

## Online poker. Myths and reality

Recently poker has become hugely popular. It has become the most widely played online game. It is not surprising, that there are many rumors connected with poker. This article serves the purpose of dispelling most of these rumors. Hundreds of millions of dollars are invested in online poker and, of course, there many people desire to win. Money is electronic here. During a game it is displayed as chips of different colors. Due to the nature of online poker, it is easy to not take the game seriously or be nervous about its legitimacy. This feeling is intensified when you see poker sites using whimsical characters such as a charming donkey or a battered hockey player. The other difficulty is that there have been online thieves and cheaters. Naturally, rumors arise from mistrust.

So, we shall start exposing these myths.

### **Poker, as any gambling game, can lead to a person feeling demoralized.**

Gambling has been proven to be addictive and, with any addiction, it has the power to override a person's values and integrity. Because of this you may often hear negative responses about poker. Sometimes, people unfamiliar with poker misrepresent the game by telling stories about losses on slot machines or on the casino "floor". People often wrongly think all gambling will lead to addiction and/or involves organized crime. Also, films about thieves and card-sharks influence people's opinion.

Club poker has one major difference from the majority of games casinos have to offer. You play against contenders, but not against a casino. It all depends, first of all, on your skill, but not on luck, as in a game against a casino.

Playing against a casino or with slot machines, the player is doomed to lose money. Frequently, people like this can become dependant on the highs and lows of the game and can lose everything. The same could happen to a poker player if he plays as carelessly as a roulette player. People like that don't demonstrate any qualities of a professional poker player.

True professionals, as a rule, are well mannered, even-tempered and have integrity. If a player is belligerent, you can be 99% sure he is an amateur and most likely a weak player.

### **Online poker rooms steal money.**

This is a common stereotype, but like all stereotypes, is not the general rule.

There have not been any accusations of cheating proven true with any of the largest online casinos. They earn so much money, receiving a commission from each bank (up to 5 %). Also, they collect interests from tournament payments (as a rule, up to 20 %). They earn this commission fairly and all players are aware that a percentage will be taken from their earnings. They have absolutely no need to behave illegally since they receive a large, stable profit through lawful means.

It is common to commercials on TV for most of the best known poker rooms. Certainly, a TV station is not responsible for the honesty and moral character of the advertiser, but it can be an indirect influence on a company by refusing to air their advertisements due to company misconduct.

Internet poker forums offer the opportunity to learn about online casinos. All popular forums have one important thing in common - it is difficult to hide the truth. Of course, there will also be negative opinions expressed on forums regarding each site.

Generally, the people who are most concerned about what they hear are those who are not yet familiar with. Even when you begin playing and learn more about various poker sites, you will still hear a variety of rumors.

### **The deck has been stacked (Fixed games).**

GRN - generator of random numbers. Every, in its description, declares that cards are distributed at random. Nobody can prove or deny this statement. There are many people who doubt that this policy is followed. The weaker the player, the more often he complains about GRN. People have one common characteristic - seldom admit our failures and weaknesses, especially when an outside source can be blamed for a negative result.

Each and every professional player encounters obstacles while playing and will lose at some point. Nevertheless, the player will still come out ahead. Losing like this is absolutely normal once in a while. Since professionals play 20-80 thousand hands a month and situations like these are possible during a long period. The main thing at these times is to keep self-control. Some people lose self-control and start to make mistakes and blame GRN.

If you are serious in your intention to learn how to , I would recommend avoiding the GRN theme on forums.

Likely, at some point when you are on a losing streak you will question the honesty of a poker room and its GRN. Try to remember that only a small percentage of poker rooms have turned out to be cheats.

In every poker hand, the most important aspect is not the result, rather the quality of your decision.

Accept the legitimacy of GRN. It is necessary to do so, because you want to learn how to avoid your own mistakes. If you lose, most likely the reason is in quality of your game. Luck and bad luck come to everyone equally and just as often.

#### **Bots and readers.**

Lately, people have been talking a lot about the honesty of computer programs. They certainly are very complex, but do not overestimate them. Many people think that it is possible to write a program which will play better than a person. As of today, there is only one known program which plays as good as player in poker, but only heads-up and only in the limited poker. In no-limit poker there are many nuances with a psychological nature. There are no programs which would be capable of beating players even on small limits.

Readers are people who are able to see the cards of their contender, or the cards which will be dealt. Believing in readers is similar to that of the belief in problems with GRN. Frequently, playing with a weak contender who was very lucky will make some, players blame him for reading. You will seldom come across this type of accusation from professional players.

The basic criterion of software reliability of the for large "<http://www.onlinepokerlabs.com>">poker rooms is the impossibility of reading it. Rooms are engaged in serious business which brings them millions which is why poker rooms try to safeguard themselves against those things which could affect their reputation.

#### **If you are lucky in cards.**

Oftentimes inexperienced players will assume that the deck is stacked, someone is cheating or reading the cards. They start to make strange conclusions when luck comes it is necessary to play more hands and if not you should stop a game. Frequently a player who has bad luck loses a great deal, one hand after another. It happens because the player is nervous about losing and makes a lot of mistakes. This brings a player into tilt. If a game develops successfully, a positive mood promotes further good play. The illusion is that a player has a wave of luck. Though such waves are possible, they are not intentional. Every time you play a hand, you could have good luck or bad luck with a 50-50 shot. It is very easy to understand this fact but sometimes it is difficult to understand it properly. Even professional players depend strongly on the previous hands.

#### **After you make a cash-out bad luck comes.**

One more interesting myth which is frequently can be heard on forums is players describing that they have cashed out and after that, only fail in the game. They think that a poker room wants to return this lost money. The most amusing thing is that they don't think about the fact that no one has taken any money from the room because the money was that of their contenders. Rooms only receive their income from commission and can not lose anything.

A period of bad luck is quite possible after a cash-out, but it is connected with your outlook. Usually the player has just reduced the size of the account and wants to bring it back to its former level, as soon as possible, which is why huge mistakes are possible on large banks when a player loses a game with medium combinations (when he chooses to continues a game instead of passing).

#### **Poker as a source of easy money.**

Here is some food for thought which was recently presented on an online poker forum:

In your career, you know that you are rewarded based on hard work and merit, which is the same in poker. You cannot expect to earn a fortune based on luck alone. Sometimes you come across poor quality work and, in this case, we are paying a person, not for his work, but for his unprofessionalism, greed and laziness. Poker is the kind of job in which a person pays a hefty price for unprofessionalism, greed and laziness.

Keep this in mind if you are contemplating a career in poker, as its not as easy as it's often made out to be.

**Good luck!**

## About the Author

Elizabeth Tudor is a mature and experienced poker gambler. Currently she works as a gambling consultant and an article writer, helping other players to make their gambling experience more pleasant and productive.

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