**20:18:17:03.  Meters.** A slot machine must have both electronic (soft) meters and electromechanical (hard) meters unless configured to operate on an approved slot management system which provides system meters that may be relied on in lieu of hard meters. Soft meters must have at least eight digits. If present, hard meters must have at least six digits. The slot machine's soft meters, hard meters or system meters must accumulate the same values for coins-in, coins-out, coins-dropped, and jackpots-paid. Slot machine soft meters must accumulate in electronic digital storage and provide the means for on-demand display of the stored information.

 The coins-in meter must accumulate all coin, credit, token, paper token, and casino script transactions. The coins-out meter must accumulate all coin, token, credit, paper token, hopper ticket, and casino script transactions paid out by the slot machine's hopper or printer for awards and credits from awards that are wagered. The coins-out meter may include credits that are accumulated on the jackpots-paid meter. The coins-dropped meter must accumulate all coins and tokens that have been diverted into a drop bucket and bills, paper tokens, and casino script accepted by the bill acceptor. The jackpots-paid meter must reflect any single event award that is not paid out by the slot machine's hopper in coins or tokens, except additional payouts and promotional awards. The jackpots-paid meter may also include credits accumulated on the canceled credit meter. The canceled credit meter must accumulate credits paid by means other than payouts from the hopper, printer, bill hopper, or jackpot payouts if the device has such credit provisions. Any slot machine equipped with a bill acceptor must have a bill acceptor soft meter which accumulates the following:

 (1)  The total number of bills accepted;

 (2)  A breakdown of each denomination accepted; and

 (3)  The total dollar amount of bills accepted.

 Any slot machine which will accept or dispense hopper tickets, paper tokens, or casino script shall have a soft meter which accumulates the following:

 (1)  The total number of hopper tickets printed or casino script dispensed;

 (2)  The total value of tickets printed or casino script dispensed;

 (3)  The total number of paper tokens or casino script accepted; and

 (4)  The total value of paper tokens or casino script accepted.

 An operator, using the meters defined in this section, shall be able to calculate hopper load.

 A slot machine must be equipped with meters that record the number of times the door was opened to gain access to the slot machine cabinet or bill acceptor. No slot machine may have a mechanism that causes the electronic accounting meters to clear automatically when an error occurs. Clearing of the electronic accounting meters may only be done by approval of the executive secretary. A slot machine's meters must be maintained at all times, regardless of whether the machine is being supplied with power. Meter readings must be recorded before and after the electronic accounting meter is cleared. A licensee must complete SDCGF-38 Gaming Information Form when any electronic accounting meter is cleared.

 If so equipped, electromechanical (hard) meters must have an accuracy rate of 99 percent or better. Electronic (soft) meters and system meters must have an accuracy rate of 99.99 percent or better.

 Slot machines must be designed so that replacement of parts or modules required for normal maintenance does not require replacement of the electromechanical meters, if so equipped.

 Slot machines must have an electronically stored digital meter of at least three digits for the number of plays since "power on" and the number of plays since "door closure." When the maximum value has been reached, the meters must remain at that value until reset by occurrence of the appropriate event. The slot machine must provide the means for on-demand display of the stored information.

 Slot machines must have meters continuously displaying the following information relating to the current play or monetary transaction:

 (1)  The number of coins or credits wagered;

 (2)  The number of coins or credits won, if applicable;

 (3)  The number of coins paid by the hopper for a credit cash-out or a direct pay from a winning outcome; and

 (4)  The number of credits available for wagering, if applicable.

 Electronically stored meter information required by this section must be preserved after a power loss to the slot machine.

 **Source:** 16 SDR 57, effective October 1, 1989; 17 SDR 93, effective January 6, 1991; 21 SDR 98, effective November 30, 1994; 25 SDR 4, effective July 27, 1998; 25 SDR 95, effective January 20, 1999; 27 SDR 53, effective December 4, 2000; 41 SDR 53, effective October 6, 2014.

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