

**CHAPTER 751  
Game Rooms**

- 751.01 Definitions.**
- 751.02 License required.**
- 751.03 Issuance of license.**
- 751.04 Periodic inspection.**
- 751.05 Restriction on hours.**
- 751.06 General provisions.**
- 751.07 Gambling prohibited.**
- 751.08 Temporary game rooms.**
- 751.09 Revocation of license; appeal.**
- 751.99 Penalty.**

**CROSS REFERENCES**

- Minors' curfew - see GEN. OFF. **509.08**
- Gambling - see GEN. OFF. Ch. **517**
- Making or using slugs - see GEN. OFF. **545.11**
- Tampering with coin machines - see GEN. OFF. **545.12**

**751.01 DEFINITIONS.**

- (a) "Game room" or "amusement arcade" means a place of business within a building or any part of a building having one or more mechanical or electrically operated amusement devices which are used for the purpose of public entertainment through the operation, use or play, of any table game or device commonly known as electronic games which is operated by placing therein any coin, plate, disc, plug, key or token of value or by the payment of a fee.
- (b) "Mechanical or electrically operated amusement device" means any coin operated machine, device or instrument, which upon the insertion of a coin, token, slug or payment of a fee, operates or may be operated for use as a game, contest of skill or amusement of any description which in no way intends to encourage gambling.
- (c) "Owner" means any person having possession of any mechanical or electrical amusement device or any person operating an amusement arcade or game room.

(Ord. 94-172. Passed 12-20-94.)

**751.02 LICENSE REQUIRED.**

- (a) No person being the owner of a game room or amusement arcade shall display for public patronage or keep for operation by the public, any mechanical or electrical amusement device without first obtaining a license issued by the Director of Public Safety in accordance with this chapter.
- (b) Each owner of a game room or amusement arcade shall pay the sum of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per year for an annual license for such game room or amusement arcade. In addition, the owner shall also pay an annual license fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each electrical or mechanical amusement device located in the game room or amusement arcade.
- (c) The licenses required herein shall not be transferable to any other person.
- (d) No license shall be issued until an application is submitted to the Director of Public Safety, which application shall, among other things, state:
  - (1) The name and address, age and birth date of the applicant;
  - (2) The location where the mechanical or electrical amusement devices are to be displayed or operated and the business conducted therein;

(3) A description of the machine or machines to be covered by the license, its mechanical features, the name of the manufacturer and the serial number of the machine;

(4) The name of the owner or owners of the premises wherein the devices are to be displayed or operated;

(5) The name of the owner or owners of the business conducted therein;

(6) The name of the owner of the machines, if the person is different than the applicant;

(7) Whether or not the applicant or the owner of the machines has been convicted of a gambling offense or for the sale or conviction of a drug offense in the last ten years prior to the date of application.

(Ord. 82-154. Passed 12-7-82.)

**751.03 ISSUANCE OF LICENSE.**

(a) If the applicant for a license has filed the proper application and has paid the proper fee as specified in Section [751.02](#), and the Director of Public Safety is satisfied that all information requested is properly given and that after inspection by the Building Department that all wiring and connections meet the then present electrical code standards, then a license shall be issued.

(b) The game room or amusement arcade license shall be displayed in a prominent place in the business establishment. The license issued for each mechanical or electrical amusement device shall be displayed on each such device. It shall be the duty of the owner to display the licenses during the period covered by the license.

(c) For the purposes of this chapter, all licenses shall terminate on December 31 of each calendar year and there shall be no prorating of fees. If any licensed machine or device is replaced or substituted during the registration period, a new application for such machine or device must be submitted with a five dollar (\$5.00) fee. The Director of Public Safety shall then issue a new license on such machine for the balance of the registration period. (Ord. 80-118. Passed 10-21-80.)

**751.04 PERIODIC INSPECTION.**

The owner of every game room or amusement arcade shall, at all times, permit access to the Director of Public Safety or his designee, for the purpose of periodically inspecting both the establishment and the mechanical or electrical amusement devices. (Ord. 80-118. Passed 10-21-80.)

**751.05 RESTRICTION ON HOURS.**

(a) No person under the age of eighteen years shall be permitted to operate a mechanical or electrical amusement device before 1:00 p.m. on school days unless accompanied by that person's parent or legal guardian. It shall be the duty of the owner to determine if, in fact, school is in session for the individual operating, or wishing to operate the device.

(b) The owner shall prominently display in his place of business the curfew laws of the City. The owner shall ascertain if his patrons are violating the curfew laws, and if so, shall eject them from the establishment.

(Ord. 80-118. Passed 10-21-80.)

**751.06 GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

(a) No owner shall permit the consumption of intoxicants or alcoholic beverages by any person on the premises unless the owner holds a proper permit from the Ohio Department of Liquor Control.

(b) All game rooms or amusement arcades shall, during hours of operation, provide adult, over the age of eighteen years, management.

(c) The owner of any game room or amusement arcade shall provide necessary security personnel to police the interior and exterior portion of the game room or arcade.

(d) All game room and amusement arcade owners shall submit to the Building Commissioner an exterior lighting plan if the facility is in a free standing building, which plan shall be approved by the Commissioner.

(e) The owner shall maintain peace and quiet in and about the game room or amusement arcade. Failure to do so shall constitute a nuisance and may be grounds for revocation of licenses. (Ord. 80-118. Passed 10-21-80.)

**751.07 GAMBLING PROHIBITED.**

(a) The owner of any game room or amusement arcade shall prominently display a sign indicating that gambling is prohibited. It shall further be indicated on such sign that it shall be considered to be a gambling offense if a player agrees to pay for the game of another upon the loss of a game.

(b) No electronic or mechanical device shall be permitted that has as its object the skill of winning at the playing of cards, dice, craps or roulette.

(Ord. 80-118. Passed 10-21-80.)

**751.08 TEMPORARY GAME ROOMS.**

Any nonprofit corporation shall be permitted to operate a temporary game room for five days or less provided that such corporation complies with the provisions of this chapter, and at the same time, pays a license fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) per electronic or mechanical amusement device.

(Ord. 80-118. Passed 10-21-80.)

**751.09 REVOCATION OF LICENSE; APPEAL.**

The Director of Public Safety may suspend or revoke any license issued pursuant to this chapter for the direct or indirect violation of any of the provisions hereof. In the event that the Director suspends or revokes any license, the owner may within ten days appeal such suspension or revocation to the Mayor. If the Mayor upholds such suspension or revocation, the owner may appeal to a Board of Review within ten days from the Mayor's decision, consisting of one member of Council, the Director of the Department Community Life Services and the Director of Law. The decision of the Board of Review shall be final.

(Ord. 80-118. Passed 10-21-80.)

**751.99 PENALTY.**

In addition to the revocation of license provisions in Section [751.09](#), whoever violates any provision of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

(Ord. 80-118. Passed 10-21-80.)