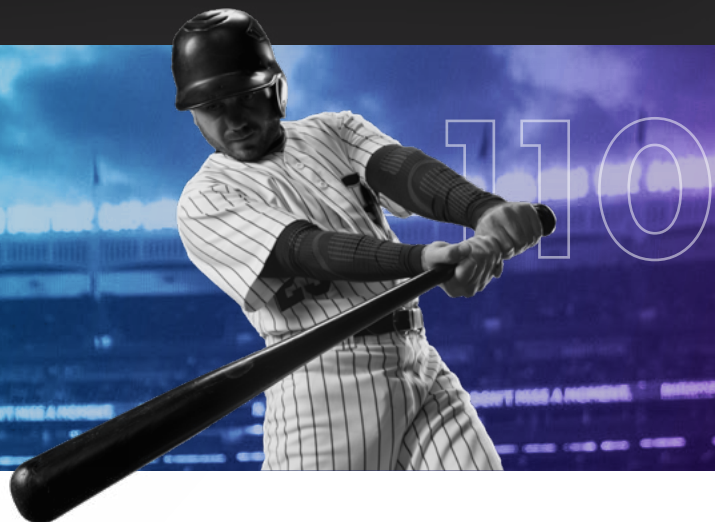


SPORTS BETTING AND GAMBLING: IS THERE A DIFFERENCE?



IS SPORTS BETTING GAMBLING?

A common misconception about sports betting is that it isn't gambling because the bettor knows how a sport works and feels more confident that they'll win. But sports betting isn't a game of skill. It's a game of chance. That's why in Ohio sports betting is regarded as gambling by law. As with any other type of gambling, it's best engaged in responsibly.

HOW IS SPORTS BETTING DIFFERENT FROM GAMBLING IN A CASINO?

There are important differences between casino games and sports betting in Ohio. Sports bets can be placed legally online using licensed apps after the universal start date of Jan. 1, 2023, while casino games can only be played in person. People who bet on sports online can also bet on all kinds of different sports with wagers that are made faster and more frequently than many casino games allow.

THE "EXPERTISE MYTH"

The biggest difference between sports betting and other forms of gambling is that many people who make bets are also fans of the sport or played the sport in the past. That can lead them to believe that their expertise gives them special insight or makes their bet a "sure thing," despite the fact that sports bets are decided by random and chance outcomes.

PAUSE BEFORE YOU PLAY

It can sometimes be difficult to know when your sports betting has become a problem. That's why it's important to pause before you play. Take a moment before you bet to ask:

- Does this bet fit within my budget and my limits?
- How much risk am I taking on?
- Is it time to stop?

THE WARNING SIGNS OF PROBLEM BETTING

If you believe you or someone you know might have developed a problem with sports betting or another form of gambling, look for these common signs:

- Withdrawing from relationships with family and friends
- Hiding gambling behavior from loved ones
- Gambling more often or with more money
- Borrowing money with no explanation
- Gambling more to make up for previous gambling losses

IS SPORTS BETTING PUTTING ME OR SOMEONE I KNOW AT RISK?

If you think you or someone you know is at risk, call the free Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-589-9966 or visit [PauseBeforeYouPlay.org](https://www.pausebeforeyouplay.org).



Online betting takes just seconds. But betting too quickly could put you at-risk. Learn why you should pause before you bet at [PauseBeforeYouPlay.org](https://www.pausebeforeyouplay.org).