

CYPRUS

**BETTING HOUSES, GAMING HOUSES,
AND GAMBLING**

CHAPTER 151 OF THE LAWS

1959 EDITION

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1959

CHAPTER 151.

Sch. Part I of
14/56.BETTING HOUSES, GAMING HOUSES AND
GAMBLING.

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS.

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A LAW TO CONSOLIDATE AND AMEND THE LAWS RELATING
TO BETTING HOUSES GAMING HOUSES AND GAMBLING.1949
Cap. 48
14 of 56.

[24th July, 1947.]

Short title.
16 of 14/56.
Schedule
Part I.Interpreta-
tion.

1. This Law may be cited as the Betting Houses, Gaming Houses and Gambling Prevention Law.

2. In this Law—

“ betting house ” means any place which is used—

(a) for the purpose of bets being made therein between persons resorting to the place and—

(i) the owner, occupier or keeper of the place or any person using the place ; or

(ii) any person procured or employed by, or acting for or on behalf of, any such owner, occupier or keeper or person using the place ; or

(iii) any person having the care or management or in any manner conducting the business of the place ; or

(b) for the purpose of any money or other property being paid or received therein by or on behalf of the owner, occupier or keeper or person using the place, as, or in consideration—

(i) for an assurance, undertaking, promise or agreement, express or implied, to pay or give thereafter any money or other property on any event or contingency of, or relating to, any horse race or other race, fight, game, sport or exercise ; or

(ii) for securing the paying or giving by some other person of any money or other property on any such event or contingency ;

“gamble,” with its grammatical variations and cognate expressions, means to play at, or engage in, any game of chance or of mixed chance and skill, for money or money’s worth ;

Provided that the playing at, or engaging in, any such game shall not be deemed to be gambling if the person playing at, or engaging in, the same proves to the satisfaction of the Court trying the offence that, having regard to the circumstances including the stakes, he was playing at, or engaging in, such game for social amusement and recreation and not for gain ;

“gaming house” includes any place kept or used for gambling and a place shall be deemed to be used for gambling if it is used for gambling even on one occasion only ;

“place” includes any house, office, room or building and any place or spot, whether open or enclosed and includes any vehicle and any ship, boat or other vessel whether afloat or not but shall not include a street ;

“street” includes any road, square, pathway, blind-alley, footway, pavement, public garden and any other open space to which the public has free access.

Offences
relating to
betting
houses, etc.

3. (1) Any person who—

- (a) being the owner or occupier of any place or having the use temporarily or otherwise thereof, keeps or uses such place as a betting house or a gaming house or for playing at any of the games to which section 6 of this Law applies ; or
- (b) permits a place of which he is the owner or occupier or of which he has the use temporarily or otherwise to be used as a betting house or a gaming house or for playing at any of the games to which section 6 of this Law applies ; or
- (c) has the care or management of, or in any manner assists or is engaged in the management of, a place kept or used as a betting house or a gaming house or for playing at any of the games to which section 6 of this Law applies,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to imprisonment not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine.

(2) Any person who appears, acts or behaves as master or as the person having the care or management of any place kept or used as in subsection (1) of this section provided shall, for the purposes of this section, be deemed to be the keeper thereof, whether he is or is not the real keeper.

(3) No prosecution relating to the carrying on of a lottery under this section shall be instituted except by or with the consent of the Attorney-General.

Gambling
in gaming
house.

4. Any persons gambling or assembled together for the purpose of gambling in a gaming house shall be guilty of an offence under this Law.

Gambling
in street.

5. Any persons gambling or assembled together for the purpose of gambling in any street shall be guilty of an offence under this Law.

Provisions
relating to
certain
specific
games.

6. (1) Any person, wherever found, playing at any of the games commonly known as "cholo," "kazandi," "zari" or "roulette" or any other similar game which in the opinion of the Court trying the offence is a variation of any of such games or assembled together for the purpose of playing at any such game or any variation thereof as hereinbefore provided, shall be guilty of an offence and