

VERMONT LOTTERY NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Gweneth Dean
Phone: 802-522-0919
Pager: 802-741-1034
Email: gwend@vtlottery.com

Powerball Changes to take place on August 28

Bigger and faster growing jackpots

BERLIN, VT; August 25, 2005-- The Vermont Lottery announced today that effective August 28, 2005 Powerball's matrix and prize structure will change, resulting in larger and faster growing jackpots. This is Powerball's fourth design change since the game's inception in 1992. The last change was in 2002.

Powerball players will now choose five of 55 numbers, though they will continue to choose one of 42 numbers to match the winning Powerball number. Also, jackpots will start at \$15 million dollars, up from the current \$10 million, and will increase by no less than \$5 million per drawing. For players who match five winning numbers, but not the Powerball, prizes will be doubled to \$200,000. For players who purchase the Power Play option, this non-winning jackpot prize can be multiplied up to five times for a \$1 million payout.

In addition to prize enhancements, changes are also being made to the annuity payment structure. If jackpot winners choose the new graduated annuity payment option, they will receive 30 annual payments that *increase each year* for 29 years. Winners can still choose the one-lump-sum cash payment. Overall odds of winning a prize will stay virtually the same at 1:36.6, while jackpot odds will increase from 1 in 120 million to 1 in 146.1 million.

Vermont Lottery games are sold at over 700 agent locations throughout Vermont. For information on lottery games and on-line game draw results, visit www.vtlottery.com.

All profits from Vermont Lottery are used to support the Vermont Education Fund. Vermont Lottery officials encourage everyone to play responsibly.