

simplifying nebraska pick 3

Since its launch in May of 2005, Nebraska Pick 3 has established itself as a popular game among players. However, the Nebraska Lottery staff is aware that the style of the game and its uniqueness compared to Powerball, Nebraska Pick 5 and 2by2 can be a bit confusing for both players and retailers alike. To aid in clearing some of the confusion, we will take a detailed look at each of the four bet types involved with Nebraska Pick 3 in this issue of the Players Digest.

Nebraska Pick 3 is played by choosing three individual numbers between zero and nine. A player can either choose their own three digits by utilizing a playslip or request a quick pick in which the three numbers will be randomly chosen for them. One of four bet types (Straight, Box, Straight/Box, Combo) must also then be chosen for their three numbers.

Bet Type:	EXAMPLE OF NUMBERS PICKED:	EXAMPLE OF NUMBERS DRAWN:	YOU WIN:
Straight (3 numbers in Exact Order)	1 2 3	1 2 3	\$600

If the player chooses the **Straight Bet** type for their three digits, they are betting that the winning three digits will match their digits in the exact same order. For example, if the player selects 1 2 3 and the winning numbers are 1 2 3, the player wins \$600. All other numbers do not win on this bet, because the Straight bet type indicates that the player will match their three numbers to the winning three numbers in *exact order*. The Straight bet type has the worst odds of winning of any of the four bet types, but has the highest payout.

Box:

6-Way (3 numbers in Any Order)	1 2 3	123,132,231,213,312,321	\$100
3-Way (3 numbers, 2 alike, Any Order)	1 1 2	112, 121, 211	\$200

Like the Straight bet type, the **Box Bet** type requires that the player's three digits must match the winning three digits to win. However, the Box bet type differs in that the player's three digits can match the winning three digits *in any order*. For example, with the Box bet type selected, if the player's digits were 1 2 3 and the winning digits drawn were 2 3 1, then the player wins because their three digits matched the winning three digits regardless of order. Any of these other possibilities would have also made the player's bet a winning ticket: 1 2 3, 1 3 2, 2 1 3, 3 1 2 or 3 2 1.

Payouts and odds for this bet type vary based on whether or not the player selects three different digits or if two of the three digits are the same. If the player has selected three different digits, then they are playing the 6-way box bet type. Using the example from above, if the player picks the three

digits 1, 2 and 3, and if any of the six possible number combinations are drawn, the player wins \$100. If a player picks three digits but two of the digits are the same, they are playing a 3-way box bet type. For example, if the player picks the digits 1 1 2, there are three possible combinations of these numbers (1 1 2, 1 2 1 and 2 1 1). If any of these combinations are drawn as the winning number, the player wins \$200. Because the odds of winning are less on the 3-way than the 6-way bet type, the payout is higher.

To give the player an option to play for a higher dollar prize if he/she picks the exact winning number but still wishes to use the Box bet to account for other combinations, the Straight/Box bet is available.

Straight/Box:			
Straight (3 numbers in Exact Order)	1 2 3	1 2 3	\$350
6-Way Box (3 numbers in Any Order)	1 2 3	123, 132, 231, 213, 312, 321	\$50
3-Way Box (3 numbers, 2 alike, in Any Order)	1 1 2	112, 121, 211	\$126

If the player chooses three different digits (6-way) for their **Straight/Box Bet**, the player covers six of the possible 1,000 numbers, just as with the Box bet. However, if the player matches the winning numbers exactly, the Straight/Box bet pays \$350. If the winning number is one of the other five possible variations of the winning numbers, the player wins the 6-way Straight/Box prize of \$50. If the player chooses to have two of their three digits be the same (3-way), matching each of the winning numbers in the exact order would again pay \$350. Because the 3-way bet has lower odds of winning, if the winning number is one of the other two winning combination of numbers formed by a Box bet, he/she wins \$126 as opposed to \$50 with the 6-way version. The Straight/Box bet, unlike the individual Straight or Box Bets, gives the player the opportunity to win on one of two tiers, either exact match or boxed match.

Combo:			
3 numbers in Exact Order	1 2 3	1 2 3	\$100
2 numbers in Exact Position	1 2 3	123, 423, 523, 125, 126, 127, 153, 143	\$8
1 number in Exact Position	1 2 3	145, 425, 453	\$1

The **Combo Bet** type holds one major difference from the other three bet types. When selecting the Combo bet, the player is betting that they will match either one, two, or all three of their digits to the winning three digits in the exact same *positions*. For example, if the player's digits are 2 3 4 and the winning digits are 2 5 9, the player wins \$1 for having matched their first digit, 2, to the winning digit in the first position. Had the winning digits been drawn in the order of 5 2 9, the player would not have a winning play despite having at least one of the winning three digits. The reason for this is that the player's '2' digit is in the first position, whereas the winning '2' digit is in the middle or second position.

Because it is not required to match all three of the winning digits, the Combo bet offers the best odds of winning, but a lower payout. If the player matches one of the winning digits in the same position, they win \$1. Matching two of the winning digits in the same position pays out \$8 and matching all three digits pays out \$100.

lotto drawings

behind the scenes



Once in a while, players question the results of Nebraska Lottery drawings. This often occurs when unusual number combinations or patterns are drawn.

The following information should shed some light on how the Nebraska Lottery conducts its Lotto drawings to ensure that players have the highest-quality entertainment experience possible.

Two types of drawing equipment are used for Lotto drawings: random number generation and random ball selection. Nebraska Pick 5 and Nebraska Pick 3 drawings are conducted by random number genera-



POWERBALL drawing host Mike Pace on the drawing set.

tor: a computerized process. This enables the Nebraska Lottery to save the enormous cost of conducting a televised drawing, and use those funds to support the prize levels of Lotto games.

Using a random number generator enables the Nebraska Lottery to draw winning numbers through a process which can be easily monitored, stored and maintained, all in a very secure environment. Random number generators are commonly

used by lotteries, and have become standard equipment as technology has developed. A similar, yet separate, random number generator system is used to generate quick pick tickets for customers.

The random number generator is housed in an isolated computer and kept securely sealed and locked up between drawings. The random number generator underwent testing by an independent technical laboratory to assure that it met accepted performance levels for random number generators. The program is tested before each draw, and the test results are audited by an independent auditor prior to each drawing.

Drawings for Powerball and 2by2 are conducted using a random ball selection system. The Nebraska Lottery is a member of the Multi-state Lottery Association (MUSL), which operates these games on behalf of member lotteries.

Winning numbers are drawn from a set of plastic balls specifically numbered for each Lotto game. To assure randomness with each drawing, each game has more than one set of balls and a new set

is randomly selected for each drawing.

Each Lotto game also has its own drawing equipment, complete with at least one back-up system. The machine to be used in a game's drawing is randomly determined, just as the set of balls to be used is randomly determined. Ball sets and game equipment are maintained and tested to assure their randomness, and are kept in locked vaults which can only be opened in the presence of the drawing manager, a security officer and an independent auditor. The handling of drawing equipment and balls is videotaped as an additional precaution.

Whether conducted using a random number generator or random ball selection, the Nebraska Lottery makes no effort to influence the drawing process. It is possible for members of the public to observe Nebraska Lottery drawings with advance notice in order to facilitate access to the secure building and an appropriate escort. Results for all Lotto drawings are posted on the Nebraska Lottery web site, nelottery.com and on the Nebraska Lottery Players Hotline (800-224-LUCK).

DID YOU KNOW?

In June 2007, the Nebraska Lottery launched a new feature for its online Lotto games: barcoded tickets that can be scanned by retailer register systems. Nebraska Lottery Scratch products have contained barcodes since June 1997; with the addition of barcoding on its Lotto offerings, retailers can scan the entire Nebraska Lottery product line.

Nebraska Lottery prizes of \$20,000 or more must be claimed in person at Nebraska Lottery Headquarters, 1800 "O" Street, Suite 101 in Lincoln.

ROADS TO RICHES HIGHLANDER HYBRID RAFFLE.



Fall Promotion Offers Chance to win a 2008 Toyota Highlander Hybrid as well as Ethanol-Enriched Fuel.

The fall Lotto raffle is back with a new top prize: a 2008 Toyota Highlander Hybrid vehicle. Throughout the Husker football season, players will have a chance to win great weekly prizes during the Roads to Riches: Highlander Hybrid Raffle promotion. Starting August 26 and ending November 24, players will receive a bonus raffle coupon with each qualifying \$10 Nebraska Lottery Lotto single ticket purchase.

Bonus Raffle coupons will print for the following qualifying purchases:

Weeks 1- 7: *A purchase of a \$10 Nebraska 2by2 Multi-draw ticket including two quick pick numbers with five multi-draws apiece.*

Weeks 8-13: *Any \$10 Lotto multi-draw purchase of a single Lotto game.*

Each weekly drawing will award a \$500 Ethanol-Enriched Fuel Visa gift card from the raffle numbers issued that week. All entries will be held after their respective drawing for the Grand Prize Drawing. All raffle numbers issued during the 13-week promotion will be entered into the Grand Prize Drawing for the grand prize of a 2008 Toyota Highlander Hybrid, 2nd prize of a \$1,000 Ethanol-Enriched Fuel Visa gift card and 3rd prize of a \$500 Ethanol-Enriched Fuel Visa gift card.

All winners will be announced on the Tuesday following each scheduled drawing. Winning Bonus Raffle numbers will be listed at nelottery.com, on the Nebraska Lottery Player's Hotline (800-224-LUCK), on subsequent Powerball tickets and on signage posted at Lottery retail locations.

scholarship *fund benefits*



Among the various efforts funded by Nebraska Lottery proceeds is the Nebraska Scholarship Fund, which is administered by the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education under the Nebraska Scholarship Act.

With the help of the Nebraska Lottery, the Nebraska Scholarship Act has been able to award more than 38,000 Nebraska State Grants to college students at dozens of Nebraska institutions.

Grants were made to 13,609 students during the 2005-06 Academic Year. With grants averaging \$729, a total of \$9,917,594 was distributed to students attending 43 different institutions of higher education in Nebraska.

Among the students who received 2005-06 grants, 9,713 attended a public institution; 2,247 attended an independent college or university; and 1,649 attended a private for profit institution.

Grants were made to 12,139 students during the 2004-05 Academic Year. With grants averaging \$687, a total of \$8,336,903 was distributed to students attending 42 different institutions of higher education in Nebraska.

During the 2003-04 Academic Year, a total of 13,031 students received grants. Grant awards were divided evenly between dependent (traditional) and independent (non-traditional) students, with the average grant being worth \$671.

Schools select students as potential recipients, and the Coordinating Commission for

Post-Secondary Education approves the students and distributes funds to the institutions. Grants are made based on financial need, and students are not guaranteed to receive the grant every year they are enrolled.

The Nebraska Scholarship Fund uses a blend of funding from the United States Department of Education's LEAP/SLEAP program (7 percent in 2004-05, 12 percent in 2003-04), the State of Nebraska General Fund (68.5 percent in 2004-05, 65.5 percent in 2003-04), and Nebraska Lottery proceeds (24.5 percent in 2004-05, 22.5 percent in 2003-04).

Nebraska Lottery proceeds are being used in many ways to help people and projects across our state, supporting efforts focused on areas such as education, the environment, compulsive gamblers assistance, and the Nebraska State Fair. So far, \$296 million has been raised for Nebraska Lottery beneficiary funds.



environmental trust

beneficiaries



Nebraska Environmental Trust Receives Award

The Nebraska Environmental Trust was honored with the “2007 Partners in Conservation Award” by Hod Kosman, President of the Platte River Basin Environments, at an Appreciation Dinner held in Scottsbluff in June.

“Platte River Basin Environments and all of our Western Nebraska partners and sister conservation organizations can envision no finer partner that the Nebraska Environmental Trust – you have encouraged – facilitated and empowered us to go farther and realize our dreams we never thought possible. You have allowed us to catch the imagination of a vast region. We have partners, volunteers and contributors from all walks of life – they care about our WILD RESOURCES and balancing those resources with the progress and prosperity that our communities all seek” said Hod.

He added, “We believe that what we do is forever and we know that forever is a long, long time.”

Accepting the award were Gloria Erickson, Chairperson of the Nebraska Environmental Trust, Mark Brohman, the Executive Director, and Lisa Beethe, Grants



Administrator, who were at the event.

This is the 14th year of grants from the Trust, which has provided over \$112 million in lottery proceeds to preserve and protect the air, water and land of our state. This year alone, a total of 67

projects were approved by the Nebraska Environmental Trust Board. The projects will receive \$11,818,742 in Nebraska Lottery proceeds for natural resource work in Nebraska.

A complete listing of all 2007 grants can be found on the Nebraska Environmental Trust web site at www.environmentaltrust.org.

The Nebraska Legislature created the Nebraska Environmental Trust in 1992. Using revenue from the Nebraska Lottery, the Trust has provided grants to 952 projects across the state. Anyone – citizens, organizations, communities, farmers and businesses – can apply for funding to protect habitat, improve water quality and establish recycling programs in Nebraska. The Nebraska Environmental Trust works to preserve, protect and restore our natural resources for future generations.