

**Minnesota State Lottery
Official Game Rules
For the Lotto Game
“Gopher 5®”**

Effective July 1, 2017; Revised April 1, 2021; July 7, 2021

1.1. Name of Game

The name of the Minnesota 5 of 47 Lotto Game is “Gopher 5®.”

1.2. Definitions

- A. “Director” means the Director of the Minnesota State Lottery.
- B. “Drawing” means the formal process of selecting Winning Numbers which determine the number of prizewinners for each prize level of the game.
- C. “Game Board” or “Panel” means that area of the Play Slip which contains forty-seven (47) squares, numbers one (01) through forty-seven (47).
- D. “Game Ticket” or “Ticket” means an acceptable evidence of Play, which is a Ticket produced by a Terminal for the Gopher 5® game.
- E. “Lottery” means the Minnesota State Lottery.
- F. “Lotto” means a Lottery game in which a player selects a group of numbers out of a larger predetermined set of numbers.
- G. “Panel” means an area of a Play Slip that must be marked by a player to select the numbers to play and the amount to be played.
- H. “Pari-mutuel” means wagered funds that are pooled and then paid in equal shares to the prizewinners as described in these Rules.
- I. “Play” means the five (5) different numbers from one (01) through forty-seven (47) that appear on a Ticket as a single numbered selection and are played by a player in the game.
- J. “Play Slip” means a card used in marking a player’s game plays that contains from one (1) to five (5) Panels.
- K. “Quick Pick” means five (5) randomly computer-selected and generated, two-digit numbers, each different number from one (01) through forty-seven (47), that appear on a Ticket and are played by a player in the game.
- L. “Retailer” means a person or entity authorized by the Lottery to sell lotto Lottery Game Tickets.
- M. “Terminal” means a device authorized by the Lottery to function in an interactive mode with the Lottery computer system for the purpose of issuing Lottery Tickets and entering, receiving, and processing Lottery

transactions, including purchases, Ticket validations, and report transmittals.

- N. “Winning Numbers” means the five (5) numbers between one (01) and forty-seven (47) randomly selected at each Drawing, that are verified as official and used to determine winning plays that have been played on a Game Ticket that is logged on the Lottery computer system.

2.1. Game Description

- A. Gopher 5[®] is a five (5) out of forty-seven (47) lotto game that pays set prizes for matching two (2) of the five (5) numbers selected in the official Drawing, three (3) of the five (5) numbers selected in the official Drawing, or four (4) of the five (5) numbers selected in the official Drawing, and pays prizes on a Pari-mutuel basis for matching five (5) of the five (5) numbers selected in the official Drawing.
- B. To play Gopher 5[®], a player selects a set of five (5) different numbers from the set of numbers one (01) through forty-seven (47) for input into a Terminal. The player may select a set by telling the five (5) numbers to a Retailer or requesting a Quick Pick from the Retailer or by marking five (5) numbered squares in any one (1) Panel or Quick Pick on a Play Slip and submitting the Play Slip to the Retailer. The Retailer then issues a Ticket via the Terminal that contains the selected set of numbers, each of which constitutes a game Play.

2.2. Claims

A Ticket is the only proof of a game Play or Plays and the submission of a winning Ticket to the Lottery or Retailer is the sole method of claiming a prize or prizes. A Play Slip has no monetary or prize value and does not constitute evidence of Ticket purchase or of numbers selected. A Terminal-produced paper receipt has no monetary or prize value and does not constitute evidence of a Ticket purchase or of numbers selected.

2.3. Cancellations

- A. Except as provided in Paragraph E., a Ticket purchased on a day of a Drawing and before the Drawing may be canceled by a player by 6:10 p.m.
- B. Except as provided in Paragraph E., a Ticket purchased on a day of a Drawing but after the Drawing (in other words, a ticket purchased for the next drawing) may be canceled by a player at any time before midnight on the same day the Ticket was purchased.
- C. A Ticket may be canceled under the following circumstances:
 - a. the player holds the Ticket;
 - b. the player returns the Ticket to the selling Retailer; and

c. no Drawing applicable to the Ticket has been held.

2.4. Player Responsibility

It is the sole responsibility of the player to verify the accuracy of the game Play or Plays and other data printed on their Ticket(s). The placing of Plays is done at the player's own risk.

2.5. Price of Each Play

- A. The price of each Gopher 5[®] play is one dollar (\$1.00). Up to five (5) Plays may be purchased on a single Ticket.
- B. A Retailer may discount the sales price of a Play in this game, if the reduction in price is part of a store-wide discount promotion on all purchases (Lottery and non-Lottery) made by players. A price discount does not relieve the Retailer from the obligation to pay the Lottery the full price of each Play as stated in this section.

2.6. Play Slip and Ticket Characteristics and Restrictions

- A. The player may select five (5), or request five (5) computer-selected and generated numbered squares in the game grid on a Play Slip. Play Slips are available at no cost to the Player. The minimum Play, of five (5) numbers chosen in one (1) Panel, costs \$1.00.
- B. To purchase a standard game Ticket, a player must pay the purchase price and submit a completed Play Slip, or request number selection by Quick Pick to an authorized Retailer. The standard Game Ticket issued by the Retailer will contain the five (5) number selections played in each game grid along with the Drawing date, amount bet, and system control-number data. A standard Game Ticket is the only valid proof of a bet placed, and the only valid receipt for claiming a prize. The standard Game Ticket is valid only for the Drawing date printed on the Ticket.
- C. If Play Slips are unavailable, Plays may also be given verbally to an authorized Retailer in groups of five (5) number selections for each game Play for each \$1.00 wagered. The selections are manually entered into a Terminal by the Retailer.
- D. A player may select numbers for up to fourteen (14) Drawings, specifically the next Drawing and the thirteen (13) subsequent Drawings.
- E. No Ticket may be purchased or issued for a Drawing within fifteen (15) minutes of that Drawing.

2.7. Time, Place, and Manner of Conducting Drawings

- A. Time of Drawings. A Gopher 5[®] Drawing is held each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, including holidays, at 6:10 p.m., or as determined and publicly announced by the Lottery.

- B. Place of Drawings. Gopher 5[®] Drawings are conducted at Lottery headquarters or in a place designated by the Lottery.
- C. Manner of Conducting Drawings. The Lottery draws at random, five (5) numbers from one (1) through forty-seven (47), which, after verification, are known as the Winning Numbers for that day.

3.1. Prize Pool

The prize pool for all prize categories consists of 57 percent (57%) of each Drawing period's sales, or another percentage as may be determined and publicly announced by the Director.

3.2. Prize Reserve Fund

After there are sufficient funds allocated in the Grand Prize pool to fund a Grand Prize of \$130,000, from time to time the Director may place up to two percent (2%) of the amount allocated to the Grand Prize in the Gopher 5[®] game in a Prize Reserve Fund until the Prize Reserve Fund exceeds the amount designated by the Director.

3.3. Determination of Prizewinners

- A. The prizes awarded for the Grand Prize, which matches a player's first five (5) numbers selected, are determined on a Pari-mutuel basis starting at \$100,000 in the Grand Prize pool, with a minimum of \$100,000 paid to a single winning Ticket.
- B. The prize money allocated to the Grand Prize from the total prize pool is 57.87%. The prize money allocated to the Grand Prize is divided equally by the number of Tickets matching the five (5) numbers selected.
- C. An owner of a Ticket matching four (4) of the five (5) numbers selected is entitled to a prize of five hundred dollars (\$500).
- D. An owner of a Ticket matching three (3) of the five (5) numbers selected is entitled to a prize of fifteen dollars (\$15).
- E. An owner of a Ticket matching two (2) of the five (5) numbers selected is entitled to a prize of one dollar (\$1.00).

3.4. Funding of Guaranteed Prizes

The Lottery may offer guaranteed minimum Grand Prize amounts or minimum increases in the Grand Prize amount between Drawings or make other changes to the allocation of prize money when the Lottery determines it would be in the best interest of the game.

3.5. Probability of Winning

The following table shows the probability of winning each prize, based on the total number of possible combinations of five (5) numbers chosen by a player and five (5) Winning Numbers randomly selected by the Lottery from a field of forty-seven (47) numbers.

<u>Prize</u>	<u>Match</u>	<u>Approximate Probability of Winning*</u>
Grand Prize	5 of the 5 selected	1:1,533,939
\$500	4 of the 5 selected	1:7,304
\$15	3 of the 5 selected	1:178
\$1.00	2 of the 5 selected	1:13

*Prize based on \$1.00 spent. Overall odds of winning a prize are 1:12.

3.6. Rollover

If the Grand Prize is not won in a Drawing, the prize money allocated for the Grand Prize rolls over and is added to the Grand Prize pool for the next Drawing. [The Lottery may suspend this rule pursuant to Section 3.3 when sales do not support an increase in the grand prize.](#)

3.7. Limited to Highest Prize Won

The holder of a winning Ticket may win only one prize per each Panel in connection with the Winning Numbers selected, and is entitled only to the prize won by those numbers.

3.8. Prize Claim Period

Prize claims must be submitted within one (1) year of the drawing date. For prizes claimed by mail, date of claim is date of receipt by the Lottery. For prizes of \$600 or more, the claim period ends at the close of business on the last day of the claim period that Lottery offices are open. Lottery offices are closed for the holidays and events listed on mnlottery.com, and one or more Lottery offices may close unexpectedly due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

3.9. Procedure for Claiming a Prize

- A. To claim a prize of less than six hundred dollars (\$600), a player must sign the back of the Ticket in the signature area and present the winning Ticket to any Retailer. Signatures may not be removed or altered. Until signed, a Ticket is owned by its physical possessor. The Retailer will verify the claim through use of a Terminal and, if valid, make payment of the amount due the player. In the event the Retailer cannot verify the claim or does not have the funds on hand to pay the claim, the Retailer will provide the player with a claim form and instruct the player on how to file a claim with the Lottery. If the claim is validated by the Lottery, a check will be forwarded to the

player in the amount due. In the event the claim is not validated, the claim will be denied and the player will be notified promptly.

- B. To claim a prize of less than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), but greater than six hundred dollars (\$600), a player must sign the winning Ticket, fill out a Claim form, and present both at any Lottery Regional Office or at Lottery headquarters in Roseville, Minnesota, or mail both items to the Minnesota State Lottery, P.O. Box 131000, Roseville, MN 55113. Signatures may not be removed or altered. Until signed, a Ticket is owned by its physical possessor. Date of claim is date of receipt by the Minnesota Lottery. Registered mail is recommended. If the claim is validated by the Lottery, the check in the appropriate amount will be forwarded to the player less any applicable federal and state withholding tax and debt owed under Minn. Stat. § 270A.03. If the claim is not validated by the Lottery, the claim will be denied and the player will be notified promptly.
- C. To claim a prize greater than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), the player must sign the winning Ticket, fill out a Claim form, and present both at the Lottery headquarters in Roseville, Minnesota. Signatures may not be removed or altered. If the claim is validated by the Lottery, the check in the appropriate amount will be forwarded to the player, less any applicable federal and state withholding tax and debt owed under Minn. Stat. § 270A.03. If the claim is not validated by the Lottery, the claim will be denied and the player will be notified promptly.

4.1. Ticket Responsibility

- A. A Gopher 5[®] prize claim is presumed to be submitted by the person whose name appears on the Ticket or, in the case of a Ticket not completed with name and address, by the person holding the Ticket.
- B. The Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen Gopher 5[®] Tickets.
- C. The purchaser of the Gopher 5[®] Ticket has the sole responsibility for checking the accuracy and condition of the data printed on the Ticket.
- D. The Lottery is not responsible for Gopher 5[®] Tickets redeemed in error by a player from a Retailer.

4.2. Ticket Validation Requirements

- A. Valid Tickets. To be valid, a Gopher 5[®] Ticket that entitles its holder to receive a prize must meet the following conditions:
 - 1. The Ticket system control number is present in its entirety and corresponds, using the computer validation file, to the selected numbers printed on the Ticket for the date printed on the Ticket.
 - 2. The Ticket is intact.
 - 3. The Ticket is not mutilated, altered, reconstituted, or tampered with in any

way.

4. Any signature in the signature area must not have been removed or altered in any way.
 5. The Ticket is not counterfeit or an exact duplicate of another winning Ticket.
 6. The Ticket has been issued by the Lottery through a Retailer in an authorized manner.
 7. The Ticket has not been stolen or canceled.
 8. The Ticket data have been recorded on the central computer system before the Drawing and the Ticket data match the computer record in every respect.
 9. The Player-selected or Terminal-selected numbers, the system control number data, and the Drawing date of an apparent winning Ticket appear on the official file of winning Tickets, and a Ticket with that exact date has not been previously paid.
 10. The Ticket is not misregistered, misdispensed, misprinted, or produced in error to an extent that it cannot be processed by the Lottery.
 11. The Ticket passes all other confidential security checks of the Lottery.
- B. Invalid or Defective Tickets: Disputes. A Ticket not passing the validation checks in subsection A will be considered invalid and any winnings will not be paid to the purchaser or holder.
1. When the validity of a Ticket is in doubt, the determination of the Director of the Lottery is final and binding. The Lottery may replace an invalid Ticket with a Ticket of equivalent sale price from a current Lottery game.
 2. If a defective Ticket is purchased or if the Director determines that an adjustment must be made for an error, the sole and exclusive remedy will be the replacement of the defective or erroneous Ticket with a Ticket of equivalent sale price from a current Lottery game.
 3. If a Ticket is not paid by the Lottery and a dispute occurs as to whether the Ticket is a winning Ticket, the Lottery may replace the Ticket as provided in paragraph 2. This is the sole and exclusive remedy of the holder of the Ticket.

4.3. Allowance for Delay of Payment

The Lottery may delay payment of the prize pending a final determination by the Director, under any of the following circumstances:

- A. if a dispute occurs or it appears likely that a dispute may occur, regarding the prize;

- B. if there is any question regarding the identity of the claimant;
- C. if there is any question regarding the validity of the Ticket presented for payment; or
- D. if the claim is subject to any setoff for delinquent debts owed by the claimant under Minn. Stat. § 349A.08, subd. 8.

No liability for interest for any delay will accrue to the benefit of the claimant pending payment of the claim.

4.4. Payment of Prizes to Person Under Age 18

No prize in the Gopher 5[®] game may be paid to a person under 18 years of age.

5.1. Ticket Ownership

- A. Until the signature area on the back of a Ticket is signed, a Ticket is considered owned by the physical possessor of said Ticket. When a Ticket is signed in the designated area, the player whose signature appears in the signature area is considered the owner of the Ticket and is entitled to any prize attributable thereto.
- B. Notwithstanding any name or names submitted on a claim form, the Director will make payment to the player whose signature appears in the signature area on the back of the Ticket, except as provided below.
- C. If more than one (1) name appears on the back of a Ticket or more than one (1) person has agreed to share the prize and the prize being claimed is not for the Grand Prize (matching all five (5) of the five (5) numbers selected), the Director will require that one (1) of those players whose name appears in the signature area on the back of the Ticket or has agreed to share the prize be designated to receive payment.
- D. If more than one (1) name appears on the back of a Ticket or there is a valid agreement among more than one (1) person agreeing to share the prize, and the prize being claimed is for the Grand Prize (matching five [5] of the five [5] numbers selected), the Director may make payment to each person who has agreed to share the prize.
- E. The Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen game Tickets.

6.0. Governing Law

In purchasing a Ticket, a player agrees to comply with, and abide by these rules for Gopher 5[®]; Minn. Stat. § 349A (State Lottery); Minn. R. 7857 (Lottery Prize Payments); and all final decisions of the Director.

7.1 Retailer Conduct, Bulk Purchase Restrictions

- A. A Lottery Retailer authorized to sell Lottery Tickets for Lotto games, or an employee of a Retailer may not request, demand, or accept gratuities or additional compensation from any person, or agent thereof, in exchange for the purchase of Gopher 5[®] Lottery Tickets.
- B. A Lottery Retailer authorized to sell lottery Tickets for Lotto games must make Gopher 5[®] Lottery Tickets available for sale to the public during the hours that sale of Gopher 5[®] Tickets are authorized to be sold and that business is open to the public.
- C. A Lottery Retailer authorized to sell Lottery Tickets for Lotto games may sell Gopher 5[®] Lottery Tickets on the premises only as described in the Retailer's contract, except as specially authorized in writing by the Director. No transaction, or any part thereof, of Gopher 5[®] Lottery Tickets may be made at the general corporate office of any Retailer unless that office is open to the public and has contracted with the Lottery as a separate Lottery Retailer.
- D. A Lottery Retailer authorized to sell Lottery Tickets for Lotto games may not enter into any special agreement with any person, group of persons, or agent thereof, for the purchase of over \$500 of Gopher 5[®] Lottery Tickets for any one (1) Drawing.
- E. A Lottery Retailer authorized to sell Lottery Tickets for Lotto games must immediately report to the Lottery any attempt made by any person, or group of persons, or an agent thereof, to purchase more than fifty percent (50%) of the number combinations for Gopher 5[®] for any one Drawing.
- F. A Lottery Retailer authorized to sell Lottery Tickets for Lotto games must obtain the name and address of any person purchasing more than \$5,000 in Gopher 5[®] Lottery Tickets for any one Drawing and report the information to the Lottery before the sale.