



2025 EDITORIAL CALENDAR

MONTHLY COLUMNS & DEPARTMENTS

Editor's Letter

Strictly Slots' editors tackle some of this month's gaming topics and address some of the latest news in the gaming industry.

Readers Talk Back

Readers from across the U.S. submit their questions for the *Strictly Slots* experts to answer.

Upfront

Our coast-to-coast roundup of the hottest news in the gaming industry.

Scoble's Slant

Frank Scoblete, America's #1 best-selling gaming author, provides his humorous take on the gaming experience—while giving expert analysis of the games we love to play, and the best strategies for winning and having fun along the way.

Video Poker Insider

Our veteran gaming writers address video poker strategy including the correct way to play your favorite machines, and the odds and mathematics that smart players want to know about. Thanks to the pros, our readers gain a clear picture of which games they should wager on—and how to maximize their trips to the casino.

Top 25: The Most Slots

Looking for great games and casinos with a HUGE variety? In every issue of 2025, we detail the hottest casinos with the best selection of slots.

Game Designer Spotlight

We shine a spotlight on the masterminds behind the slot machines that captivate us. In this department, we introduce you to the visionary game designers who bring our favorite slots to life. Discover their creative processes, innovation and the sheer genius that goes into crafting the games we adore. Get ready to meet the minds responsible for the thrilling spins and big wins that keep us entertained at the casino and how they surpass their local rivals.

Executive Decisions

Slot makers know what gets players excited. Top executives from some of the most innovative gaming companies share their expertise, offering an insider's look at what it takes to bring a hot new game to life.

Players Club Spotlight

Each month, we profile a casino players club that is going the extra mile to attract new players and reward loyal customers. This promises to be one of our most popular departments in 2025, as casinos across the country are implementing bold new ideas—and technologies—to make their clubs and promotions more exciting and imaginative than ever. This is information players always want to know about.

Slot Spotlight

A showcase of the hottest slot games that are new on casino floors (or due to arrive soon). This information is useful to slot enthusiasts, as well as slot operations managers who are interested in acquiring the latest, hottest titles.

Player's Edge

Gaming columnist John Grochowski provides expert commentary on casino games ranging from popular favorites to new arrivals.

Promotion Picks

Our selections for the best promotions or special events for the month.

Industry Insights

Q&A with leaders in casino marketing and loyalty programs.

Spinning Reels

Slot specialist and gaming expert Sean Chaffin takes us on a tour of the latest news and trends in the sometimes quirky, always exciting world of slot machines and slot players.

Reader's Corner

Readers share their trip reports at their favorite casinos.

Winners

Lucky players who have won jackpots in casinos nationwide.

Slot Payout Percentages

Tracking the casinos with the highest paybacks.

Perfectly Frank

Frank Legato's highly popular, long-running op-ed column in which he muses on his life as a slot player, and shares observations and anecdotes about the games—and the industry—that our readers find hilarious, as well as informative.

JANUARY

Breaking Boundaries

New game releases and innovations set to transform gaming.

Slot Resolutions

Tips for setting gambling-related resolutions.

On a Hot Streak

Being on the plus side of volatility.

Video Poker Bankroll Requirements

An enjoyable session begins with being properly financed.

FEBRUARY

Best of Racino Awards Ballot Issue

Slot Trends for Players

What's hot and the games you need to watch out for.

Tribal Gaming: South

A look at the top tribal properties in Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and New Mexico.

Date Night Jackpot

Casino lovers roll the dice for romance at these top casino resorts.

Destination: Florida

MARCH

Bonus Distribution: Indian Gaming & Tradeshow Convention

Best of Racinos Awards Ballot Issue

New Slots 2025

Slot manufacturers debut exciting games at the Indian Gaming & Tradeshow Convention.

Racing to the Top

Our roundup of some of the leading racinos in the country.

The Big Screen and Beyond

How casinos have influenced pop culture and cinema

Destination: Arizona

APRIL

Cover Feature:

Loosest Slots in America

Our annual Loosest Slots Awards issue. Think you know where the loosest slots are? Think again!

Industry Trends

Mobile gaming and online casinos.

Gambling on a Budget

A little short on cash, but still looking for some great casino fun? These budget friendly casinos are worth a trip!

Destination: Oklahoma

MAY

Tournament Watch Special

2025's most anticipated slot tournaments.

Tribal Gaming: Midwest

A look at the top tribal properties in the region.

Players Club Lounges

Uncovering the casinos that treat their players like royalty.

Video Poker Variations

A comprehensive guide.

Hidden Gems

Off-the-beaten-path slot destinations worth discovering.

Destination: Pacific Northwest

JUNE

Cover Feature:

Best of Racino Awards

Our annual awards issue, open only to racinos. Check out which properties scored big with their players for 2025!

Bingo Anyone?

Casinos offering the best bingo halls, events and tournaments. Get your dauber ready!

Summer Jackpot Vibes

Summer casino adventures and jackpot hunts.

Mobile Slots: Gaming on the go.

Destination: Pennsylvania

JULY

Best of Slots Awards Ballot

Slot Machine Innovations

Special features and themes.

Gearing Up for Norwegian Cruise Line's \$200,000 Winner Take All Slot Tournament

Coming from Behind

Sometimes even the worst losing days can turn in an instant.

Golden State Gaming

A look at the top casino properties in California.

Destination: Colorado

AUGUST

Best of Slots Awards Ballot

Trend Setters

A look at the slots that went on to revolutionize the way we play.

Boardwalk Bets

Atlantic City's sizzling summer events are sure to please crowds.

Choosing Your Game

Percentages are important, but picking a game you'll enjoy is more paramount.

Fan Favorites

A look at some of the most popular casinos for slots, and the games we all love to play.

Destination: Great Lakes Gaming

SEPTEMBER

Best Bets: East Coast Gaming

Travel up and down the East in search of the region's hottest—and hidden—casino destinations.

Great Slot Hangouts

Check out these hidden gems and slot hangouts hiding in plain sight.

Sizing Up Your Bankroll

How much cash should you bring to the casino?

Destination: Reno/Lake Tahoe

OCTOBER

Cover Feature:

G2E 2024 Show issue

A sneak peek at what's in store on the slot floor in 2025. Get ready to be thrilled!

Slot Machine Reviews

Scary slot games.

Tribal Leaders

Our annual review of the best tribal casinos from across the country.

Best Bets: Vegas Values

Savings on the Strip heat up with winter deals and discounts.

Rewarding Players

Make the most of your casino trips by joining these 10 best players clubs.

Destination: Maryland

NOVEMBER

Cover Feature:

The Best of Slots Awards

Our annual review of the favorite casinos to play slots.

The Future of Slot Machines: What's Next in Technology and Gameplay?

A look ahead at the future of slots, exploring trends such as augmented reality, skill-based elements and new gaming experiences.

My Dream Jackpot

Scoring big, paying it forward, and being practical with those slot machine winnings.

DECEMBER

Players Choice Awards 2025

The players have spoken! Revealing the top Best of Slots award-winning casinos in every state, from coast to coast.

Slot Developments:

Year in Review

A look back at the gaming industry's biggest moments.

Cruise Control

Escape the winter blues on one of these incredible cruises catering to gamblers.

The Great American West

It's time to hit the road to some of the top casino destinations in the West.

Reaping the Rewards

Slot players are at the center of casino profits—and perks. Here's a list of the best casinos for player rewards.

Destination: Mississippi