

WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING
1423 KELLOGG STREET
GREEN BAY, WI 54303
WWW.WI-PROBLEMGAMBLERS.ORG

For help, call:
1-800-GAMBLE-5

Fall 2008
September-December

PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN funded by the State of Wisconsin, Department of Health/ Family Services - Bureau of Prevention, Treatment and Recovery in the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR: Potawatomi Bingo Casino

Are you ready for some football?

It is that time of year when America turns towards football, and for many people gambling. Football gambling can be done in many different ways, such as: office pools, Fantasy Football leagues, high school “tickets”, over the internet, with bookies, as well as many other ways. More money is bet on football than any other sport.

Perhaps more so than other forms of gambling, the legality and general acceptance of sports betting varies from nation to nation. In the United States it is illegal to operate a “betting, gambling or wagering scheme”, except in the states of Delaware, Nevada, and Oregon. Nevada, however, is the only state currently allowing sports gambling. But, if you take a walk around many of the businesses in your neighborhood right now you will notice many office pools or Fantasy Football Leagues that are considered a part of everyday life. Many people, betting in these office “games”, are doing it for entertainment but another preoccupation that football can bring too is an unhealthy fixation with gambling, which can lead to losing your home, family and friends, crime and even suicide.

Last year there was over \$93 million bet in Nevada on the Super Bowl and brought \$13 million in revenues; much more was spent betting in illegal areas such as the internet, office pools, etc. Many times the ones betting the few dollars in the office pool are also betting a few dollars at the tavern, through their spouses’ office pools, etc. They feel that it is “ Only a couple bucks” but in reality after the week it is in the hundreds of dollars. This kind of betting can become a problem for someone who is at risk for gambling addiction.

Men are more likely to become addicted to sports betting than women. As the availability of different forms of gambling increases this may add to the number of individuals seeking help.

Some information used for this article was used with permission from Don Weinbaum at The Council on Compulsive Gambling of NJ, Inc.



WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

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O suns and skies and clouds of June,
 And flowers of June together,
 Ye cannot rival for one hour
OCTOBER'S bright blue weather

Unknown Author

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Mini Grant Applications

The WCPG is currently accepting mini-grant applications for community based public awareness projects for the 2008-2009 grant year. Grants are generally between \$2,000 and \$5,000. To be considered, projects must meet the following specifications:

- Be tax-exempt pursuant to the Internal Revenue code 501(c) and have an IRS determination letter.
- Serve the people of Wisconsin.
- Operate, choose a governing board, and provide services without discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, sexual preference or national origin.
- Applying organizations must maintain neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling.

The mini-grant will serve as an enhancement to the statewide public awareness campaign being provided by the WCPG. These grants are for groups, organizations or agencies that are interested in promoting public awareness for compulsive gambling in their community. Public awareness can be broadly defined, but the proposal needs to be directed to Wisconsin residents and support the WCPG mission of educating the public about problem gambling and the resources available to address these issues.

For an application and more information, contact us at (920) 437-8888. The mini-grant application deadline is November 30, 2008.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS !!!

11th Annual Statewide Conference

March 19-20, 2009

Wisconsin Dells, WI

Kalahari Resort and Convention Center

Call early for hotel reservations

Kalahari Reservation line 608-254-6810

Ask for Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling room Block

Watch for Brochure!!!!



**Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling
Membership Information**

As the number of compulsive gamblers continues to grow, it is important to maintain an easily accessible Council on Problem Gambling to network across the state for public education and professional treatment. Our Council seeks to work cooperatively with all concerned groups in an effort to address the needs of problem gamblers, their families, their employers and their community.

The following outlines the contributor levels.

- Friends Membership \$1-\$74
- Bronze Membership \$75—\$149
- Silver Membership \$150—\$499
- Gold Membership \$500-\$999
- Benefactor membership \$1,000-\$9,999
- Champion membership \$10,000-\$24,999
- Champion Gold Membership \$25,00 and over

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and an affiliate of the National Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. Your tax deductible membership will allow us to continue and increase the following services that we are able to provide.

Your contribution will help us to:

1. Operate our statewide office (located in Green Bay) with 3 full-time staff members.
2. Maintain operation of our toll-free, 24 hour Helpline.
3. Provide speakers and professional training seminars.
4. Offer education/prevention programs for “high risk” groups, such as adolescents and the elderly.
5. Compile statistics about the prevalence of problem and pathological gambling.

If you would like to become a member please fill out the following information and mail it in with your payment to:
WCPG 1423 Kellogg Street Green Bay, WI 54303

Please print clearly.

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____



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Upcoming Trainings

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling is pleased to be able to offer 6 hours of "The Stakes Are High," an introduction to gambling training.

Date: October 17, 2008

Time: 8:00am—3:00pm

Cost: \$10.00

CEU Hours : 6

Location: Ramada Plaza

2750 Ramada Way

Green Bay, WI 54304

This six hour training is meant to be an introduction to gambling addiction and give the provider a start on obtaining the hours necessary to be able to treat compulsive gamblers and their families. The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling offers Phase 1– Phase 4, a 60 hour, Pathological Gambling Training Program throughout the year.

Following completion of the Phase 1 & Phase 2 thirty-hour training and education program, counselors will be ready to assess, screen and evaluate for gambling problems among their caseloads and among those who present for care. They will be ready to intervene in crisis, assist in preparation of restitution plans, refer clients for appropriate levels of care and begin the treatment planning process, etc.

Following completion of the 60 hour training and education program, counselors will be prepared to work with families and significant others, special populations, present salient patient education topics to clients and families, prepare court reports, assist with complete asset protection plans and use an array of clinical strategies focusing on impulse control and self-regulation interventions in the treatment of gambling problems, etc.

The training for clinical professionals is a total of 60 hours of gambling specific training and education sessions. Participants who successfully complete the entire sixty hours are then encouraged to begin the National Certification process.

If you are interested in registering for this or any of our other trainings please contact us for a Brochure. You can reach us at:

920-437-8888

or

wcpgamble5@new.rr.com

or

wi-problemgamblers.org

If you are interested in having trainings in your area please contact Cheri at 920-437-8888

2009 Phase 1-4 Trainings

We are currently in the process of scheduling our Phase 1-4 training sessions for 2009. Brochures will be printed and mailed later this fall. If you would like a brochure and want to be sure you are on the list please call:

920-437-8888

or email us at:

wcpgamble5@new.rr.com

1-800-GAMBLE-5

**Join the Helpline!
Become a Provider!**

The mission of the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling is to provide resources, public awareness and education on problem and pathological gambling disorders while maintaining strict neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling. An integral part of our services is operating an 800 Helpline where gamblers and family members are able to obtain referrals for treatment from properly trained and accredited professionals.

We have compiled a statewide directory of treatment providers who are able to accept referrals for the treatment of pathological gambling. Following is the information necessary to be included in the Referral Directory.

Criteria for inclusion in WCPG Resource and Referral Directory is:

- * Only licensed or accredited facilities and/or programs will be included.
- * Only those individual practitioners who maintain a current license or state issued certificate to practice in Wisconsin.
- * Practitioners will have completed a minimum of 30 hours, and must be in the process of completing 60 hours of gambling specific training as required for NCPG certification.
- * All programs and practitioners submit requested information to WCPG along with copies of all supporting documentation, e.g., copies of their licenses and completed gambling courses. All information is reviewed on an annual basis.

If you are interested in becoming a provider for the 24 hour Helpline, please contact the WCPG office.

Did you know?

In 2007 the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Helpline received 9341 calls. Our busiest month was January with 1168 calls. The majority of the calls for 2007 came from the 414 area code, 1606 total. The average website hits a month in 2007 were 412 hits and the average debt for the callers was \$64,194.

From January to July 2008 the WCPG Helpline received 7356 calls. Our busiest month was January with 1434 calls. Most of the calls so far have come from the 920 area code with 817 calls; the 414 area code is close with 804 calls. This year is averaging 485 website hits a month and the average debt for the callers is \$37,897.

January 2008 received 266 more calls than January 2007, and the website is averaging 73 more hits a month already in 2008. With 4 months left in 2008 the WCPG Helpline is well on its way to surpassing its previous numbers.

It is with regret that we announce the resignation of Kathy Hughes from our
WCPG Board of Directors.

Kathy has been a member of the Board of Directors since 2002, and has been the
Executive Vice President since 2006.

She has graciously accepted to be on the Advisory Board so we will be able to utilize her
expertise from time to time.

Kathy was a valuable part of our Board and she will be missed.

We wish her the best!

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1423 Kellogg Street
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Phone: (920)437-8888
Fax: (920)437-8995

**Newsletter now Available via
email....**

Please contact
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on Problem Gambling
1-800-Gamble-5
or email:
wcpgamble5@new.rr.com.

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Check out this newsletter on the web at:

www.wi-problemgamblers.org

The Wisconsin Council On Problem Gambling provides resources, public awareness and education on problem and pathological gambling disorders while maintaining strict neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling.

Our goals are to:

- Promote public education and awareness of pathological and problem gambling disorders.
- Maintain a toll-free statewide Helpline where pathological and problem gamblers and their families can call for immediate and continuing assistance in dealing with the addiction.
- Advocate quality assistance for all individuals affected by gambling problems.
- Identify "high risk" individuals and groups of problem and pathological gamblers and provide prevention activities and information.
- Provide expert training to professional counselors in the treatment of pathological and problem gamblers.
- Compile and maintain a database of statistical information concerning problem and pathological gambling in Wisconsin.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT:

The WCPG is currently accepting volunteers. Anyone interested in donating their skills and time to the organization by answering Helpline calls or helping with administrative projects is encouraged to contact us at (920) 437-8888.

RESOURCE LIBRARY

The WCPG has both books and videos in our lending library. Materials can be loaned out on a two week basis. These materials can also be mailed to you. For more information, call Cheri at (920) 437-8888 or email her at:
wcpgamble5-cheri@new.rr.com.