

Beau Rivage adds progressive jackpots Table game proves attractive for gamblers

BILOXI — Those life-changing progressive mega jackpots on the slot machines are now making winners at the table games of Beau Rivage Resort and Casino.

Beau Rivage became the first site outside of Nevada that has the jackpots on the table games. It partnered with Shuffle Master for 90-day exclusive rights, said Warren Mason, regional vice president of casino operations for MGM Mirage, parent company of Beau Rivage. The jackpots are now being introduced at MGM's Gold Strike Casino in Tunica.

Customers want games inside of games, said Mason. "They want multiple decisions to make for their gaming dollar," he said.

The most popular progressive table game at Beau Rivage is Royal Match 21 blackjack. Players who make a \$1 side bet get paid if they match suited pairs. To win the jackpot, both the dealer and the customer must have the king and queen of spades. If both have any other royal match, such as a king and queen of diamonds, the player wins 10 percent of the jackpot.

"There's many different ways to win with these jackpots," Mason said. Three-card poker has the highest frequency of jackpots. About once every 48 hours a winner hits for an average of between \$7,000 and \$23,000, he said.

Other games are Fortune Pai Gow Poker Progressive and the player favorite, Caribbean Stud Poker, which is currently at \$285,000 and will pay the full amount when a player has a five-card royal flush in any suit.

"It's been highly successful," Mason said, with business on these games up 20 to 30 percent.

"You have a game inside a game and an opportunity to change your life with one turn of a card," said Mason. "It's fun, it's exciting and affordable," he said. By the end of the year, the games will be national.