

Special Feature: Changes in the Environment Open up New Possibilities



Pachislot: No. 6.5 Model Machines Complying with Revised Regulations Hit the Market



Pachislot Persona5
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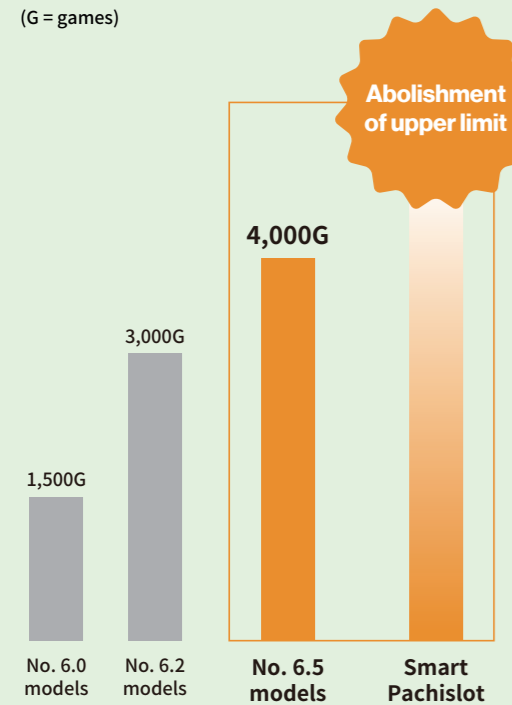
Pachislot models in compliance with the No. 6.5 model, which comply with revised regulations, began reaching pachinko halls in June 2022. Some are already performing well, contributing to the revitalization of the pachislot market. Regulations for the new No. 6.5 models revised the upper limit on the number of games during the advantageous section and the method of managing the upper limit on medal pay-out. Data shows that, prior to the introduction of the new models, 70%–80% of pachislot players were dissatisfied with previous upper limits. The revisions sought to resolve this issue, and are thus expected to give further impetus to the market going forward. Taking advantage of the expanded scope of gameplay made possible by the revised regulations, the SEGA SAMMY Group will continue to pursue manufacturing based on user preferences, bringing to market a wide array of models offering compelling gameplay while complying with laws and regulations. We will help revitalize the pachislot and pachinko market by aiming to generate hit titles across a range of No. 6.5 models in pachislot, encouraging the return of dormant users and drawing in new users.

For No. 6.5 models, the maximum number of games during the advantageous section has been extended to 4,000. For soon-to-be-introduced “smart” pachislot machines, the upper limit will be abolished.

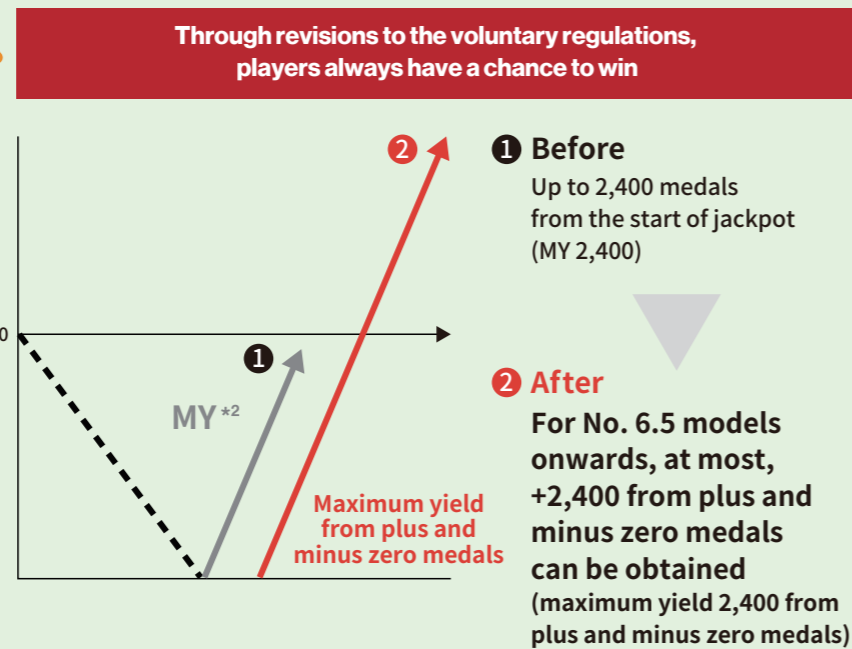
The revisions changed the way of managing the upper limit on medal pay-out, switching from maximum medal yield from the start of jackpot to maximum medal yield from when the player reaches plus and minus zero with medals inserted and paid out. While the limit of 2,400 medals is unchanged, the revised regulations are expected to dramatically change player psychology by enabling machines to be designed so that there is always the chance for players to win.

Advantageous Section*1

Upper Limit on Number of Games
(G = games)



Upper Limit on Medal Pay-out



*1 Advantageous section refers to a period that is advantageous to users, when pushing order, etc., can be indicated and a lottery regarding pushing order, etc., can take place.

*2 MY refers to the number of medals obtained from the lowest medal level during a single advantageous section.



“Smart” Pachislot and Pachinko Machines to Hit the Market in November



Smart pachislot
Cabinet image

“Smart” pachislot and pachinko machines will start hitting the market in Japan in November 2022. The most distinctive feature of these machines is that there is no physical payout of medals or balls. This offers significant benefits for pachinko hall operators, users, and manufacturers.

Advantages of Smart Pachislot and Pachinko Machines

Manufacturers	Users
Improved gameplay ▶ Revised regulations make possible more diverse game designs Reduction in the number of parts ▶ No need for parts related to insert and payout etc., of medals or balls	Alleviation of user dissatisfaction ▶ Revised regulations resolve user disadvantages Measures against infection ▶ Lack of direct contact with medals and balls enables more sanitary conditions
Pachinko Halls	Other advantages
Lower operational burden ▶ Simplified operations Crime control ▶ Prevention of crimes such as bringing in medals or balls	Measures against addiction ▶ Industry associations can collect game data, etc.
Improvement of hall environments ▶ Lack of medals and balls colliding reduces noise Lower barriers to new store opening ▶ Lower initial costs	

The advent of smart pachislot and pachinko machines opens the way for all sorts of possibilities unconstrained by existing concepts

Since there is no physical payout of medals or balls, there is no need to arrange equipment in an island formation for servicing. This allows greater flexibility in store layouts. It will be physically possible to create small stores with only about 10 units, stores on the upper floors of buildings, or halls in one corner of a commercial facility.

Moreover, although further consultation with government officials is needed, there are growing expectations that the industry will continue exploring a range of long-term possibilities, such as cashless pachinko halls and pachislot and pachinko machines that can download software. If machines are all connected online, it will be possible to upgrade versions at any time, and thus change machine visual production and specifications without replacing the cabinet.

In this way, smart pachislot and pachinko machines offer a range of advantages that have the potential to bring about a brighter future for the industry. Currently, the pachislot and pachinko industry is exploring a variety of arrangements and frameworks amid a growing sense of expectation that dramatic changes are in store for the market environment.

Potential Shape of the Future Pachislot and Pachinko

Expectations for all sorts of possibilities unconstrained by existing concepts	
Short to medium term	Long-term potential
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved gameplay Reduction in the number of parts Enhancement of hall environments Crime control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower operational burden for pachinko halls Measures against infection Measures against addiction Lower barriers to new store opening
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More diverse pachinko hall layouts Cashless operation Machines can download software Digitization of operations Communication between pachislot and pachinko machines