

RULE BOOK

SUMMARY

'The Red Light" is a thrilling expansion to 'The Big Shuffle" film noir card game that takes you to the seediest corners of the city where anything goes. Sure, there's the speakeasy, but every Tom, Dick, and Jane in this city knows how to wet their whistle and some of the watering holes are practically upstanding. Where do you go to find real excitement, real action?

EXPERIENCE THE RUSH THAT COMES FROM LAYING IT ALL ON THE LINE AT ONE OF THE MOB'S MANY BACKROOM CASINOS. GAMBLING, PROSTITUTION, THEIVERY, AND MURDER ARE ALL RAMPANT HERE. YOU STAND TO EITHER STRIKE IT RICH IN THESE BACK ALLEYS DENS OF VICE, OR LOSE EVERYTHING YOU HAVE. SO DEAL THE CARDS, TEST YOUR LUCK AND YOUR METTLE ON THE MEAN RED-LIT STREETS.



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DEVELOPED: PREVIOUSLY PLUTO

COMPONENT LISTS



CHARACTERS x1



INFORMANTS x1



AGENDA

REFERENCE CARDS AGENDAS **x3**

SCENE CARDS (x3)





WHAT x1



WHERE x1

NOIR CARDS (x15)



GOONS X5



LOOT X5



ACTION X4



ADDITIONAL SET UP

In the Big Shuffle, the first player is determined by who got up earliest, because the early bird gets the worm, but in the Red Light District, the city really comes alive at night. The first player is the player who went to bed the latest the night before.

AFTER DETERMINING THE FIRST PLAYER, PLAYERS SHOULD DECIDE EXACTLY WHICH GAMBLING GAME THEY'RE STAKING EVERYTHING ON: POKER, BLACKJACK, OR ROULETTE! THE RULES FOR EACH GAME CAN BE FOUND BELOW UNDER NEW MECHANICS, AND THE CORRESPONDING RULES REFERENCE CARD SHOULD BE SET OUT ON THE TABLE AS A REMINDER.

AFTER EVERY CHARACTER DRAWS THEIR OPENING HAND, SET THE TOP 3 CARDS OF THE NOIR DECK ASIDE, FACE UP. THESE CARDS CONSTITUTE 'THE POT."

NEW MECHANICS

GAMBLING IS A CORE COMPONENT OF THE RED LIGHT EXPANSION. CHARACTERS COMPETE TO 'HIT THE JACKPOT" THROUGHOUT THE GAME, AS THE WINDFALL IS SURE TO HELP THEM TO ACCOMPLISH THEIR OWN SELFISH ENDS AND WIN THE BIG SHUFFLE.



THE POT

The Pot is a new game area for cards that are set aside as a reward for a character who hits the jackpot. When a character hits the jackpot, they put all of the cards from the pot into their hand. If there is any Loot in the pot, the character who wins may put that Loot into play instead. Note that this doesn't count as playing or steading for the purpose of cards like The Briefcase or The Fedora.

ANTE

CARDS IN THE RED LIGHT EXPANSION MAY INSTRUCT A CHARACTER TO ANTE A CARD. TO ANTE A CARD, PUT IT INTO THE POT FACE UP. CHARACTERS MAY BE INSTRUCTED TO ANTE CARDS FROM THEIR HAND OR IN PLAY.

Whenever The Pot is empty, usually because a character hit the jackpot, ante the top three cards of the Noir deck into the pot face up.

HITTING THE JACKPOT

There are many different ways to hit the Jackpot. Sometimes a card will explicitly say a character hits the Jackpot, but there are also additional ways to hit the Jackpot depending upon the Gambling game the characters agreed upon during setup. Detailed rules for each method of Gambling can be found below, as well as on their relevant Rules Reference cards.

POKER

Poker is all about creating strings of matching or sequential cards. Any time a character hires a Goon, check to see if that Goon creates a set or a straight. A set is three or more hired Goons with a matching modifier (ignoring the + or -). A straight is three or more hired Goons with sequential modifier (ignoring + or -). The last character to hire a Goon that increased the size of a set or straight hits the jackpot after the scene change.

POKER SET EXAMPLE

In a 2 player game, The Madam hires a +1 goon for herself, then The Mafia Don hires a -1 goon against her. The Madam hires another +1 goon for herself, the third goon with a matching modifier (1, 1, 1). She stands to hit the Jackpot after the scene change. However, the Mafia Don hires another -1 goon against her, increasing the size of the set (1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1) and now he stands to hit the Jackpot. Since The Madam is out of goons, she passes, the Mafia Don also passes. The results of the scene change occur, and then the Mafia Don hits the Jackpot and puts all the cards in the pot into his hand.



THE MAFIA DON
HITS JACKPOT

POKER STRAIGHT EXAMPLE

IN A 3 PLAYER GAME, THE PRIVATE EYE, HIRES A +3 GOON FOR HIMSELF, THEN THE GOVERNOR HIRES A -1 GOON AGAINST HIM, BUT THE POLICE CHIEF HIRES A +2 GOON FOR THE PRIVATE EYE. SINCE THE POLICE CHIEF COMPLETED A 3 GOON STRAIGHT (1, 2, 3) BY PLAYING THE +2 GOON, HE STANDS TO HIT THE JACKPOT. THE PRIVATE EYE PASSES, BUT THE GOVERNOR STILL WANTS TO STOP THE SCENE CHANGE SO HE FIRES A -2 GOON AGAINST THE PRIVATE EYE. HOWEVER, SINCE THIS GOON DOESN'T INCREASE THE SIZE OF THE STRAIGHT (THE LONGEST STRAIGHT IS STILL 1, 2, 3) THE GOVERNOR WILL NOT HIT THE JACKPOT, THOUGH HE STILL IS HAPPY TO HAVE STOPPED THE SCENE CHANGE. AFTER THE FAILED SCENE CHANGE IS DONE, THE POLICE CHIEF HITS THE JACKPOT AND PUTS ALL THE CARDS IN THE POT INTO HIS HAND.



THE POLICE
CHIEF

BL ACKJACK

IN BLACKJACK, CHARACTERS WANT TO HIT THE PERFECT NUMBER TO SCORE BIG. ANY TIME A CHARACTER CHANGES A SCENE, IF THEIR MODIFIED INFLUENCE WAS EQUAL TO THE DIFFICULTY OF THE SCENE CHANGE, THEY HIT THE JACKPOT.

BLACKJACK EXAMPLE

THE CAT BURGLAR ATTEMPTS TO CHANGE THE DOPE DEAL FROM MIDTOWN TO DOWNTOWN. THE DIFFICULTY OF THAT SCENE CHANGE IS 3. THE CAT BURGLAR HAS 1 WHAT PINFLUENCE, AND HER INFORMANT, THE BOOKIE, GIVES HER +2 INFLUENCE. SHE REVEALS THE EXTRA EXTRA SCENE CHANGE CARD WHICH GIVES HER AN ADDITIONAL +1. SHE WILL HAVE A 4 MODIFIED INFLUENCE TO CHANGE A SCENE WITH A DIFFICULTY OF 3. BUT SHE WANTS TO HIT THE JACKPOT, SO SHE HIRES A -1 GOON AGAINST HERSELF. THE POLICE CHIEF TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY AND HIRES ANOTHER -1 GOON AGAINST HER SO SHE WILL FAIL THE SCENE CHANGE, BUT THE CAT BURGLAR HIRES ANOTHER +1 GOON FOR HER. AND EVERYONE PASSES AFTERWARDS. THE CAT BURGLAR CHANGES THE SCENE WITH INFLUENCE EXACTLY EQUAL TO THE SCENE CHANGE DIFFICULTY (BASE +2 INFORMANT +1 Scene Change -1 Goon -1 Goon +1 Goon = 3 MODIFIED INFLUENCE). THE CAT BURGLAR HITS THE JACKPOT AFTER THE SCENE CHANGE, AND PUTS THE CARDS IN THE POT INTO HER HAND.

MIDTOWN

THE DOPE DEAL

What makes the discussion was into

JACKPOT GOAL

3



Base Influence



INFORMANT INFLUENCE

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Scene Change Influence

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GOON INFLUENCE

- 1 = 3

JACKPOT

ROULETTE

PLAYING ROULETTE IS ALL ABOUT LUCK. THERE'S NO SKILL, NO STRATEGY, YOU JUST PLACE YOUR BETS AND LET FATE DECIDE WHO WINS. THE FINAL PART OF SETUP FOR A RED LIGHT EXPANSION GAME OF ROULETTE IS TO SHUFFLE THE ROULETTE RULES REFERENCE CARD INTO THE NOIR DECK. WHICHEYER LUCKY CHARACTER DRAWS THE ROULETTE RULES REFERENCE REVEALS IT AND HITS THE JACKPOT. AFTER THE ROULETTE RULES REFERENCE IS REVEALED THE POT IS REPLENISHED WITH THREE NEW NOIR CARDS.

IF THE ROULETTE RULES REFERENCE WOULD GO ANYWHERE OTHER THAN THE NOIR DECK AND THERE ARE 10 OR MORE CARDS IN THE NOIR DECK, SHUFFLE IT BACK IN. OTHERWISE, PUT IT IN THE DISCARD PILE. THIS APPLIES IF IT WOULD BE DISCARDED FROM THE DECK (I.E. BY CAT BURGLAR'S ABILITY), ANTE'D INTO THE POT (I.E. VIA THE BLACK MARKET BUY ACTION), OR PUT INTO A CHARACTER'S HAND.



VARIATIONS ON THE GAME

MULTIPLE GAMBLING GAMES - NO LIMIT TABLE

PLAYERS CAN AGREE DURING SETUP TO USE TWO SETS OF RULES FOR GAMBLING DURING THE GAME, OR EVEN ALL THREE! SCENE CHANGES CAN GET WONDERFULLY EXCITING WHEN A CHARACTER HIRES A GOON TO TRY TO GET BLACKJACK, BUT IN DOING SO ENABLES ANOTHER PLAYER TO SWOOP IN WITH A STRAIGHT OF GOONS USING THE POKER RULES. THE ONLY ADDITIONAL RULE IS THAT, IF A CHARACTER WOULD HIT THE JACKPOT IN POKER (BY MAKING A STRAIGHT OR SET OF GOONS), THEY WIN OUT OVER ANOTHER CHARACTER WHO WOULD HIT THE JACKPOT DURING THE SAME SCENE CHANGE IN BLACKJACK.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

IF THE ROULETTE RULES REFERENCE CARD IS IN THE DISCARD PILE (BECAUSE THERE WERE FEWER THAN 10 CARDS IN THE NOIR DECK) CAN I RETURN IT TO MY HAND WITH SNOOPING AROUND?

No. THE ROULETTE RULES REFERENCE CARD CAN NEVER BE ANYWHERE BESIDES THE NOIR DECK AND THE NOIR DISCARD. THE ACT OF RETURNING IT TO YOUR HAND WITH SNOOPING AROUND OR ANY OTHER MECHANIC, WILL CAUSE IT TO BE PUT BACK INTO THE DISCARD INSTEAD, MEANING SNOOPING AROUND DOES NOTHING AND DOESN'T HELP YOU HIT THE JACKPOT.

