

Approved by: CEO	Approved on: 5-30-06 Revised on: 8-30-07, 1-14-08, 2-19-08, 1-4-09, 3-17-09, 3-9-10, 6-14-10, 9-7-10, 1-15-12, 8-1-12, 12-5-13, 1-22-14, 10-4- 15, 2-28-20, 3-25-20, 8-22-21, 10-31-22, 10-05-25, 3-11-26	Page 1 of 13
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General Rules

A. The purpose of the Powerball draw game is the generation of revenue for the Participating Lotteries, consisting of members from the Multi-State Lottery Association (“MUSL”) to which the North Carolina Education Lottery (“NCEL”) is a member, and participating U.S. lotteries operating under an agreement to sell Powerball, through the operation of a specially-designed multi-state lottery game that will award prizes to ticket holders matching specified combinations of numbers randomly selected in regularly scheduled drawings. These Rules apply to all NCEL Powerball ticket holders and claimants. These Rules incorporate Powerball Group Rules adopted by MUSL on June 6, 1996, and last amended June 27, 2024 and shall govern the conduct of the NCEL Powerball game. The incorporated document is available online at nclottery.com/rules or may be obtained by written request at records.lotterync.net.

B. During each Powerball drawing, six (6) Powerball Winning Numbers will be selected from two (2) fields of numbers in the following manner: five (5) winning numbers from a field of one (1) through sixty-nine (69) numbers, and one (1) winning number from a field of one (1) through twenty-six (26) numbers.

C. Definitions

Annuity Grand Prize – The Powerball top prize that would be paid in thirty (30) annual installments.

Authorized Claim Center - Any NCEL Retailer or NCEL Office, based upon the prize claim limits as established by the NCEL.

Cash Option – The manner in which the Powerball Grand/Jackpot Prize may be paid in a single payment.

Claimant and Claim - Any person or entity submitting a claim form and such claim form is received by a NCEL Office within the one hundred eightieth (180th) day from the Powerball drawing date to collect a prize for an Official Powerball Ticket. If the 180th calendar day falls on a day in which the NCEL is not open for business, the ticket must be claimed by the end of the NCEL’s next business day. A Claimant may be the Purchaser, the person or entity named on a signed Official Powerball Ticket, the bearer of an unsigned Official Powerball Ticket or any other person or entity who may seek entitlement to a Powerball prize payment in accordance with these Rules, the North Carolina Lottery Act, NCEL policies and procedures. No Claimant may assert rights different from the rights acquired by the original Purchaser at the time of purchase. A submitted claim does not guarantee payment.

Director(s) - The chief officers of the Participating Lotteries or any other persons to whom the Directors’ authority is lawfully delegated.

Double Play – For an additional \$1 per play the same numbers played in a Powerball drawing can be entered into a second drawing for the chance to win up to \$10 Million. The Double Play

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drawing occurs immediately after the Powerball drawing. Powerball tickets that include Double Play are eligible to win prizes in both the Powerball and Double Play drawings.

Drawing – The formal process of selecting winning numbers which determine the number of winners for each prize level of the game.

Grand/Jackpot Prize – The top prize of the Powerball game.

Official Powerball Ticket - A game ticket, produced on official paper stock by a NCEL Retailer or NCEL Office in an authorized manner, bearing player or computer selected numbers, game name, drawing date, amount of wager and validation data or is a properly and validly registered ticketless transaction play via the NCEL Online Play System.

Pari-Mutuel – The total amount of sales allocated to pay prize Claimants, at the designated prize level, divided among the number of winning Official Powerball Tickets.

Participating Lottery or Lotteries - A state lottery or lottery of a political subdivision or entity which is participating in selling the Powerball game.

Prize Fund - That portion of Powerball gross sales set aside for the payment of prizes. The Prize Fund for any drawing is expected to be fifty percent (50%) of sales, but may be higher or lower based upon the number of winners at each fixed prize level, as well as the funding required to meet the advertised jackpot.

Purchaser(s) - Player(s) of Powerball who purchase tickets in accordance with these Rules, the North Carolina Lottery Act, NCEL policies and procedures.

Quick Pick, Auto Pick or Easy Pick - A player option in which Powerball number selections are determined at random by computer software.

NCEL Retailer - A person or entity authorized to sell all NCEL games including Powerball.

Powerball Panel or Play Area - The area of an Official Powerball Ticket identified by an alpha character, A through E, containing one field of five (5) single or two-digit player or computer selected numbers, and a second field of one (1) single or two-digit player or computer selected number.

Powerball Play Slip - A computer-readable form, printed and issued by the NCEL, used in purchasing an Official Powerball Ticket, having up to five (5) separate play areas, with each play area consisting of two (2) fields. The first field contains sixty-nine (69) areas/spaces numbered one (1) through sixty-nine (69); the second field contains twenty-six (26) areas/spaces numbered one (1) through twenty-six (26).

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Powerball Product Group - A group of lotteries which has joined together to offer a product pursuant to the terms of the Multi-State Lottery Agreement and the Group's own rules.

Powerball Winning Numbers - Five (5) single or two-digit numbers, from one (1) through sixty-nine (69) and one (1) single or two-digit numbers from one (1) through twenty-six (26), randomly selected at each Powerball drawing, which shall be used to determine winning Powerball plays contained on Official Powerball Tickets.

Power Play - A feature that gives players the opportunity to multiply their potential winnings by 2, 3, 4, 5 or 10 times the original amount (excluding the Grand/Jackpot and Match 5 prizes). The 10X multiplier feature will be available during advertised estimated Powerball Jackpot amounts of \$20 Million to \$150 Million. Power Play prize for the Match 5 Second Tier Prize Category shall be fixed at \$2,000,000. All set prizes and Power Play prizes, may be reduced if claims exceed available prize fund. The Power Play prizes may be increased for promotional purposes and for limited time, at the discretion of the Party Lotteries. Power Play does not apply to Double Play winning plays.

			Multiplier Tiers				
			2X	3X	4X	5X	10X
Match Field 1	Match Field 2	Odds	1:8	1:3.3	1:14.3	1:21.5	1:43
5	0		\$2M	\$2M	\$2M	\$2M	\$2M
4	PB		\$100K	\$150K	\$200K	\$250K	\$500K
4	0		\$200	\$300	\$400	\$500	\$1K
3	PB		\$200	\$300	\$400	\$500	\$1K
3	0		\$14	\$21	\$28	\$35	\$70
2	PB		\$14	\$21	\$28	\$35	\$70
1	PB		\$8	\$12	\$16	\$20	\$40
0	PB		\$8	\$12	\$16	\$20	\$40

Set Prize – All the prizes except the Grand/Jackpot Prize and Double Play First Prize that are advertised to be paid by a single cash payment.

D. Ticket Sales

Multidraw Feature:

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1. The maximum number of consecutive drawings encompassed by Multidraw Purchase is thirty (30) or renewed for specified drawing limit and duration established for Online Play services.
 2. In the event the Party Lotteries authorize a matrix change for Powerball, Multidraw tickets will be honored. Prior to introducing a new matrix, the NCEL will incorporate a Multidraw step down feature that will reduce the Multidraw option from thirty (30) to zero (0). The Purchasers, however, will not be granted a refund for the balance of plays on their Multidraw Purchase.
- E. Ticket Price
1. Official Powerball Tickets may be purchased for two dollars (\$2.00), per play, or multiples thereof in the case of a Multidraw wager, at the discretion of the Purchaser. The Purchaser receives one play for each \$2.00 wagered in Powerball.
 2. The Power Play option may be purchased for an additional \$1.00, per play, or multiples thereof in the case of a multi-draw wager, at the discretion of the Purchaser.
 3. The Double Play option may be purchased for an additional \$1.00, per play, or multiples thereof in the case of a multi-draw wager, at the discretion of the Purchaser.
 4. NCEL may authorize the sale of Official Powerball Tickets at a discount for promotional purposes.
- F. Play Characteristics and Restrictions
1. Official Powerball Tickets may not be purchased in North Carolina or any other Lottery approved to sell Powerball game ticket by a member of the NCEL Commission, the NCEL Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director (“CEO”) or any NCEL employee, or any spouse, child, sibling or parent residing in the same household of such disqualified person.
 2. Official Powerball Tickets may not be canceled.
 3. Purchasers may submit a manually completed Powerball Play Slip to a NCEL Retailer or NCEL Office to have issued an Official Powerball Ticket. The use of mechanical, electronic, computer generated or any other non-manual method of marking Play Slips is prohibited. Powerball Play Slips shall be available at no cost to the Purchaser and shall have no pecuniary or prize value, or constitute evidence of purchase or number selections.

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4. Purchasers may orally convey their selections to a NCEL Retailer or NCEL Office to have issued an Official Powerball Ticket. Such selections shall be manually entered into the computer terminal by the NCEL Retailer or NCEL Office.
5. Purchasers may utilize the NCEL's player operated sales/self-service terminals, where available, for the purchase of Official Powerball Tickets, and may make number selections by inserting a completed Powerball Play Slip into the player operated sales/self-service terminal's optical mark reader or selecting a Quick Pick option, where available.
6. Purchasers may purchase Powerball through the official NCEL Online Play System via the Internet in compliance with NCEL rules and regulations governing Online Play purchases.
7. It shall be the sole responsibility of the Purchaser to verify the accuracy and condition of the data printed on the Official Powerball Ticket at the time of purchase or verify the accuracy of their purchase via the NCEL official Online Play System.
8. The NCEL shall not be responsible for lost or stolen Official Powerball Tickets.

G. Time of Drawing

Powerball drawings shall be conducted at 10:59 p.m. Eastern Time (9:59 p.m. Central Time, 7:59 p.m. Pacific Time). Powerball drawings shall be conducted on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at the designated time. However, the day, time or location of the Powerball drawings may be modified as determined by the Directors and publicly announced by the NCEL.

H. Powerball Prize Structure

1. Matrix of 5 of 69 and 1 of 26 with 50% Anticipated Prize Fund Match

Match Field 1	Match Field 2	Odds	Prize Category	Prize Amount
5	1	1:292,201,338.0000	Grand/Jackpot	Jackpot
5	0	1:11,688,053.5200	Second	\$1 Million
4	1	1:913,129.1813	Third	\$50,000
4	0	1:36,525.1673	Fourth	\$100
3	1	1:14,494.1140	Fifth	\$100
3	0	1:579.7646	Sixth	\$7

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2	1	1:701.3281	Seventh	\$7
1	1	1:91.9775	Eighth	\$4
0	1	1:38.3239	Ninth	\$4
Reserve				
Totals		1:24.8671		

2. Grand/Jackpot Prize Payments

- a. Prior to each drawing, the Powerball Product Group shall determine the estimated Grand/Jackpot Prize amount to be advertised. The actual Grand/Jackpot prize shall be determined on a pari-mutuel basis. The amount to be awarded to each Grand/Jackpot winner(s) shall be based upon the prize money allocated to the Grand/Jackpot prize pool, equally divided by the number of tickets with Powerball Panels matching all five (5) of the Powerball Winning Numbers drawn for Field 1 and the one (1) Powerball Winning Number drawn for Field 2.
- b. Grand/jackpot prizes shall be paid, at the election of the player, no later than sixty (60) days after the player becomes entitled to the prize, with either a per winner annuity or cash payment. An election made after the winner becomes entitled to the prize is final and cannot be revoked, withdrawn or otherwise changed.
- c. If, in any Powerball drawing there are no Powerball Panels which qualify for the Grand/Jackpot Prize category, the portion of the Prize Fund allocated to such Grand/Jackpot Prize category shall remain in the Grand/Jackpot Prize category and be added to the amount allocated for the Grand/Jackpot Prize category in the next consecutive Powerball drawing.
- d. If the Annuitized Grand/Jackpot Prize divided by the number of Powerball Panels matching all five (5) of the five (5) Powerball Winning Numbers for Field 1 and the one (1) Powerball Winning Number for Field 2 is equal to or greater than \$1,000,000, the Grand/Jackpot Prize(s) will be paid under the Annuity Option, unless a Cash Option was offered to and accepted by the Grand/Jackpot Prize Claimant as prescribed in the North Carolina Lottery Act, rules, policies or procedures. If no declaration is made by close of business on the 60th day after the prize has been claimed, the prize shall be paid under the Annuity Option. No Grand/Jackpot Prize payment will be processed until the Claimant submits a form irrevocably selecting a payment option, or the 60-day selection period lapses, whichever shall first occur.

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- e. Annuity Option Grand/Jackpot Prizes shall be paid in thirty (30) installments by the NCEL. The initial payment shall be paid upon completion of internal validation procedures and administrative processes of the NCEL. The subsequent twenty-nine (29) graduated payments shall be paid annually to coincide with the month of the Federal auction date at which the bonds were purchased to fund the annuity. All such payments shall be made within seven (7) days of the anniversary of the actual auction date.
 - f. Cash Option Grand/Jackpot Prizes shall be paid in a single payment upon completion of internal validation procedures and administrative processes of the NCEL. The Cash Option amount offered may be either the amount determined by multiplying the annuitized prize amount by a discount value set by Powerball Finance and Audit Committee prior to each drawing (the “Cash Equivalent Grand/Jackpot Prize”), divided by the number of Grand/Jackpot Prize winners, or the proceeds of the sale of bonds purchased to fund the particular winner’s share of the Annuitized Grand/Jackpot Prize amount, at the discretion of the NCEL. The Claimant has until the close of business on the 60th day after the date the Claimant submits a claim for payment to select the Cash Option Grand/Jackpot Prize method of payment. No payment will be processed under the Cash Option Grand/Jackpot Prize provision until the Claimant submits a form irrevocably selecting said payment option.
 - g. In the event multiple Powerball Panels match all five (5) of the five (5) Powerball Winning Numbers for Field 1 and the one (1) Powerball Winning Number for Field 2, and the Annuitized Powerball Grand/Jackpot Prize divided by the number of winning game panels is less than \$1,000,000, each Powerball Grand/Jackpot Prize winner shall be paid an amount equal to the Cash Equivalent Grand/Jackpot Prize divided equally by the number of Grand/Jackpot Prize winners. Each such Grand/Jackpot Prize winner will be paid in a single cash payment.
3. Second through Ninth Level Prizes
- a. Powerball Panels matching five (5) of the five (5) Powerball Winning Numbers drawn for Field 1, but not matching the Powerball Winning Number drawn for Field 2 shall be entitled to receive a Second Prize of \$1,000,000. Winning tickets with the Power Play feature shall be entitled to receive an increased Second Tier Prize of \$2,000,000.
 - b. Powerball Panels matching four (4) of the five (5) Powerball Winning Numbers drawn for Field 1 and the Powerball Winning Number drawn for Field 2 shall be entitled to receive a Third Prize of \$50,000*.

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- c. Powerball Panels matching four (4) of the five (5) Powerball Winning Numbers drawn for Field 1 but not matching the Powerball Winning Number drawn for Field 2 shall be entitled to receive a Fourth Prize of \$100*.
- d. Powerball Panels matching three (3) of the five (5) Powerball Winning Numbers drawn for Field 1 and the Powerball Winning Number drawn for Field 2 shall be entitled to receive a Fifth Prize of \$100*.
- e. Powerball Panels matching three (3) of the five (5) Powerball Winning Numbers drawn for Field 1 but not matching the Powerball Winning Number drawn for Field 2 shall be entitled to receive a Sixth Prize of \$7*.
- f. Powerball Panels matching two (2) of the five (5) Powerball Winning Numbers drawn for Field 1 and the Powerball Winning Number drawn for Field 2 shall be entitled to receive a Seventh Prize of \$7*.
- g. Powerball Panels matching one (1) of the five (5) Powerball Winning Numbers drawn for Field 1 and the Powerball Winning Number drawn for Field 2 shall be entitled to receive an Eighth Prize of \$4*.
- h. Powerball Panels matching no numbers (0) of the five (5) Powerball Winning Numbers drawn for Field 1 but matching the Powerball Winning Number drawn for Field 2 shall be entitled to receive a Ninth Prize of \$4*.
- i. Each Powerball Second through Ninth prize shall be paid in one payment.

*All set prizes and Power Play prizes, including the Match 5 Second Tier Prize Category, may be reduced if claims exceed available prize fund. If the total of the original Powerball set prizes and Power Play prizes awarded in a drawing exceeds the percentage of the prize pool allocated to the set prizes and Power Play prizes, the Second through Fifth prizes and corresponding Power Play prizes, beginning with the highest set prizes, may be paid on a Pari-Mutuel rather than fixed prize basis, provided, however, that in no event shall the Pari-Mutuel prize be greater than the fixed prize. Powerball and Power Play prizes will be reduced by same percentage.

- 4. In a single drawing, a Claimant may win in only one prize category per single Powerball Panel in connection with Powerball Winning Numbers, and shall be entitled only to the highest prize.
- 5. All prizes, except for the Grand/Jackpot Prize and the Match 5 Second Tier Prize Category, are multiplied by the Power Play number. However, the Power Play prize for the Match 5 Second Tier Prize Category shall be fixed at \$2,000,000, regardless of the multiplier number selected. In certain rare instances, the Powerball set prize amount may

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be less than the amount shown. In such case, the eight (8) lowest Power Play prizes will be changed to an amount announced after the draw. For example, if the Match 4+1 Powerball set prize amount of \$50,000.00 becomes \$25,000.00 under the rules of the Powerball game and a 5x Power Play multiplier is selected, then a Power Play player winning that prize amount would win \$125,000.

- 6. For purpose of prize calculation with respect to any Powerball Pari-Mutuel prize, the calculation shall be rounded down so that prizes shall be paid in multiples of whole dollars.

With respect to any Powerball Annuitized Grand Prize, the prize amount may be rounded to facilitate the purchase of an appropriate funding mechanism.

- 7. The number of prize categories and the allocation of the Prize Fund among the prize categories may be changed at the discretion of the Directors, for promotional purposes. Such change shall be announced by public notice.

I. Powerball Double Play Prize Structure

- i. Matrix of 5 of 69 and 1 of 26 with 55% Anticipated Prize Fund Match

Match Field 1	Match Field 2	Odds	Prize Amount
5	1	1:292,201,338.0000	First Prize*
5	0	1:11,688,053.5200	\$500,000
4	1	1:913,129.1813	\$50,000
4	0	1:36,525.1673	\$500
3	1	1:14,494.1140	\$500
3	0	1:579.7646	\$20
2	1	1:701.3281	\$20
1	1	1:91.9775	\$10
0	1	1:38.3239	\$7
Totals		1:24.8761	

* \$10,000,000

2. Prize Payments

- a. The Double Play First Prize is a \$10,000,000 cash prize that will be divided equally by the number of Double Play plays winning the First Prize.
- b. If the total of the Double Play Set Prizes awarded in a drawing exceeds the percentage of the prize pool allocated to the Double Play Set Prizes then the next highest Double Play Set Prize shall become a pari-mutuel prize. This

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procedure shall continue down through all Double Play Set Prize levels; if necessary, until all Double Play Set Prize levels become pari-mutuel prize levels; In that circumstance, the money available shall be divided among the winning Double Play plays in proportion to their respective prize percentages provided, however, that in no event shall the pari-mutuel prize be greater than the fixed prize.

I. Ticket Validation Requirements

1. To be a valid ticket and eligible to receive a prize, a ticket shall satisfy all the requirements established by the NCEL for validation of winning tickets sold through the NCEL's gaming system, NCEL Online Play System and any other validation requirements adopted by the MUSL Board and published as the Confidential MUSL Minimum Game Security Standards. MUSL and the Participating Lotteries shall not be responsible for tickets which are altered in any manner.
2. Under no circumstances will a claim be paid for any Powerball prizes without an Official Powerball Ticket matching all game play, serial number and other validation data residing in the NCEL's gaming system computer or NCEL Online Play System and such ticket shall be the only valid proof of the wager placed and the only valid receipt for claiming or redeeming such prize. A terminal produced paper receipt has no pecuniary or prize value and shall not constitute evidence of ticket purchase or of numbers selected.
3. In addition to the above, in order to be deemed a valid, winning Official Powerball Ticket, all of the following conditions must be met:
 - a. The validation data must be present in its entirety and must correspond, using the computer validation file, to the number selections printed on the ticket for the drawing date(s) printed on the ticket;
 - b. The ticket must be intact;
 - c. The ticket must not be mutilated, altered, reconstituted, or tampered with in any manner;
 - d. The ticket must not be counterfeit or an exact duplicate of another winning ticket;
 - e. The ticket must have been issued by an authorized NCEL Retailer or Office on the NCEL's official paper stock;
 - f. The ticket must not have been stolen, to the knowledge of the NCEL;
 - g. The ticket must be submitted for payment in accordance with Section J below;

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- h. The ticket data must have been recorded on the central computer system prior to the drawing and the ticket data must match this computer record in every respect. In the event of a contradiction between information as printed on the ticket and as accepted by the NCEL gaming system, the wager accepted by the NCEL gaming system shall be the valid wager;
 - i. The player or computer number selections, security code and the drawing date(s) of an apparent winning ticket must appear on the official file of winning tickets, and a ticket with that exact data must not have been previously paid;
 - j. The ticket must not be mis-registered, deceptively printed or printed or produced in error to an extent that it cannot be processed by the NCEL;
 - k. The ticket must pass the validation tests as required in the MUSL Confidential Minimum Game Security Standards and all other confidential security checks of the NCEL;
 - l. In submitting an Official Powerball Ticket for validation, the Claimant agrees to abide by all applicable laws, rules and regulations, instructions, conditions and final decisions of the NCEL;
 - m. There must not be any other breach of these Powerball Rules in relation to the ticket which, in the opinion of the NCEL CEO, justifies invalidation; and
 - n. The ticket must be submitted to the jurisdiction where such ticket was purchased.
4. An Official Powerball Ticket submitted for validation which fails any of the preceding validation conditions shall be considered void, subject to the following determinations:
- a. In all cases of doubt, the determination of the NCEL CEO shall be final and binding; however, the NCEL CEO may, at their option, replace an invalid ticket with an Official Powerball Ticket of equivalent sales price;
 - b. In the event a defective ticket is purchased or in the event the NCEL CEO determines to adjust an error, the sole and exclusive remedy shall be the replacement of such defective or erroneous ticket(s) with an Official Powerball Ticket of equivalent sales price; or
 - c. In the event an Official Powerball Ticket is not paid by the NCEL and a dispute occurs as to whether the ticket is a winning ticket, the NCEL may, at its option, replace the ticket as provided in paragraph (a) of this subsection. This shall be the sole and exclusive remedy of the Claimant.
- J. Procedure for Claiming and Payment of Prizes

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1. Prizes shall be redeemed or claimed only in the jurisdiction where the Official Powerball Ticket was purchased.
2. Prizes less than \$600 may be claimed at Lottery retailers, the NCEL's Regional or Claim offices, NCEL Headquarters or via mail addressed to the North Carolina Education Lottery at P.O. Box 41606, Raleigh, NC 27629-1606.
3. Prizes \$600 to \$99,999 must be claimed at NCEL's Headquarters, a Regional Office or via mail addressed to the North Carolina Education Lottery at P.O. Box 41606, Raleigh, NC 27629-1606.
4. Prizes \$100,000 or greater must be claimed in person at the NCEL's Headquarters.
5. All prizes must be claimed within 180 days from the drawing date. In order to be considered claimed, the ticket and, if applicable, claim form must be received by the end of the business day (ET), as posted by the NCEL, on the 180th calendar day from the drawing date. If the 180th calendar day falls on a day which the NCEL is not open for business, the ticket must be claimed by the end of the NCEL's next business day. The risk of loss or late delivery of a claim package submitted by mail or another carrier remains with the Player. Post marks shall not constitute satisfaction of the 180-day requirement.
6. Online Play System prizes may be claimed pursuant to the claims process as detailed in the NCEL Online Play Terms of Service.
7. Claimants of a winning Ticket must comply with all prize claim requirements of the NCEL.
8. In the event that a single Official Powerball Ticket contains two (2) or more winning game panels, the cumulative prize amount shall be claimed or redeemed in accordance with the specified prize payment limits as established by the NCEL.
9. Federal, State and Local (if applicable) withholding taxes and state debt setoff amount, where applicable, shall be withheld from Powerball prizes by the NCEL in such amounts as may be required by law.
10. Powerball prizes shall not be paid to any person prohibited from playing Powerball in a particular Participating Lottery, by these Rules or by the governing law or rules of that Participating Lottery or any contract executed by that Participating Lottery.
11. Unless otherwise required or allowed by the Lottery Act, there shall be no assignment of Powerball prizes. Assignment of a Powerball prize includes, but is not limited to, the transfer of a winning Official Powerball Ticket after the applicable Powerball drawing.

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12. The name, city and state of residence of a winner, game played, amount won and date won may be disclosed in a press conference or in a press release and the winner may be required to participate in a press conference.
- K. **Unclaimed Prize Money**
- For winning Official Powerball Tickets for which no claim or redemption is made within the specified claim period as set forth in these Rules, the corresponding prize monies shall be returned to the NCEL in accordance with procedures for the reconciliation of prize liability as stated in the Powerball Group Rules.
- L. **Governing Law:** In purchasing a NCEL Powerball ticket, the Purchaser agrees to comply with and be bound by the North Carolina State Lottery Act, NCEL rules, policies and procedures, and by directives and determinations of the NCEL CEO. The Purchaser agrees that, as its sole and exclusive remedy, claims arising out of any NCEL Powerball ticket can be pursued only against the NCEL. Litigation, if any, shall only be maintained within the state in which the Official Powerball Ticket was purchased and only against the Participating Lottery that issued the ticket. Nothing in these Rules shall be construed as a waiver of any defense or claim the NCEL may have in the event the Purchaser pursues litigation against the State of North Carolina, the NCEL, their Commissioners, officers or employees.
- M. **All decisions made by the Directors of the Participating Lotteries, including the declaration of prizes and the payment thereof and the interpretation of Powerball Rules, shall be final and binding on all Purchasers and on every person making a claim in respect thereof.**