



CONNECTION

News and information for **Very Important Players**



Volume 7, #1 February 2007

Don't Be Fooled By Lottery Scams



Lottery CEO Ed Stanek and Attorney General Tom Miller field questions about scams at a news conference.

It may have already happened to you.

You open up your mail and inside an envelope you weren't expecting to receive is a letter telling you that you've hit it big playing the lottery! The only thing is, you've never heard of the lottery that sent this notice to you, or haven't been to the state or territory where the lottery is based, or you just don't remember buying this lottery ticket at all.

And the reason: it's a scam.

A new wave of counterfeit-check lottery scams — mailings that have induced Iowans to wire thousands of dollars to try to claim what are described as large lottery or sweepstakes prizes — has begun to sweep Iowa. Don't be a victim!

"The crooks get the money, and the victim gets nothing but a big loss and

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Hurry! You Still Could Win a Dodge Caliber!

The Iowa Lottery is offering players a chance at a new set of wheels tricked out in Hawkeye style this basketball season. One lucky Iowa Lottery player will ride away with the prize, a customized Hawkeye Dodge Caliber SXT!



The Hawkeye Dodge Caliber giveaway runs through midnight on Sunday, Feb. 11. Lottery players who purchase a \$3 "Diamond Mine" instant-scratch ticket and don't win a prize can use the ticket to enter the promotion online at **www.ialottery.com**. Players can key in the serial number from their nonwinning ticket to enter the promotion. Players must keep all tickets they enter.

A preliminary drawing will be held on Feb. 13 to determine 10 semifinalists. The semifinalists will receive two tickets to the Iowa vs. Illinois men's basketball game at Carver Hawkeye Arena on Saturday, March 3, where the final drawing will take place live during halftime. If a semifinalist cannot attend the game, a proxy may stand in for him/her.

Don't miss your chance to win. Enter today!

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You May Have "Tons of Luck" With New Scratch Games!

\$250,000 Luck of the Draw (\$10)

Top Prize: \$250,000

Overall Odds: 1 in 3.49

Game Begins: On sale now!

Prize	Odds
\$10	1 in 6.00
\$15	1 in 30.00
\$20	1 in 30.00
\$30	1 in 30.00
\$60	1 in 60.00
\$300	1 in 300.00
\$6,000	1 in 10,000.00
\$250,000	1 in 240,000.00



You could win up to \$250,000!

Match any of "Your Cards" to any of the "Draw Cards" and win the prize shown for that card. Find a "5X" symbol and win five times that amount. Find a "10X" and win ten times the amount shown. 🍀

Gimme 5 (\$1)

Top Prize: \$555

Overall Odds: 1 in 4.84

Game Begins: On sale now!



Find three "5" symbols in any row, column or diagonal and win the prize shown. Find a "Star" symbol in the "Bonus" box and win \$20 instantly. 🍀

Tons of Luck (\$2)

Top Prize: \$2,000

Overall Odds: 1 in 3.84

Game Begins: Feb. 19

Prize	Odds
\$2	1 in 6.00
\$3	1 in 18.75
\$4	1 in 50.00
\$6	1 in 150.00
\$20	1 in 150.00
\$40	1 in 150.00
\$200	1 in 2,000.00
\$2,000	1 in 20,000.00



Wouldn't you love to have "Tons of Luck"? Match any of "Your Numbers" to the "Lucky Numbers" and win the prize shown for that number. Find a "Money Bag" symbol and win that prize instantly. 🍀

Prize	Odds
\$1	1 in 7.50
\$2	1 in 20.00
\$5	1 in 150.00
\$10	1 in 150.00
\$20	1 in 150.00
\$30	1 in 300.00
\$555	1 in 60,000.00

For more information on our scratch games, visit our Web site at www.ialottery.com. Select the "Games" link on the left side of the home page, then click on the "Scratch Tickets" logo on the Games main page.

Dublin Dough (\$1)

Top Prize: \$300

Overall Odds: 1 in 4.90

Game Begins: Feb. 19

You could be "Dublin" your prize! Get three like amounts and win that amount. Get two like amounts and a "Leprechaun" symbol and win double that amount. 🍀

Prize	Odds
\$1	1 in 7.50
\$2	1 in 20.00
\$3	1 in 100.00
\$6	1 in 240.00
\$15	1 in 300.00
\$30	1 in 400.00
\$300	1 in 1,846.15



Latest Monthly VIP Club Winners

Each month five prizes of \$25 in "Lottery Bucks" will be awarded to members of our VIP Club with the "Lucky Birthday." A lucky birthday is randomly drawn each month. All VIP Club members who have that birthday will be entered into the prize drawing.

October 2006

Lucky Birthday: Oct. 17

Diane Stecklein of Altoona
Terry Hansen of Maquoketa
Sherrie Barnhart of Oskaloosa
Eleanore Martin of New Hampton
Jim Steingrabe of Des Moines

November 2006

Lucky Birthday: Nov. 20

Sara Mummert of Storm Lake
Dorothy DeVries of Ankeny
Tamara Frame of Amana
Chris Montgomery of Des Moines
Jean Donnelly of Walcott

December 2006

Lucky Birthday: Dec. 31

Patricia O'Connor of Cedar Rapids
Debbie Taylor of Red Oak
Bill Ruhlow of Iowa City
LouAnn Kalmes of St. Donatus
Tanner Kinsella of Colfax

The lucky birthday for January is Jan. 25. The winners will be drawn in February. 🍀

Some Scratch Games Ending

The last day to claim prizes in the following games is **March 13, 2007**: Quarter Play (purple), Porker Night, Cat Scratch Fever, Blackjack (purple) and Holiday Cash. 🍀

Don't Be Fooled By Lottery Scams

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the bank coming back for its money," Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller said. "Typical victims lose \$2,900 to \$3,900 or more, with the promised winnings never to be seen."

Iowa Lottery CEO Edward Stanek said that the scams are becoming more sophisticated — many now use the names of real lotteries and well-known logos such as that for the Powerball game.

"Remember that the only lottery legally authorized to operate in Iowa is the Iowa Lottery," he said. "You have to buy a ticket or enter one of our promotions to win, and the Iowa Lottery will never charge you to claim a prize."

Miller said his office heard recently from a woman who wired \$3,500 for "processing fees and taxes" to try to collect a \$175,000 "prize" from a so-called "lottery award agency" supposedly based in Canada. Canadian and U.S. officials very rarely can recover such funds and catch and punish the con artists.

Banks are required by federal law to make funds available by the next business day for bank cashier's checks and U.S. Postal money orders, and within five days for corporate checks, Miller said. Consumers may see funds in their account or even be told the funds are available. However, until funds have finally been collected by the local bank from the issuing bank (which can take days or weeks), the consumer must not count on the checks being authentic.

Miller and Stanek gave these tips to avoid lottery and sweepstakes scams:

- Never wire funds from a check you've received to pay "taxes or fees" for a promised lottery or sweepstakes prize. Reject any kind of scheme that sends you a check and asks you to wire money back.

- Never believe a letter, phone call or Internet message from anyone who claims they can guarantee you a prize! Legitimate lotteries do not guarantee that you will win a prize and do not require people to join prize pools to play.

- Never pay processing fees, insurance or commissions to claim a lottery prize. Legitimate lotteries do not require winners to pay anything up front to receive a prize.

- Keep your Social Security, credit card and bank account numbers to yourself. Scam artists ask for them with the goal of accessing your accounts and stealing your money.

Contact the Attorney General's Office for advice and information if you have been the victim of a scam:

Iowa Attorney General's Office
Consumer Protection Division
1305 E. Walnut St.
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
515-281-5926 or 888-777-4590
consumer@ag.state.ia.us
www.IowaAttorneyGeneral.org

Contact your local police or sheriff to file a report if you've lost money in a scam. You need to document your loss — and you may need to explain that you didn't intend to defraud your local bank. You likely will have to make repayment arrangements with your bank.

Contact the Lottery if there is any question about a lottery solicitation being related to the Iowa Lottery.

Iowa Lottery
2323 Grand Ave.
Des Moines, Iowa 50312
515-725-7900
(TTY Relay Iowa: 1-800-735-2942)
wmaster@ialottery.com
www.ialottery.com 🍀

For more information on lottery scams and player security, visit www.ialottery.com. Select the "Player Security" link on the left side of the home page.





USE THIS **COUPON** NEXT TIME YOU **PLAY.**

WARNING!

THE STAFF OF THE IOWA LOTTERY URGES EVERYONE TO PLAY RESPONSIBLY. IF SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS A GAMBLING ADDICTION PROBLEM, CALL 1-800-BETS OFF (1-800-238-7633). YOU MUST BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD TO PURCHASE LOTTERY TICKETS.

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