

Town of Dennis
Licensing Regulations For
Coin/Token Operated Amusement Devices

1.00 The Selectmen acting as the Licensing Authority as delineated in the Town of Dennis Licensing Authority By-Law §197-1 may at their discretion, grant the application of a suitable person for a license to keep and operate for hire, gain or reward an automatic amusement device; or deny an application, or revoke an existing license, if they find the general good, the preservation of public order or the welfare of the Town so requires; provided however, that any such denial or revocation shall not be arbitrary or capricious.

1.01 All licenses granted for automatic amusements devices shall expire on December 31 of each year. Application for such licenses in the first instance shall be considered and acted upon by the Licensing Board after certified notice to abutters and other interested parties, if any, and a public hearing held. Where renewal of an existing license is sought, the Licensing Board Chair or designee, is hereby authorized and empowered to grant such renewals for and on behalf of the Licensing Board when he/she finds that no substantial changes have occurred in the qualifications or operation of the applicant since the time the prior license was issued. If he/she finds such a change has occurred, the application for renewal of the license shall be treated as an application of first impression and considered and acted on by the full Licensing Board as provided above. Any person or business wishing to amend an existing license by adding additional amusements must submit an amended application to the Licensing Board designee for approval. Any additional coin/token operated amusements are subject to the annual fee as noted in section 1.04.

1.02 All automatic amusement devices licensed under this regulation shall be kept and operated in open view and shall not be offered or permitted to be used for gambling. Games that are violent or sexual in nature and not appropriate for open view and are not permitted. Any violation of this section 1.02 by any person managing or controlling the premises where a licensed automatic amusements device is kept or offered for operation shall be cause for revocation of all licenses for all such devices kept or offered for operation on such premises.

1.03 All licenses issued under this regulation shall comply substantially in form and content with the requirements of MGL Ch. 140 § 177A, SS 3.

1.04 No license shall be issued under this regulation until the licensing fee is paid in full. Licenses will be issued in accordance with the Town of Dennis Fee By-Law 197-5. Fees for all licenses, including renewals, shall be the established and revised from time to time at the discretion of the Selectmen.

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1.05 Applications for all automatic amusements devices shall be submitted to the Licensing Board on a form approved by them, to include an inventory of all devices and shall be processed in accordance with existing rules, procedures and policies of the Licensing Board.

1.06 For purposes of this regulation the term, “ automatic amusement device” shall be construed to mean any machine, mechanism or other apparatus or device of whatsoever kind or nature which, upon payment, insertion or deposit of money, token or other thing of value or any substitute therefor, is caused or put in position to produce by any means whatsoever, visual images or displays, sounds, motion or any combination there of , for purposes of entertainment, recreation and/or play, including but not limited to such devices as are commonly called pinball machines, juke boxes, video games, simulated sports games and mechanical bulls as delineated in the Town of Dennis By-Law § 197-7.

1.07 No more than four (4) coin-operated devices used for entertainment, as defined in section 1.06 of these regulations, shall be issued to a commercial business.

1.08 Entertainment licenses will not be granted or renewed if the individual or business has neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fee, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges for not less than a twelve-month period as delineated in the Town of Dennis taxation by-law 159-1.