



# **DOUBLE HAND POKER**

## **DESCRIPTION**

DOUBLE HAND POKER is played with a standard 52-card deck with one Joker added, making 53. The Joker is used as an Ace, or to complete a Straight or Flush in standard Double Hand Poker. The Joker is "wild" (can represent any card in the deck) when playing the "Joker's Wild" version of Double Hand Poker.

Each Player is given a seven-card hand that the Dealer has dealt out on the table in front of themselves. Players form two hands, a two-card and a five-card hand with the five-card hand being HIGHER in value than the two-card hand. Traditional Poker rankings are used.

When Players' hands are compared to the Designated Player's hands, both hands must be of higher ranking to win. If both are of the same or of lower ranking, the Designated Player wins. If one hand is lower and one higher it is a "push" and neither win.

Play rotates clockwise from the ACTION button.

Several Players may wager on the same hand, frequently called "back betting".

## **RULES FOR DESIGNATED PLAYER**

- 1 California style games feature a Designated Player position that is continuously and systematically rotated amongst all seated player positions during the play of the game.
- 2 Each seated player in a game will have the option, in turn, to participate/wager in the Designated Player position.
- 3 A seated player may decline the option to participate in the Designated Player position. The option to participate/not participate in the Designated Player position is solely the decision of the seated player. If the seated player declines the Designated Player position, it will be offered to the next seated player in turn until accepted by a seated player.
- 4 A seated player that has chosen to participate in the Designated Player position will have the option to participate in the Designated Player position for either one or two consecutive hands of play.
- 5 After two consecutive hands of play, the option to participate in the Designated Player position will rotate to the next seated player, in turn.

- 6 If all seated players decline the option to wager in the Designated Player position, the game will be closed. The game will be re-started once a player accepts the option to act as the Designated Player.

## **METHOD OF PLAY**

1. Players make a bet.
2. The Dealer deals seven piles of cards of seven each, in turn, in rotation in the middle of the table.
3. The Designated Player selects which pile will be distributed to the first player who is randomly selected. (see #4) The Dealer identifies the hand by placing a "button" marked "ACTION" on this pile and/or by pushing it forward and turning the pile behind it side ways.
4. The Designated Player shakes a dice cup containing three standard dice. The sum of the dice indicates to which seat the first pile of seven cards (see #3) will be distributed.
5. Each pile of seven cards are distributed to each seat at the table. The Dealer collects cards distributed to seats without a wage. (No-Body Home.)
6. Players form two hands, a two-card and a five-card hand.
7. When all Players' hands have been set, the Dealer exposes the Designated Player's hand, and sets it according to the Designated Player's instructions
8. Each Player's hands are compared to the Designated Player's hands, in turn, starting with the Action Button, to determine the winner according to the criteria stated above.
9. Bets are collected and paid only to the extent the Designated Player's money is in action.

*Example: The Designated Player has \$200 wagered. The first Player had \$60 bet and lost. The Player's bet and \$60 from the Designated Dealer's \$200 are returned to the DP and that money is now "out of action". The DP now has \$140 left in action. The next Player bet \$60 and won. That bet and \$60 from the DP's remaining bet is returned to the winning Player. There has been \$120 of the DP's bet removed from action, leaving \$80 for continued action. The process continues until the DP's bet has been exhausted, or all bets have been settled. Any money bet by the DP that has not received action is returned.*