



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

We welcome your feedback. Please send us your questions and comments via e-mail to: [FAQ@dbdealer.com](mailto:FAQ@dbdealer.com).

**Q:** *How many people play poker?*

**A:** It is now estimated that there are more than 50 million poker players in the U.S., and an additional 100 million worldwide. It is likely that televised tournaments from the World Poker Tour (WPT) and the World Series of Poker (WSOP) attract new players to the game each week.

**Q:** *How does that compare to online poker?*

**A:** PokerPulse.com tallies statistics about on online players monthly. As of May 2005, there were 1.8 million active, online poker players.

**Q:** *Do women play poker?*

**A:** According to Bluff Magazine, women make up 35% of the poker community. (February 2005 issue)

**Q:** *What are satellite tournaments?*

**A:** Satellite tournaments are regional, preliminary poker events that give players an opportunity to earn a seat at a larger WPT or WSOP event, but with a smaller buy-in (entry fee). Buy-ins at a satellite event can sometimes be as low as \$1, but generally range from \$20 to \$200. By contrast, standard buy-ins for WPT or WSOP events are \$10,000.

**Q:** *What is Texas Hold 'Em?*

**A:** Texas Hold 'Em is the popular variety of poker that is televised currently. Players receive two cards face down (hole cards), followed by a round of betting. The best hand to hold at this point is two aces. After each player has made his or her first bet, three cards are "flop" face up in the middle of the table.

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These are called community cards, meaning that every player can use the cards in the middle, as well as their hole cards, to make a hand. After the flop, a second round of betting ensues, and then the fourth card (called the “turn”) is placed face up in the middle to be used as another community card. Another round of betting follows. Then, a fifth and final card, (called the “river”), becomes the fifth community card. Another, final, round of betting follows. Players use the five community cards plus their hole cards to make his or her best five-card poker hand.

Players’ betting behavior facilitates the game’s intense psychology. At any time, a player with a low-value hand may fold, or he or she may pretend the hand is valuable and bet accordingly (Poker Hands Link - <http://www.pokerstars.net/ranking.html>). A player with a high-value hand may bet aggressively, or bet slowly to draw other players to put their chips into the pot. Beyond the luck of the card draws, it is the pattern and series of betting and bluffing that makes the game riveting.

**Q:** *What is meant by a No Limit game?*

A: A no limit game means that a player can bet as many chips as he or she wants to at any point in the game. This varies from limited games, in which a player must bet amounts according to a pre-determined structure. At the same time, most games include blinds, (required minimum bets), that increase throughout the game at timed intervals.

**Q:** *What is a Blind?*

A: A Blind is the required minimum bet for a given period of time during the game. At timed intervals, the Blind increases, ensuring that all players assume the same (increasing) amount of risk as the game elapses.

**Q:** *What is a Dealer Button?*

A: A Dealer Button is a round, plastic, chip-sized marker that moves player to player during the game to denote who gets to bet last, the most advantageous position at the table.

**Q:** *What is a DB Dealer?*

A: DB Dealer, Inc. invented the DB Dealer™ in 2005. It combines two essential game functions: the dealer button to denote who bets last, and a timer which notifies players that the blind is increasing.

**Q:** *What does it mean to go All-In?*

A: A player goes all-in when he or she bets all of their chips in a single bet. This aggressive move pressures other players to match the bet or fold. While it often indicates that the all-in player has a valuable hand, it can also be used as a bluff to strong-arm other players into folding.

**Q:** *What is a poker tournament and how does it differ from a regular poker game?*

**A:** In a poker tournament, each player pays an entry fee and receives the same number of chips. Once he loses his chips, he is eliminated from the tournament. The goal of each player is to climb the victory ladder and get to the final table. The biggest cash prize (as determined by the sum of entry fees from all participants) is given to the player who ends up with all of the final table's chips. First place typically earns about a third of the prize pool and the rest of the purse is divided among the other players who make the final table or finish within the top 20 or 30 places.

In a regular poker game, the winning player exchanges his chips for cash at the end of every round or at the close of the game. There are no additional tables or ladder of play.

**Q:** *How is the tournament prize pool determined?*

**A:** The prize pool total is based on the number of players who buy-in. It is the total amount of money paid by all players to enter a given tournament. The prize pool increases at the same rate of tournament entrants.

**Q:** *In a tournament, does the players' chip value equal the prize money?*

**A:** No. The value of the chip, although sometimes expressed as a cash total, is merely a way to measure which player is ahead in the game and what amount he or she has available to bet. Ultimately, the amount of money awarded to the winner and runners-up is predetermined from percentages, based on the total prize pool payout.

**Q:** *How are television viewers able to see a player's hole cards?*

**A:** The combination of a tiny camera in the table rail at each player's seat along with onscreen graphics let the television audience know what cards a player is holding. This adds a dramatic element to the game for this audience. In essence, the television viewer, watching a series of bets and bluffs, gets inside the mind of the players as the game unfolds. The other players at the table can only guess the contents of every player's hand.

**Q:** *Who can enter professional poker tournaments?*

**A:** In most sports, professionals only play other professionals. In poker, anyone can enter any tournament. Part of the game's appeal is that any prospective player who can pay the entry fee can play and compete against the best in the field. With the rise of online poker games, tournament novices are swelling the entry ranks - - and sometimes beating the pros. In recent years, millions of dollars in prize money has gone to non-pros who are unknown until they show up at or near the final table.

**Q:** *Is poker a sport?*

A: The answer depends on who you ask. The enthusiastic community of poker players believe that it is one - - similar to other games that involve strategy and intensive thought like billiards or chess. Some prominent sportscasters disagree. Nevertheless, cable sports channels such as ESPN operate, sponsor and regularly cablecast poker tournaments.

**Q:** *Where can I go if I think I have a gambling problem?*

A: There are many places to get more information and assistance. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call The National Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-522-4700 for confidential help, or visit [www.ncpgambling.org](http://www.ncpgambling.org) for more information. Local chapters of Gambler's Anonymous can also be helpful. Visit [www.gamblersanonymous.org](http://www.gamblersanonymous.org) and look under the link 'Meeting Directory' to find a support group in your area. Or consult a local phone directory.