
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1985 No. 1204

**The Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and
Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985**

PART III

GAMING

CHAPTER III

GAMING BY WAY OF A GAMING MACHINE

Miscellaneous

Removal of money from gaming machines on certain premises

123.—(1) Where a gaming machine is installed—

- (a) on bingo club premises, or
- (b) on the premises of a registered club;

no person who is not an authorised person for the purposes of this Article shall remove from the gaming machine any money, other than any money delivered by the gaming machine as, or as part of, a prize in respect of a game played by means of the gaming machine.

(2) For the purposes of this Article the following are authorised persons in relation to a gaming machine according to the premises on which it is installed, that is to say—

- (a) in the case of bingo club premises, the holder of the bingo club licence and any person employed by the holder of the licence in connection with the premises and authorised in writing by such holder; and
- (b) in the case of the premises of a registered club, any officer nominated by the club and any person authorised in writing by such officer.

(3) Any person who contravenes this Article shall be guilty of an offence.

Regulation of gaming machines

124.—(1) Regulations may—

- (a) prohibit, or impose such restrictions as the Department considers necessary or expedient on the supply, maintenance or use of gaming machines;
- (b) impose special requirements in respect of gaming machines which are installed, or are supplied for the purpose of being installed—
 - (i) on bingo club premises; or
 - (ii) on the premises of a registered club;
- (c) impose restrictions on the design of gaming machines.

(2) Any person who supplies or maintains a gaming machine in contravention of any regulations made under paragraph (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) Where a gaming machine is used in contravention of any regulations under paragraph (1) on any premises—

- (a) in the case of a registered club, every officer of the club, or
- (b) in the case of bingo club premises, the holder of the bingo club licence, or
- (c) in the case of any other premises, the person who causes or permits the machine to be used,

shall be guilty of an offence.

(4) Where any of the provisions of regulations made under paragraph (1) in so far as they relate to the use of gaming machines is contravened in relation to a gaming machine on any premises, any person who allowed the gaming machine to be on the premises shall be guilty of an offence.

(5) In any proceedings for an offence under paragraph (4) it shall be a defence for any person charged to prove—

- (a) that the contravention occurred without his knowledge, and
- (b) that he exercised all such care as was reasonable in the circumstances to secure that the provisions in question would not be contravened.

[^{F1}Prohibition on inviting, etc. person under 18 to play gaming machine

124A.—(1) Any person who invites, causes or permits an individual under the age of 18 to play a gaming machine, other than a lower limit gaming machine, is guilty of an offence.

(2) In any proceedings against a person for an offence under paragraph (1), it is a defence to prove that there was good reason to believe that the person under the age of 18 had attained that age.

(3) In paragraph (1) a “lower limit gaming machine” means a gaming machine—

- (a) which is installed on premises in respect of which there is in force an amusement permit; and
- (b) in respect of which the condition in Article 108(7) is observed.]

<p>F1 Art. 124A inserted (1.10.2023) by Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (c. 14), ss. 7(1), 17(3); S.R. 2023/74, art. 2, Sch.</p>

Disqualification of holder of gaming machine certificate or gaming machine permit on conviction of offence

125.—(1) Where a holder of a gaming machine certificate or a gaming machine permit is convicted of—

- (a) an offence under this Chapter; or
- (b) any offence involving fraud or dishonesty;

the court by which he is convicted may make a disqualification order prohibiting him from holding a gaming machine certificate or, as the case may be, a gaming machine permit during such period, not exceeding 5 years from the date on which the order takes effect, as may be specified in the order.

(2) Where a disqualification order under paragraph (1) is made any gaming machine certificate or, as the case may be, gaming machine permit within the prohibition obtained before the order is made or before it takes effect shall by virtue of the order be void as from the time when the order takes effect.

(3) A disqualification order under paragraph (1) shall not take effect—

Changes to legislation: *The Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985, Cross Heading: Miscellaneous is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 19 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (a) until the expiry of the time for bringing an appeal against the conviction or against the making of the order, and
- (b) if such an appeal is brought, until the appeal has been determined or abandoned.

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Instrument applied by [1997 c. 16 s.15\(3\)](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:

- Act applied by [1997 c. 16 s.15\(3\)](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- art. 172A and cross-heading inserted by [2022 c. 14 \(N.I.\) s. 15\(1\)](#)
- art. 186(3A) inserted by [2022 c. 14 \(N.I.\) s. 15\(2\)\(a\)](#)