



2020 Amendment to Schedule 9 – UPDATE, 31 July 2020

Prize Payment

The outbreak of Covid-19 in Ireland led to the Health (Preservation and Protection and other Emergency Measures in the Public Interest) Act 2020 (the “2020 Act”). On 7 April 2020 the Minister for Health signed regulations pursuant to the 2020 Act giving statutory effect to the Guidelines announced on 27 March 2020 that members of the public should restrict their travel and workers should work from home with some limited exceptions (the “Regulations”).

National Lottery HQ closed to the public in line with the Regulations. In relation to the population at large, the Regulations instructed everyone to “stay at home” and to only leave home for specific purposes (not including attending at National Lottery HQ) and to limit their travel within prescribed distances. Consequently, even if National Lottery HQ was open, prize winners would have been unable to attend at HQ to claim a prize.

Schedule 9, Clause 3 of the Licence, which relates to tickets purchased via the National Lottery’s online interactive channels, requires that *“Winners of prizes of €10,000 or more must present themselves at National Lottery HQ where their age and identification details will be verified before a cheque is issued.”*

Therefore, in light of the Regulations, Schedule 9, Clause 3 was amended, with effect from 2 June 2020, to give winners of online prizes of €10,000 or more the option to claim such prizes through the post (the “June Amendment”). The details of the June Amendment are published on this Office’s website and can be found [here](#).

On 29 June 2020 the Minister for Health signed further regulations under the 2020 Act removing the official travel restrictions detailed above such that winners of online prizes of €10,000 or more could, from that date, once again attend at National Lottery HQ to claim their prizes .

Consequently, on 18 July 2020 the Regulator determined, having first consulted with the operator of the National Lottery, that the official travel restrictions detailed above had ended such that the June Amendment no longer had force in law or effect. To enable winners who had commenced the process of claiming prizes though the post to complete the process, it was decided that the postal claims process would cease on 17 August 2020.



Given that Government Guidance relating to travel remains cautious, it was agreed between the operator of the National Lottery and the Regulator that Schedule 9, Clause 3 would be further amended to facilitate winners of online prizes of €10,000 or more claiming their prizes through the post up to and including 18 February 2021. The wording of Schedule 9, Clause 3, as amended, appears below with the wording of the amendment appearing in red.

| PRIZE TIERS | PRIZE AMOUNT | PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS |
|-------------|---------------|--|
| LOW | €1 - €99 | Email notification sent for Draw Game wins |
| | | Prizes automatically transferred to Player's on-line wallet |
| MID | €100 - €500 | Email notification sent for Draw Game wins |
| | | Cheque automatically sent by post to winners registered address. |
| | €501 - €9,999 | Winners are contacted by the Licensee which will verify their age and identification details and send out a claim form for completion by Winner before a cheque is issued. |
| HIGH | €10,000 + | Email notification sent for Draw Game wins. |
| | | Winners must present themselves at National Lottery HQ where their age and identification details will be verified before a cheque is issued. However, given that Government Guidance relating to travel during the Covid-19 pandemic remains cautious, winners may, up to and including 18 February 2021, and following confirmation from the National Lottery Claims team, post a claim form and all required documentation to National Lottery HQ at the winner's sole risk. If valid, claims will be paid by cheque. |