

2024

N.C. STATE LOTTERY COMMISSION

SPORTS WAGERING ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY REPORT



MARCH 2025



Contents

002	Building the Framework How sports wagering got started in N.C.
003	Sports Wagering by the Numbers The money raised for North Carolina and where the revenue goes
004	Responsible Gaming The N.C. State Lottery Commission's commitment to protecting players
005	Commission



Building the Framework

As soon as the N.C. General Assembly passed House Bill 347 in 2023, the North Carolina State Lottery Commission began the work of building a successful sports wagering program.

In July 2023, the North Carolina State Lottery Commission started hiring staff to help build a sports wagering program. After public comment, on Nov. 16, 2023, the Commission approved the first set of rules for authorized gaming in the state, including rules for interactive sports wagering licensees. The team also established the North Carolina Wagering Catalog that contains a growing list of authorized sports wagering events. New events for wagers can be added to the catalog through a petition process. Currently, there are more than 200 approved wagering leagues/events in the catalog.

By December 2023, the Commission began accepting applications for sports wagering licenses. After reviewing applications, by early 2024, the Commission approved 39 total licenses, including those of eight interactive sports wagering operators.

Online sports wagering officially launched in North Carolina at noon on March 11, 2024, as registered players placed their first bets in the state. The launch came before the June deadline set by the N.C. General Assembly.

Since that launch, the Commission and its staff continue to develop sports wagering regulations and work to add a pari-mutuel horse race wagering program that serves and protects consumers while providing economic benefit to the state.



"Building a legal sports wagering program in North Carolina from the ground up required dedicated teamwork. I want to thank the Commission and our staff for their efforts that led to the successful sports wagering launch one year ago.

From the moment work began, the goals stayed the same: to create a program that protects North Carolinians and raises revenue for our state responsibly. The N.C. State Lottery Commission makes sure that licensed operators provide tools that can empower players to wager responsibly. Youth sports programs and universities across our state have already benefited from proceeds generated from the program.

The work of enhancing our strong sports wagering program continues today. Our staff regulates sports wagering activity in our state while creating a framework that will allow for the addition of pari-mutuel horse race wagering in North Carolina.

We continue to build on this success while ensuring a safe, responsible, and beneficial wagering program for all North Carolinians."

Eric Snider
CHIEF REGULATORY OFFICER

Sports Wagering by the Numbers

Since the launch of sports wagering on March 11, 2024, account holders in N.C. have bet more than \$6.6 billion in paid and promotional bets. From those wagers, players have won more than \$5.85 billion.

Each month, all eight licensed interactive sports wagering operators report revenue to the North Carolina State Lottery Commission. This report includes the amount in paid and promotional bets, players winnings, gross wagering revenue, and tax proceeds.

In addition to licensing fees, the proceeds to North Carolina come from an 18% tax on the gross wagering revenue from sports wagering. The gross wagering revenue is the money received by an interactive operator from sports wagers, minus the amount paid as winnings before any deductions for expenses, fees, or taxes. Since launch, the gross wagering revenue totals more than **\$713 million**. After the 18% tax, the state is projected to receive more than **\$128 million** in proceeds.

Where does the money go?

State law directs sports wagering tax proceeds collected by the North Carolina Department of Revenue to support, among other things, collegiate sports, youth sports, major events, games and attractions, and the state's General Fund. It also provides \$2 million annually to help support the N.C. Problem Gambling Program. Click [here](#) for more information about where the money goes.



Responsible Gaming

The North Carolina State Lottery Commission is committed to protecting players. That dedication can be seen in the work we do to make sure tools to wager safely are available.

Interactive operators are required to make responsible gaming tools available to their players. These include features such as deposit and spending limits, and time outs. The state also offers tools that allow people to take control of their wagering and get help when they need it.

Under state law, \$2 million of tax proceeds from sports wagering goes to support the N.C. Problem Gambling Program, administered by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. The program provides a helpline, resources, and treatment to people experiencing difficulty with gambling.

The NC State Lottery Commission also created a Voluntary Self-Exclusion Program. This is a responsible gaming measure that gives players control over their own access to legal sports gambling. It offers people the ability to exclude themselves from wagering for one year, three years, five years, or for a lifetime. Someone in the Voluntary Self-Exclusion Program will not be able to place sports wagers on any device or at any licensed sportsbook in North Carolina while the self-imposed ban is in place.

For more about responsible gaming, click [here](#).

morethanagame.nc.gov

N.C. Licensed Operators



Commission



Ripley Rand
Chair of the Commission



Cari Boyce
Commissioner



Lindsey Griffin
Commissioner



Chris Hayes
Commissioner



Randy Jones
Commissioner



Nigel Long
Commissioner



Joshua Malcolm
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Jason Roth
Commissioner



Pamela Whitaker
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NCGaming.gov