



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Powerball® Step-Down Starts November 5, 2011

Advance Play wagers to decrease leading-up to Big Changes in National Jackpot Game

Washington, D.C. – [Powerball](#), the nation's oldest multistate lottery game, is "stepping-down" the Advance Play wagers available to players in preparation for its 20th birthday and a revamp of the game including bigger jackpots and better winning odds.

Up until November 5, 2011, players will be able to purchase up to 20 Advance Play wagers. The number of Advance Play wagers available will be reduced by one draw, following each draw, leading up to zero advance plays available on January 14, 2012. On January 15, 2012, the effective date of the new game changes, players will again be able to purchase up to 20 Advance Play wagers.

This adjustment is being made in advance of big changes to the Powerball game structure. The new changes go into effect January 15, 2012.

Presently, jackpots initiate at \$20 million. Beginning January 15, 2012, that number will double to \$40 million, climbing in \$10 million increments for every unclaimed jackpot draw. Winning odds will be increased by a shift in the game's play structure. Players will continue to select their first five numbers from a pool of 59. However, the pool for the Powerball number will be limited to 35, which is calculated to produce greater winning odds. Currently, a player's chances at winning are 1:35. With the new play structure, those odds increase to 1:31.8. The most tangible modification will be the price of play which goes from \$1 to \$2 in January.

Powerball will continue to offer players nine ways to win. Another bonus of the new game structure will be a big jump in the second prize from its present amount of \$200,000 to \$1 million. Even the least among the winners will see an increase. Players matching only the Powerball will see their prize bump from \$3 to \$4.

Since its inception in 1992, Powerball has generated approximately \$33 billion in sales for lotteries across the country. For Fiscal Year 2011, Powerball generated approximately \$14 million in sales for the D.C. Lottery. Revenue generated by the D.C. Lottery and its products are directed to the District's General Fund which supports essential city services such as education, public safety, and infrastructure.

Powerball ® is played in 44 jurisdictions including the District of Columbia, which is a founding member of the Multi-State Lottery Association, the organization that operates Powerball.

Powerball drawings are held Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10:59 p.m. Eastern Time. For more information on the D.C. Lottery, its games, and services, visit us [online](#).

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