

## LEAFLET - CASINO BAN

### Principle and legal basis

- Casinos are legally obliged to impose a ban on gambling if there is a suspicion that the person concerned is overindebted, is not meeting his or her financial obligations or is risking stakes that are out of proportion to his or her income and assets.
- The legal basis for issuing and lifting gambling bans is the following:  
Provisions of the Federal Act on Money Games (BGS) and the Ordinance on Money Games (VGS):
  - Suspension of play Art. 80 para. 1 lit. a and b BGS
  - Suspension of play Art. 80 Para. 2 BGS
  - Self-requested suspension of play Art. 80 par. 5 BGS
  - Lifting of the ban Art. 81 par. 1 - 3 BGS
  - Lifting of a self-requested ban Art. 84 VGS

### Suspension of play

The gambling ban applies throughout Switzerland to all licensed casino games in casinos and on the internet, as well as to lotteries, sports betting and games of skill conducted online and to large-scale games determined by the intercantonal authority (Art. 80 BGS). This means that the gambling ban also applies, for example, to participation in the Swiss Numbers Lotto via the Internet and other games offered online by Swisslos and Loterie Romande.

The ban on gambling is entered in a nationwide register. Access rights to this register are regulated by law.

### Lifting of the ban on playing

The ban on gambling may be lifted at the request of the banned person if the reason for it no longer exists. The application must be submitted to the casino or lottery company that imposed the ban. A cantonally recognised specialist body must be involved in the lifting procedure (Art. 81 BGS). In a personal interview with the person concerned about his or her financial and personal situation, it is examined whether the reasons that led to the gambling ban no longer exist. The person concerned must submit the documents required by the casino for this purpose (extract from the debt enforcement register, proof of salary or assets, etc.).

In the event of a negative decision by the casino or if the person concerned refuses to cooperate, the person concerned shall remain excluded from the game until further notice.

A self-requested ban on playing pursuant to Art. 80 para. 5 BGS may be lifted after three months at the earliest pursuant to Art. 84 VGS.

**Violation of match suspensions**

Attempts by the person concerned to violate the gambling ban may result in legal action by the casino (charges of trespass under Article 186 of the Criminal Code, StGB). Gambling winnings of barred persons shall be deemed unlawful and any winnings shall be retained by the casinos. Stakes may not be refunded.