

nebraska lottery

Drawing Results, Winners, and Scratch Game Information **402-471-6114**
 Players Hotline **402-471-6139** and **800-224-LUCK (NE & WY only)**
 Main Number **402-471-6100** and **800-587-5200**
 Website **nelottery.com**

scratch tickets and osr

877-651-6296

lottery retailer hotline

800-560-2919

Free problem gambling help for Nebraskans at
problemgambling.nebraska.gov

ticket talk

THE NEWSLETTER FOR NEBRASKA LOTTERY RETAILERS



ticket talk

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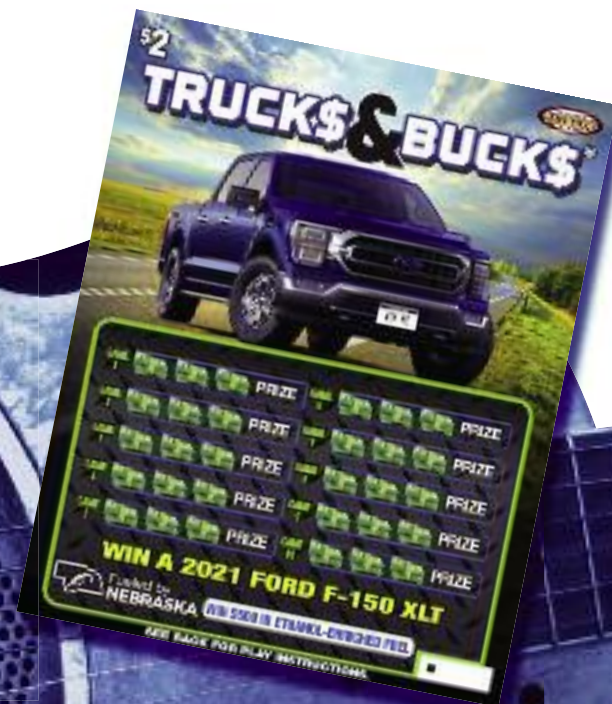
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BACK WITH THE BLUES



Winter Bonuses

Here are the retailers who received High Prize Seller Bonuses for selling major winning tickets from mid-December through mid-January:

J and J's Pronto, Homer, 2by2, \$22,000
Yesway #1170, Alliance, Frosty Fun, \$40,000
Coffin's Corner, Grand Island, Golden Cherry Multiplier, \$1,000
Casey's General Store #1768, Grand Island, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
AB's 66, Omaha, Mega Millions, \$1,000
U-Stop #03, Lincoln, Nebraska Black, \$20,000
Casey's General Store #1182, Plattsmouth, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Fast Mart, Columbus, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Cenex Zip Trip #80, Ogallala, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Casey's General Store #1193, Fairbury, Frosty Fun, \$1,000
Casey's General Store #2735, Syracuse, Frosty Fun, \$1,000
Git 'N Split #09, Lincoln, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Quik Trip #577, La Vista, White Ice Black Ice, \$1,000
Fast Mart, Columbus, Frosty Fun, \$1,000
Fill-N-Chill #02, Hastings, Mega Millions, \$1,500
U-Stop #07, Lincoln, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Parkview Express, Columbus, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Quik Trip #587, Omaha, Powerball, \$50,000
U Save Mart, Morrill, \$100,000 Crossword Inferno, \$1,000
Stop Inn Liquor & Foods, David City, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Cubby's - Old Market, Omaha, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Casey's General Store #2853, Springfield, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Kum & Go #366, Omaha, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Casey's General Store #3819, Omaha, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
U-Stop #17, Hickman, Frosty Fun, \$1,000
Hy-Vee Gas, Columbus, Mega Millions, \$2,000
Westco, Crawford, Mega Millions, \$20,000
Family Fare 776, Omaha, Multiplier Mania, \$100,000

Trails West, Trenton, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Super Saver #4, Lincoln, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Mega Saver, Omaha, Triple Double Diamond, \$1,000
Cubby's, Bellevue, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Weston 92 BP, Weston, Pick 5, \$138,000
Casey's General Store #2883, Grand Island, MyDaY, \$5,000
Pump & Pantry #03, Grand Island, 7, \$14,777
Brady's Meats & Foods, Fremont, Arcade Classics Super Ticket, \$100,000
Hy-Vee Gas, Plattsmouth, Bonus Quick 7s, \$15,000
Cubby's, Fremont, Lucky for Life, \$5,000
Pump & Pantry #16, York, Money Vault, \$30,000
Trotter's Whoa & Go Express IV, Ord, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Kum & Go #371, Omaha, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Casey's General Store #2980, Lincoln, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Super C #8, Lincoln, Supreme Cash, \$1,000
Broadway Billie's, Bloomfield, 2by2, \$22,000
Super Saver #4, Lincoln, Mega Millions, \$1,500
Family Fare 779, Omaha, 2by2, \$22,000
Casey's General Store #3089, Columbus, Camo Cash, \$1,000
81 Express, Hebron, Money Bag Multiplier, \$50,000
Ampride, Scottsbluff, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
The Beverage Barn, Imperial, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Coffin's Corner, Grand Island, \$100,000 Crossword Inferno, \$1,000
Hutti, Omaha, 10X Bingo Multiplier, \$1,000
Kum & Go #360, Omaha, Jolliest Jackpot, \$50,000
Casey's General Store #1181, West Point, Nebraska Black, \$1,000
Stop Inn Liquor & Foods, David City, Supreme Cash, \$20,000
Hy-Vee Food Store #01 (1465), Omaha, Mega Millions, \$1,000

Please Note: High Prize Seller Bonuses for Scratch games are credited to retailer accounts when the prize is claimed. High Prize Seller Bonuses for Lotto games are credited to retailer accounts after the drawing for which the ticket was sold.



Top prize odds 1:300,000

What's Inside

- Truck\$ & Buck\$
- Ghostbusters™
- 2by2 Cash Blast

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021

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The New Year

It's a new year and I believe I speak for everyone when I say that we are all looking for new beginnings. While last year was certainly uncertain at the beginning, we were able to create positive play experiences for our customers and generate funds for our beneficiaries. This year, we're looking to grow on that success.

Truck\$ & Buck\$ launched in January and we've already had one lucky winner in Scribner. It remains one of our most popular games and we may be using it for the inspiration of a new game. More details to come on that as the year unfolds.

By the end of the year, it is our intent to have converted our terminals in retailers across the state to all new equipment. The conversion of this equipment is part of our new contract with our vendor IGT to provide services to us in regards to our Scratch and Lotto operations. With upgraded functionality and new hardware, it is the hope that this equipment will streamline ticket purchases for both clerks and customers.

We are hopeful in what this new year will be like and we hope that attitude will serve us well as we set forth to create enjoyable games for our players and work with our partners to build a better Nebraska.



Michael Homes of Scribner won the first Truck\$ & Buck\$ truck on February 2. The ticket was sold at Scribner Express.

Check 'em out coming your way soon!

Power 10 (\$10)	Power 5 (\$5)	Power 1 (\$1)
Game Number: 1134	Game Number: 1133	Game Number: 1132
Top Prize: \$75,000	Top Prize: \$45,555	Top Prize: \$1,000
Overall odds: 1:3.55	Overall odds: 1:3.51	Overall odds: 1:4.25
Free ticket: Yes	Free ticket: Yes	Free ticket: Yes



Who you gonna call?



If you don't know the answer to that question, then the Nebraska Lottery can help you out with our new Ghostbusters Scratch ticket.

An homage to the original movie, the game features iconic art such as the No-Ghost sign, Ecto-1 (the vehicle of choice for aspiring ghost hunters) and ectoplasm. The \$5 Scratch ticket offers a symbol-match play style and gives players the chance to win up to \$50,000 in cash.

Prizes for the game start with a free ticket and go up to the top prize of \$50,000, but those prizes are not the only chances for players to take home something special.

From February 22 until March 2, players will have the opportunity to gain entry via social media to win a prize that includes \$150 in Nebraska Lottery Ghostbusters Scratch tickets, \$50 in Nebraska Pick 5 coupons and a Nebraska Lottery swag bag along with some Ghostbusters merchandise. Entries will be accepted on Facebook. Contestants can also follow and Tweet @NE_Lottery on Twitter to gain two additional entries.



System Conversion Update



As previously reported in Ticket Talk, International Game Technology (IGT) will be continuing as provider of Instant and Online games and related services under a new contract. This system conversion will be different from previous conversions. The March/April issue of Ticket Talk will have complete details about the new lottery terminals and equipment coming soon to all Nebraska Lottery retailers.

HELP FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING IS AVAILABLE.

Gambling can be an enjoyable source of entertainment for many people. But for some people, gambling can be addictive.

Assistance with problem gambling is available via the Nebraska Gamblers Assistance Program. If you decide you could use the help of confidential, professional counseling with a certified problem gambling counselor, the State of Nebraska pays the full cost of counseling for Nebraskans and their families. Working with a trained counselor helped 92% of Nebraska clients reduce their gambling, and 78% reduced their gambling debt.

Removing gambling as a barrier in your life comes in stages:

- Stage 1:** You still gamble and you want to keep gambling, but it has come to your attention that your gambling is causing problems.
- Stage 2:** You see that your gambling has a downside, but do not want to have to give it up to make positive changes.
- Stage 3:** You have taken an honest look at your gambling. You have talked to people you trust, and decided that gambling needs to take a back seat to things that matter. Gambling has become the center of your life, and you want control back.
- Stage 4:** You have decided to take action to reduce or stop gambling. You take a hard-nosed look at your gambling. This stage takes time as you plan how you want to address your gambling with actions that work for you.
- Stage 5:** You make short-term goals of six or more months to maintain success with your goals. You expect to slip up – it is part of meeting your goal. You work hard with the help of family and friends.

Gamblers Assistance Program

Free problem gambling help for Nebraskans at problemgambling.nebraska.gov. All information is confidential.

LUCKY FOR LIFE DAILY DRAWINGS COMING JULY 19

nebraska lottery



This summer, players will have the chance to win \$1,000 a day for life every day of the week. Starting July 19, drawings for Lucky for Life will be held seven days a week. No other changes will be made to the game, but a multi-draw phase out will start in April to prepare for seven-day draws. Look for more information in the next issue of Ticket Talk.



2by2 players can win weekly cash prizes when the Cash Blast promotion returns February 17.

Between February 17 and April 6, every \$1 2by2 purchase will generate a voucher with a seven-digit Prize Voucher number. Players submit the Prize Voucher number using their MVP Club membership at nelottery.com. Seven weekly drawings will be held, with one \$5,000 Grand Prize winner and one \$500 Second Prize winner drawn each week.

2by2 Tuesday eligible tickets purchased in multiples of seven drawings could win double prizes in this contest with the Bonus Cash award feature. After each weekly drawing, the 2by2 tickets that produced the entries drawn will be checked to see if they were purchased for a multiple of seven drawings. If so, the winner's prize will be doubled.

Make sure to give any vouchers to players with their 2by2 tickets. More information about the promotion is available at nelottery.com.



Jackpots for Nebraska Pick 5 are growing bigger this winter. During the month of February, the Pick 5 jackpot will grow by \$10,000, up from the regular \$4,000. The increased roll amount will only occur during February and will not be a permanent feature of the game. See nelottery.com for details.

RETAILER SPOTLIGHT

Harsh Mercantile



About 60 miles from Valentine, Ainsworth and Broken Bow, up a winding, hilly road through fields of scrub brush and cattle, about 15 miles north of the next nearest town, Halsey, sits Harsh Mercantile, a store in Purdum that has a little bit of everything.

Feed, groceries, hardware, even Nebraska Lottery.

Michael Moody, the owner of Harsh Mercantile, said the store has been owned locally since 1899. The whole store is filled with relics from the business's past.

Framed broadsheet ads from the 1920s and years before then extolling "The most astonishing money-saving event the people of Purdum and surrounding country have ever witnessed".

Half of Harsh Mercantile used to be the town bank. Everywhere you see white tile on the floor, that's where the bank was, Moody said. The old safe is still nestled in the wall of the building.

The store has burnt down twice, he said, and each time they build it back up again. It's the place where people in the community have gathered for more than a century.

"We gather every morning about 7 for coffee," Moody said. "At least five and whoever else joins in. Coffee pot's always on."

Purdum's a small town. About 11 people by Moody's estimation, maybe 10. Harsh Mercantile is the only place to buy Nebraska Lottery tickets for more than 20 miles in any direction.

It's a historic place and, back in November of 2020, Moody himself made a little history by hitting the first Nebraska Pick 5 jackpot ever won in Purdum.

Moody plays Pick 5 in the months when the jackpot rolls by \$10,000 each time it's not won. He plays two tickets with five plays each, based on family birthdays. On November 30, he hit the \$140,000 jackpot, which everyone in town seemed to know about the next day.

"News travels pretty fast out here," he said. "Awful fast."

Moody's planning on using some of his winnings to help the local fire department to put up a new building to replace their old station.

"It's a small town," he said. "It will go to a good cause."

Loyal Readers Contest Winners

Each month, readers of Ticket Talk have a chance to win prizes through the Loyal Readers Crossword Contest. Here are the winners from the November/December edition of the contest:

David Tolle,
Ranchland, Maxwell

Casey Fry,
Discount City #2, Hastings

June,
Jerry's Sinclair, Norfolk

Christopher Erwin,
Kwik Stop #665, Omaha

Elara Caster,
Russ's Market #21, Lincoln

Jim Hudson,
Big Bats, Chadron

Nina Schefcik,
Git-N-Split #77, Alliance

Ranee Critchfeild,
Henderson's IGA, Valentine

Tina Polonic,
Kwik Stop #9, Central City

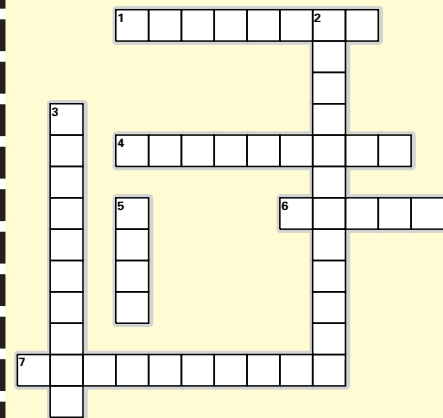
April Jensen,
Cubby's, Blair

The above winners answered the questions to last month's puzzle correctly.

The prize will be \$10 in Scratch ticket coupons for every employee who sells lottery tickets at the winner's location. LSRs will have premium prizes for those employees under the age of 19.

Ten winners are selected randomly each issue.

Loyal Readers Contest



Across

- When a multi-draw Lotto ticket with draws remaining is cashed, an _____ ticket for the rest of the draws will be produced.
- Scratch tickets need to be _____ before they can be sold.
- You could win \$1,000 a day for life playing the _____ for Life game.
- Free problem gambling help for _____ is offered by the Gambler's Assistance Program.

Down

- Due to legal restrictions, some alternative titles for the 1984 _____ movie included "Ghoststoppers," "Ghostbreakers," and "Ghostsmashers."
- _____ Day started as a feast day in February and later became associated with romantic love in the 14th and 15th centuries.
- You can win double prizes on Tuesday when you buy _____ tickets in multiples of seven draws.

Enter To Win

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Retailer: _____

The Nebraska Lottery likes to reward retailers who read Ticket Talk.

Each month, we will draw ten entries from among retailer entries received by the designated deadline (March 20). Those entries that correctly answer the crossword puzzle will win.

The prize will be \$10 in Scratch ticket coupons for every employee who sells Lottery tickets at the winner's location. LSRs will have premium prizes for those employees under the age of 19.

Enter your store by completing and mailing this entry coupon today to:

Nebraska Lottery, P.O. Box 95105, Lincoln, NE 68509.

Note: Entries not drawn previously will no longer be retained. Be sure your store is entered each month.



Accounting Tips & Tricks

A new year signals a time for new beginnings and starting new routines. Here are some accounting tips and tricks from the Nebraska Lottery to start 2021 off right.

- Remember to confirm your ticket shipments when they arrive and activate packs before selling tickets. See the delivery confirmation slip and the Altura Quick Reference Card for more information. The Lottery suggests keeping one packing slip at store level and sending one to corporate (if applicable).
- To avoid confusion, do not return validated Scratch or Lotto tickets to players unless the ticket has not been paid. If you encounter a problem validating a ticket and have not paid, give both the receipt and the ticket back to the customer and instruct them to claim their prize at a Nebraska Lottery Claim Center. Please write your first name on the receipt so Lottery Accounting can contact the proper person if they have any questions.
- When cashing in a multi-draw Lotto ticket with remaining drawings, an exchange ticket for the remaining draws will be produced. Make sure to give the player the exchange ticket and do not return their original ticket. Look for the words "EXCHANGE TICKET" to indicate which ticket should be given to the player.
- If you have scanned a winning Scratch ticket and don't have enough cash on hand to pay, **please do not press the "Pay" key**. If the "Pay" key was accidentally pressed, please call Lottery Accounting at 800-587-5200. Mark the back of the ticket as "not paid," along with your name and date. Give both the receipt and the ticket back to the customer and instruct them to claim their prize at a Nebraska Lottery Claim Center.
- Scanning winning tickets of \$25 or below results in automatic validation without pressing the "Pay" key. Higher winning amounts will not validate unless the "Pay" key is pressed. If you paid the winning amount and the ticket is not validated, your store will not get the credit.
- When scanning tickets, wait a second or two for the validation message to come up. If you do not get a response after two seconds, then it is okay to scan again. Immediate re-scanning could result in the system responding with "Previously Cashed By This Retailer". When this happens, your store has received the credit for the validation and you should pay the player. You can review the last transactions to see how much the ticket was validated for.
- Make sure to always deface winning tickets and keep them with your daily records until all reconciliations are done before discarding them.
- Do not accept photocopies or reproductions of tickets for validation. This does not apply to eCoupons that MVP Club members print at home.
- Lotto tickets can no longer be called in to be tagged for credit. Try to sell any mistake tickets to another player before draw break. If you experience a print failure or paper jam, follow the on-screen instructions, then hold the affected ticket for your LSR.
- If a communication error occurs on your Lotto terminal during a transaction, or the terminal message indicates "Previously Cashed By This Retailer", you can touch the **Last Transactions** button, then touch **Last Transaction** to check if the transaction was successfully completed and the value of the last validation. The last 50 transactions can also be accessed there. If further assistance is needed, please call the Hotline at 800-560-2919.
- Activated, settled & returned Scratch reports, which are detail of the Weekly Settlement Report Scratch activity, are available by pressing Scratch Functions>Inventory Reports>Current Week or Previous 12 Weeks.
- Once a pack is activated, it cannot be deactivated. Payment for that pack will post whichever comes first of the following two scenarios: 45 days after activation or when 70% of the pack has been sold (based on validations).
- Prizes from closed Scratch games or expired Lotto tickets **cannot** be claimed. If a customer tries to redeem a ticket from a closed or expired ticket, remind them that prizes can be redeemed up to 180 days after the closing date (for Scratch tickets) or 180 days after the drawing date (for Lotto tickets). Prizes from these tickets **cannot** be claimed by mailing them to the Nebraska Lottery or by directing players to visit a Lottery Claim Center.
- Tickets can be validated manually by touching **Manual Validations**, then touching **Scratch Validation** or **Lotto Validation**. For Scratch tickets, enter the 14-digit game, pack, and ticket number from the back of the ticket AND the 14-digit VERN number under the latex on the front of the ticket. For a Lotto ticket, enter the 19-digit ticket number.
- If you are unable to validate a Scratch ticket by scanning the barcode or by manual entry, instruct the player to mail the ticket to the Nebraska Lottery at the prize claim P.O. Box on the back of the ticket to claim their prize.
- When closing a store or discontinuing lottery sales, make sure you ask the LSR picking up the tickets for a list of all activated, settled and returned packs. Your store will be charged for all the settled packs first before receiving credits for the returned packs.