

Peek-PokerDice "Crazy Aces" Hold'em

This is a variant developed as house rules for [PeekPoker](#) and it's been a blast every time we play it.

The game is played with poker dice instead of cards: **three private (or "hole") dice plus three community dice.**

The player to the left of the dealer starts by placing an ante wager (we use 1 chip) action continues clockwise.

Once all players have placed their antes they shake their (hole) dice inside an opaque cup, which is then turned upside down in front of the player. Hole dice must be concealed inside the cup from the rest of the players.

After all players have rolled (and looked at) their hole dice a betting round starts with the player left to the dealer and continues clockwise. A forced bet (we use 1 chip) must be placed in order to stay in the game. Players may raise (no limit) or fold.

If more than one player is in, the dealer rolls two community dice and places them in the center of the table for everyone to see. Once these two community dice have been rolled a new betting round starts with the player left to the dealer and continues clockwise. A forced bet (we use 1 chip) must be placed in order to stay in the game. Players may raise (no limit) or fold.

After betting the dealer rolls the last community die and places it in the center of the table for everyone to see. Once the last community die has been rolled a new betting round starts with the player left to the dealer and continues clockwise. A forced bet (we use 1 chip) must be placed in order to stay in the game. Players may raise (no limit) or fold.

After the last betting round players reveal their (hole) dice, but before declaring their hands they must say if they want to re-roll any aces in their hole. Re-rolling aces is completely optional, players may declare their hands right away using their aces if they so wish, but must wait until the rest of the players (if any) re-roll their dice.

All aces must be re-rolled at the same time by all players that choose to do so, and may be subsequently re-rolled if any ace is rolled again (depending on the other players' results of course). After re-rolling aces players may declare their hands and the best poker hand wins.

We use the following hand ranking:

- Five of a Kind
- Flush (black or red)

- Four of a kind
- Straight (to ace)
- Full House
- Three of a kind
- Two Pairs
- Pair

EDIT: A new betting round was added; community dice come 2-1 now instead of 3 at the same time.

P.S. Dice are resistant and easy to handle, shuffling and dealing are gone so it plays faster and easier this way, making it friendly for bar and/or party situations. Believe me, it gets effervescent even before the drinks, specially the last "ace duels".

You may see the game has a casino/video poker/slot machine flavor, that was the idea, we were looking for new and different ways to play poker, otherwise we would have stucked to the original.

Of course the game could also be played using 7 dice (2 hole and 5 community) and blinds like regular Texas Hold'em, though I'm not sure about how the odds will play. Dice have only six sides so I assume that playing with seven dice would increase the probability of getting at least one pair and five of a kind, but I lack the statistical knowledge to prove it.

Poker dice have a charm of their own; they also provide different odds and ways to play. I believe one is neglecting their potential and wasting time by using them as if they were cards.

If you want to play traditional Texas Hold'em just do it...but not with dice, you'll do better using a deck of cards.

Any feedback will be greatly appreciated.