Player in selecting numbers via the Lottery Terminal.
6. Player responsibility: A Player assumes responsibility for any activities in his/her Account when making Game purchases online.
7. Lottery Responsibility: The Lottery is responsible for reasonable safeguards of a Player's Account data.

#### **F. HOW TO PLAY:**

1. A Player must select five (5) numbers from a field of seventy (70) numbers, and one (1) number from a field of twenty-five (25) numbers, or allow the random selection of numbers constituting a Play via Easy Pick or Partial Easy Pick.
2. Players must match their numbers to those drawn by the designated Party Lottery on the designated Drawing date to be eligible to win a Prize.
3. Use of Playslips may be required: Lottery Retailers may require the use of Mega Millions Playslips for Play selections and options that can be executed thereon in order to minimize the risk of error in entering Players' number selections and to expedite service to all Virginia Lottery customers. Options not available on the Mega Millions Playslip will be entered manually by the Virginia Lottery Retailer at the Player's request. The use of mechanical, electronic, computer-generated or any other non-manual method of marking Playslips is prohibited.
4. Unaccepted Play: If for any reason the Player's Play is not accepted, the liability of the Virginia Lottery and its Retailer is limited to a refund of the amount paid for the Play.
5. Cut-off of Play: Plays for a particular Drawing will be accepted by the computer system until approximately 10:45 PM Eastern Time on the day of that Drawing.

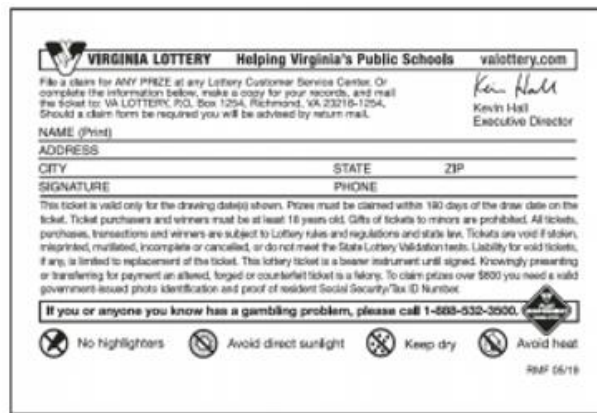
**G. RETAIL TICKET:**

1. Ticket data: A Mega Millions Ticket consists of up to ten (10) game board(s), each having five (5) different numbers selected from a field of one (1) through seventy (70) and one (1) number selected from a field of one (1) through twenty-five (25), which appear on a Ticket as a set of six (6) numbers.

The front of the Ticket must show the logo for Mega Millions, the date and time of purchase, the price of the Ticket, the game board(s), the Retailer and Terminal number that produced the Ticket, the security code, the Ticket serial number, and a bar code representation of the Ticket serial number. If the Play was an Easy Pick or Partial Easy Pick Play, the code "EP" must be present.

The back of the Ticket must contain a sequential Ticket stock number preceded or followed by two (2) alphabetic characters, and general lottery game information and requirements.

Sample Printed Ticket:



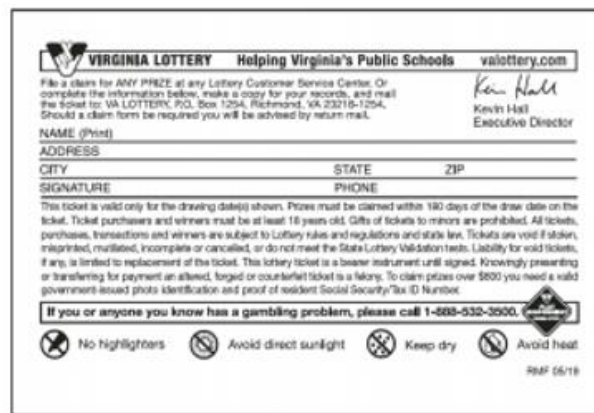
2. Mega Millions Just the Jackpot™ Ticket:

A Mega Millions Just the Jackpot™ Ticket consists of up to five (5) pairs of game board(s), each having five (5) different numbers selected from a field of one (1) through seventy (70) and one (1) number selected from a field of one (1) through twenty-five (25), which appear on a Ticket as a set of six (6) numbers.

The front of the Ticket must show the logo for Mega Millions and Just the Jackpot™, the date and time of purchase, the price of the Ticket, the game board(s), the Retailer and Terminal number that produced the Ticket, the security code, the Ticket serial number, and a bar code representation of the Ticket serial number.

The back of the Ticket must contain a sequential Ticket stock number preceded or followed by two (2) alphabetic characters, and general lottery game information and requirements.

Sample Printed Ticket (Just the Jackpot™):



## H. PRIZE STRUCTURE:

1. Prize Fund: The total Prize Fund for each Drawing is approximately fifty percent (50%) of the money wagered by all Players for that Drawing. The Prize Levels are generated from the Prize Fund. Unless the provisions of **Section H.6** are applicable, the Jackpot Prize will be the only Prize determined on a Pari-Mutuel basis. The Jackpot Prize Level will be determined by dividing the Jackpot Prize pool for the Drawing by the number of Winning Plays produced as a result of the Drawing. Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, other Prize Levels will be fixed as set forth in the following table:

MEGA MILLIONS PRIZES AND ODDS				Megaplier Prizes (prizes below include the base prize amount)			
				# OF BALLS IN PLAY			
Overall chances of winning a prize 1 in 24.0				5 BALLS	6 BALLS	3 BALLS	1 BALLS
Level	Match	Base Prize w/o Megaplier	Odds 1 in	2X	3X	4X	5X
1	5 + Mega Ball	Jackpot	302,575,350	Jackpot*	Jackpot*	Jackpot*	Jackpot*
2	5 (No Mega Ball)	\$1,000,000	12,607,306	\$2,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$5,000,000
3	4 + Mega Ball	\$10,000	931,001	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$40,000	\$50,000
4	4 (No Mega Ball)	\$500	38,792	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500
5	3 + Mega Ball	\$200	14,547	\$400	\$600	\$800	\$1,000
6	3 (No Mega Ball)	\$10	606	\$20	\$30	\$40	\$50
7	2 + Mega Ball	\$10	693	\$20	\$30	\$40	\$50
8	1 + Mega Ball	\$4	89	\$8	\$12	\$16	\$20
9	0 + Mega Ball	\$2	37	\$4	\$6	\$8	\$10
<b>*Megaplier does not apply to the Mega Millions jackpot prize</b>							



Just the Jackpot™	5 + Mega Ball	Jackpot	302,575,350	
<b>*Just the Jackpot™ applies to the Mega Millions jackpot prize only.</b>				

2. Jackpot Prize Advertising: Prior to each Drawing, the Party Lottery Directors shall determine the annuitized Jackpot Prize amount to be advertised.
3. Minimum Jackpot Prize: The minimum starting annuitized Jackpot Prize amount and any minimum increases on each successive Jackpot Prize in the same roll cycle will be determined by the Party Lottery Directors.
4. Jackpot Prize Wins: If, in any Drawing, there are no Winning Plays that qualify for the Jackpot Prize category, the portion of the Prize Fund allocated to the Jackpot Prize shall remain in the Jackpot Prize Pool and be added to the amount allocated to the Jackpot Prize category in the next consecutive Drawing.

If the annuitized Jackpot Prize divided by the number of Winning Plays is equal to or greater than one million dollars (\$1,000,000), each Jackpot Prizewinner will be paid in thirty (30) graduated payments unless the Prizewinner selects the Cash Option method of payment.

If the annuitized Jackpot Prize divided by the number of Winning Plays is less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000), each Jackpot Prizewinner shall be paid an amount divided equally by the number of Jackpot Prizewinners. Each such Jackpot Prizewinner will be paid in a single cash payment. If the Cash Option is selected, no cash payment will be processed until the Claimant makes an Election by submitting a signed, notarized form irrevocably selecting the Cash Option method of payment.

If the Claimant does not make an Election of the Cash Option by the close of business on the sixtieth (60<sup>th</sup>) day following the date on which he/she first became entitled to the Jackpot Prize, the Claimant shall be paid the Jackpot Prize under the Annual Payout Option.

If multiple Claimants, acting as a group, claim a Jackpot Prize, the Election must be unanimous. If such multiple Claimants are unable to unanimously make an Election, the Prize shall be paid under the Annual Payout Option; however, the smallest annual pre-tax payment for each Claimant will not be less than five thousand one dollars (\$5,001). If there are multiple Claimants acting as a group and the smallest annual pre-tax payment, or the smallest Cash Option payment, for an individual Claimant is less than five thousand one dollars (\$5,001), the multiple Claimants must name a single recipient to whom the Virginia Lottery will issue payment.

- a. Annual Payout Option: The Jackpot Prize shall be paid in thirty (30) consecutive graduated annual installments. The initial payment shall be paid upon completion of irrevocable Election within the prescribed time period, completion of the internal validation procedures and after the purchase of the securities to secure the annual payment stream, which will occur within five (5) business days of the completion of the irrevocable Election. The subsequent twenty-nine (29) payments shall escalate by a factor of five (5) percent annually, and be paid annually to coincide with the month of the federal auction date at which the purchased bonds mature. All such payments shall be made within seven (7) days after the actual maturity date.

- b. Cash Option: The Jackpot Prize shall be paid in an initial cash payment upon completion of internal validation procedures and the Prizewinner's notarized, irrevocable Election within the prescribed time period to receive the Jackpot Prize under the Cash Option method of payment. The Cash Option amount offered will be the Cash Equivalent/Grand Jackpot Prize as established under the MEGA MILLIONS multi-state official game rules.

The Prizewinner understands and agrees that he/she may not receive a payment until approximately seven (7) business days after the Election form is signed.

5. Other Prize Wins: Every Prize of two dollars (\$2.00) through five million dollars (\$5,000,000) shall be paid in one (1) payment.
6. Liability Cap: Should total prize liability for all Party Lotteries, except California which is prohibited from paying fixed prizes, exceed three hundred percent (300%) of sales for all Party Lotteries, except California, for the Drawing OR fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) plus fifty percent (50%) of sales for all Party Lotteries, except California, for that Drawing (whichever is lower) (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Liability Cap"), prize amounts in Prize Levels 2 through 9 may become Pari-Mutuel. However, in no event shall the Pari-Mutuel Prize be greater than the stated fixed Prize for that level. The amount to be used for the allocation of such Pari-Mutuel Prizes (hereinafter referred to as the Pari-Mutuel Prize Pool) shall be the Liability Cap less the amount paid for the Jackpot Prize and any excluded fixed Prize Levels, typically prize levels two (2) through nine (9). The Pari-Mutuel Prize Pool shall be allocated to Prize Levels two (2) through three (3) on a Pari-Mutuel basis in accordance with the formula in the Mega Millions Finance and Operations Procedures. In addition, fixed Prize Levels may be adjusted based on the provisions included in the "Mega Millions" multi-state official game rules and associated agreements.
7. For purposes of Prize calculation with respect to any Pari-Mutuel Prize other than the Jackpot Prize, the calculation shall be rounded down so that Prizes will be paid in multiples of one dollar (\$1.00).
8. In a single Drawing, a Claimant may win in only one (1) Prize category per single Play and shall be entitled only to the highest Prize for that Winning Play.
9. Withholding from Prizes: State and federal withholding taxes, and any debts subject to the Virginia Setoff Debt Collection Act, shall be withheld from Mega Millions Prizes by the Virginia Lottery in such amounts as may be required by law.

## **I. DRAWINGS:**

1. Drawings will be held on Tuesdays and Fridays at 11:00 PM Eastern Time, or at a time as determined by the designated Party Lottery Director, or designee, unless otherwise announced by said Director or designee. Substitute Drawings will be held at the discretion of the Party Lottery Directors.
2. The Party Lotteries may digitally stream or televise, either live or delayed, the process of selecting the Winning Numbers, and the Virginia Lottery will report the results to selected news outlets to inform the public of the Winning Numbers. All Drawing results will be available on the Virginia Lottery's official website, [www.valottery.com](http://www.valottery.com). In the event these methods of informing the public of the results are prevented for any reason, the Lottery will use alternate means to inform the public at the earliest reasonable opportunity.
3. All Winning Numbers, even though announced, are subject to validation by the Lottery, including, if necessary, review by the Director, whose decision is final. The Lottery shall not be liable for any information pertaining to Virginia Lottery Games, including Drawing numbers and Prizes, that are shown on other websites and/or mobile applications .
4. "Megaplier" Draws: A separate random Megaplier Drawing will be conducted immediately before

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the Mega Millions Drawing and the results will be announced during each of the regular Mega Millions draw shows. A single Megaplier number of two (2), three (3), four (4), or five (5) shall be drawn. Refer to **Section H** ("Prize Structure").

#### J. RETAIL TICKET OWNERSHIP:

1. A printed Ticket is a bearer instrument. When a signature is written on the back of a Ticket, the Person whose signature appears in such area shall be the owner of the Ticket and shall be entitled to any Prize resulting from the Ticket. The Lottery shall pay the Claimant whose signature appears on the back of the Winning Ticket.
2. If more than one (1) signature appears on the Ticket or there are multiple parties presenting one Ticket, **each** Prizewinner shall complete a [Prizewinner Claim Form](#) and a [Player Affidavit of Multiple Ownership](#) in order to receive payment. Certain restrictions may apply to the minimum amount of an individual Prizewinner's payment.
3. Non-Responsibility: The Lottery shall not be responsible for lost, stolen, altered, forged or fraudulently made Tickets.

#### K. CLAIMANT VERIFICATION:

1. Methods used by the Lottery to establish and confirm a Claimant's identity include, but are not limited to:
  - viewing and/or copying the Claimant's valid government-issued photo identification;
  - viewing and/or copying proof of taxpayer identification number (e.g. Social Security number);
  - asking identity-verifying questions in the absence of the aforementioned document proof; and/or
  - viewing and/or retaining the information provided on a Lottery *Prizewinner Claim Form*.
2. **In order to verify a Claimant's age, in all cases involving a cash Prize greater than \$100 claimed at a Lottery office**, the Lottery must be provided with the Claimant's valid government-issued photo identification and taxpayer identification number (e.g. Social Security number). Payment will be delayed until such a number is provided and the Claimant shall not be entitled to interest on the Prize Funds attributable to such delay. Any Prize for which a taxpayer identification number has been requested but not furnished within 180 days of the date of the Drawing from which the winning Play resulted will be forfeited and treated as an Unclaimed Prize.

#### L. TICKET/ONLINE PLAY VALIDATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. To be a valid Ticket/online Play, all requirements unique to a particular Game and all requirements set out in regulation and statute must be met.
2. The Ticket/online Play must have been issued by the Virginia Lottery in an authorized manner. A printed Ticket must be intact and must not, in whole or in part, be defectively printed, produced in error, counterfeit, unreadable, incomplete, mis-registered, defective, torn, stolen, mutilated, altered, reconstituted, tampered with or previously paid.
3. The Ticket/online Play data must have been recorded in the Lottery's central computer system prior to cashing/claiming a Prize.
4. The information appearing on the Ticket/online Play must correspond precisely with the Lottery's computer records.
5. The serial number on a retail Ticket must appear in its entirety and must correspond to a matching serial number on the Lottery's validation file.

6. All information appearing on an apparent Winning Ticket must correspond to the Lottery's records of Winning Tickets, and no Prize based upon a Ticket with identical data shall be or have been paid.
7. The display printing on the retail Ticket must be regular in every respect, correspond precisely to the artwork on file at the Lottery, and must pass all other security criteria determined by the Director.
8. The Ticket/online Play must be validated in accordance with the provisions of the Lottery regulations relating to procedures for claiming Prizes and for the payment thereof.
9. An apparent printed Winning Ticket shall be void unless the Ticket is printed on a paper stock roll issued by the Lottery and in use at the time of the Play and validly issued to the Lottery Retailer from whom the Ticket was purchased.
10. If a Ticket/online Play fails to pass all of the validation requirements set forth in these Game Rules or in the Lottery's regulations, the Ticket shall be void and ineligible for any Prize and shall not be paid.

**M. PRIZE CLAIMS:**

1. With the exception of online gaming transactions, a retail Ticket shall be the only proof of a Play. Submission of a Winning Ticket to the Virginia Lottery or its authorized Lottery Retailer shall be the sole method of claiming a Prize or Prizes unless purchased online. Prize claims for online purchase shall be handled in accordance with the *Online Gaming Rules* and the *Lottery Account Terms and Conditions*.
2. All claims must be made within 180 days of the valid Drawing date for which the Play/Ticket was purchased. Any Unclaimed Prize shall be forfeited and revert to the Virginia State Literary Fund.
3. In accordance with the provisions of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C.S. app. §§ 501-597b, any Person while in active military service may claim exemption from the 180-day claiming requirement. Any such Person must claim his/her Prize by presenting the Winning Ticket, or proof of account activity for online play, pursuant to the requirements set forth in these Rules no later than 180 days after discharge from active military service. Within thirty (30) days of presentation of such Prize claim, the Director shall verify the claim and direct payment in accordance with Lottery regulations then in effect regarding the manner of payment of Prizes to the holders of Winning Tickets or shares.
4. Employees of the Lottery, or of a licensed Lottery Retailer, shall verify the Ticket and, if valid, pay the amount due to the Claimant. If a claim form is required, the Claimant will be so advised. Unless otherwise specified in these Rules, no payment shall be made unless the Claimant presents a valid Winning Ticket as defined in these Rules.
5. A Claimant shall bear all risk of loss or damage incurred as a result of sending a Ticket through the mail.

6. **To claim a Prize of \$600 or less**, a Claimant may do one of the following:
- present the Winning Ticket to any Retailer licensed by the Lottery;
  - complete and sign the back of the Ticket and present it at any Lottery office; or
  - complete and sign the back of the Ticket and mail it to the Virginia Lottery, P. O. Box 1254, Richmond, Virginia 23218-1254 (preferably by insured, registered, or certified mail, return receipt requested).

The Claimant should retain a copy of the front and back of the Ticket for his/her records.

7. **To claim a Prize of more than \$600**, a Claimant may do one of the following:
- complete and sign the back of the Ticket and present the Ticket at any Virginia Lottery office; or
  - complete and sign the back of the Ticket, and mail:
    - the Ticket;
    - a copy of his/her government issued photo identification; and
    - a copy of a document verifying the Claimant's taxpayer identification number (e.g. Social Security number)to the Virginia Lottery, P. O. Box 1254, Richmond, Virginia 23218-1254 (preferably by insured, registered or certified mail, return receipt requested).

The Claimant should retain a copy of the front and back of the Ticket for his/her records.

8. Virginia Lottery law prohibits the holder of a Winning Ticket from reselling or having a Person other than him/herself claim a Winning Ticket for the purpose of concealing his/her identity as a Prizewinner. Any Person found to have engaged in the foregoing shall be fined as determined by the Director: (a) for Prizes of less than \$1,000, not more than \$250; (b) for Prizes of \$1,000 or more but less than \$5,000, more than \$250 but not more than \$500; and (c) for Prizes of \$5,000 or more, no less than \$1,000.
9. **IMPORTANT:** Claimants should consult [www.valottery.com](http://www.valottery.com) for any updates or temporary modifications to claiming procedures made necessary as a result of any Executive Order issued by the Governor of Virginia, including but not limited to, orders addressing public health emergencies.

#### **N. PRIZE PAYMENT:**

1. When paying any Prize claim **in excess of \$600**, the Lottery shall report the winnings or withhold taxes pursuant to rules established by the Internal Revenue Service and Virginia Department of Taxation and shall file the appropriate income reporting form(s) with the Internal Revenue Service and the Virginia Department of Taxation.
2. When paying a cash Prize claim in excess of **\$100** at a Lottery office or via a Player's online account, the Lottery shall withhold any monies due under the Commonwealth's Set-Off Debt Collection Act if the agency has registered such debt with the Virginia Department of Taxation and timely notice of the debt has been furnished by the Virginia Department of Taxation to the Virginia Lottery.
3. One Prize: Subject to the validation requirements contained herein, Players are eligible to receive only one (1) (the highest) applicable Prize for each winning Game Play.
4. No right of any Person to a Prize shall be assignable except that:
  - a. the Lottery may pay any Prize according to the terms of a deceased Prizewinner's beneficiary designation or similar form filed with the Lottery, or to the estate of a deceased Prizewinner who has not completed such a form, and
  - b. the Prize to which a Prizewinner is entitled may be paid as directed by an appropriate judicial order.
5. Each Prizewinner is legally required to include the value of the Prize, as well as any taxes paid by the

Virginia Lottery on his/her behalf, in his/her taxable income for tax reporting purposes. As a result of accepting a Prize, and taking into account a Prizewinner's total taxable income for the year in which the Prize is accepted, a Prizewinner may fall into a higher tax bracket for his/her federal and state tax liabilities for the year in which the Prize is accepted.

6. Virginia Lottery law prohibits the disclosure of information about an individual Prizewinner's identity for a Prize greater than \$10 million, unless that Prizewinner consents in writing to such disclosure.
7. For Prizes up to and including \$10 million, a Prizewinner agrees to participate in a press conference and agrees to the use of his/her name and/or photo for publicity at the Lottery's Discretion. Examples of publicity include, but are not limited to, news releases, Internet, news media and signs at the Lottery Retailer locations. In addition, a Prizewinner agrees to participate in Lottery promotional efforts which may include his/her name, hometown, the amount of the Prize won, and the Game won, through so-called "social media," which may include, but will not be limited to, YouTube®, Twitter®, Facebook®, Instagram® or similar efforts, without additional consent from or compensation to the Prizewinner.

**O. CANCELLATION POLICY:** Once printed, a Mega Millions Ticket **cannot be canceled**. Once an online Game purchase has been submitted, a Mega Millions online Play **cannot be canceled**.

1. Canceled sales in Virginia: The Director has the right to cancel sales of Tickets in Virginia on holidays, days of special importance, or on days when conditions make conducting sales impractical or as determined by the Director.
2. Termination of Game: The Director may, at any time, announce a suspension or termination of a Game without advance notice and at his/her sole discretion, at which point no further Tickets will be sold and no additional Prizes shall be awarded. Neither the Lottery, the Director, nor any employee of the Lottery or member of the Lottery Board shall have any liability whatsoever for any such suspension/termination.

**P. DISPUTES:** The Director may refrain from paying a Prize pending final determination under any of the following circumstances:

1. if a dispute related to any Prize occurred or if it appears that a dispute may occur;
2. if there is any question regarding the identity of the claimant; or
3. if there is any question regarding the validity of any Ticket presented for payment.

No liability for interest arising because of any such delay, or any delay beyond the Virginia Lottery's control, shall accrue to the benefit of the claimant pending payment of the claim. The Lottery is neither liable for, nor has it any responsibility to resolve, disputes between or among competing claimants.

In the event of a dispute or other instance of doubt, the decision of the Director shall be final and binding. However, the Director may, solely at the Director's option, refund the purchase price of a Ticket/online Play or replace an invalid, defective or otherwise erroneous Ticket/online Play with a Ticket/online Play of equivalent sale price from any current Lottery Game. Replacement of the Ticket/online Play shall be the bearer's or Claimant's sole and exclusive remedy.

**Q. MULTI-STATE AGREEMENT:**

To the extent any reconciliation or determination must be made as to the applicability of the several provisions of these revised Rules, the Mega Millions multi-state official game rules, and the Agreement effective April 6, 2020, the decision of the Virginia Lottery Director shall be final and binding.

**R. GOVERNING LAW:**

By purchasing this Game, each person agrees to comply with and abide by the Lottery laws, Lottery regulations, all final decisions of the Director of the Lottery, these and any other applicable Rules established by the Lottery Board and/or Director of the Lottery for the conduct of this Game, and the *Lottery Account Terms and Conditions*, as applicable. Any dispute arising that relates to any aspect of this Game shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the venue for the determination of any such dispute shall be in the city of Richmond, Virginia.

**S. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (“ADA”):**

The Lottery is not responsible for any third party’s compliance with ADA Rules and Regulations where applicable in connection with a Prize.