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NEWS RELEASE

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POWERBALL CHANGES COMING IN JANUARY

Beginning January 4, 2009, Powerball will be making North Dakota's biggest jackpots grow bigger and faster than ever. The Powerball game is changing to meet player demands for bigger jackpots, and to accommodate population changes as Florida becomes the 32nd state playing Powerball. Lottery officials estimate the changes will produce an additional three million more prizes won per year and the average jackpot won will grow from \$95.5 million to \$141 million.

With the changes, players adding Power Play will win one million dollars simply by matching all five white numbers, thanks to the new "Match Five" feature. "Now when you add Power Play to your ticket and match all five white numbers, you'll automatically win a million dollars, no matter what the multiplier is," said Lottery Director Randy Miller.

Power Play will continue to be offered on all other non-jackpot prizes, allowing winnings to be multiplied two to five times. The price of a Powerball ticket remains unchanged at \$1 per play with an extra \$1 per play to add Power Play.

The changes that begin January 4 include:

- Starting Jackpots will increase from \$15 million to \$20 million.
- Match Five prize with Power Play will always have a 5X multiplier, pushing the prize to \$1 million.
- The number of white balls will change from 55 to 59 and the number of red balls will be reduced from 42 to 39.
- Although the jackpot odds will change from 1 in 146.1 million to 1 in 195.2 million, the overall odds will improve from 1 in 36.6 to 1 in 35.1, resulting in an estimated three million extra prizes won per year.

Since the Lottery began in March 2004, North Dakota Lottery players have won more than \$34 million in prizes and have raised more than \$26 million for programs that benefit North Dakota citizens.

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