

Powerball® Rolls to \$320 Million ... Co-Workers Play In Groups

Lottery Brings Workers Together for a Chance at the Big Bucks

Little Rock, AUGUST 14, 2012 – The newly revamped Powerball game is seeing faster-growing jackpots and more people pooling their money for better chances to win. Wednesday's jackpot is estimated at \$320 Million, the 6th largest jackpot in Powerball history.

"Last month's big \$240 million dollar win by 20 Quaker Oats in Iowa employees demonstrated how groups can have some fun and win together," said Bishop Woosley, Arkansas Scholarship Lottery Director. "Most of us like seeing a lot of people split the big prize. There's plenty to go around."

Powerball was redesigned in January, adding a \$2 price point that brought higher jackpots and \$1 Million and \$2 Million high tier prizes. Many players had been asking for more big prizes in Powerball, while still having a chance at a multi-million dollar jackpot. "For a lot of our players, this new prize structure seems to be a wish come true," Woosley said.

Tips on Playing as a Group

- ✓ Designate one person everyone trusts to collect the funds.
- ✓ Make a copies of the contributor list and copies of each Powerball ticket purchased.
- ✓ Give every participant copies.
- ✓ Hold the tickets in a safe place.
- ✓ If you win big, seek tax, legal and financial advice prior to claiming and splitting the winnings.
- ✓ Come as a group to the Claim Center.

In addition to Powerball's success for Arkansas's players and retailers, the game is also benefitting scholarship funding, the good cause supported by Arkansas Lottery. In less than eight months, the new Powerball has generated \$8 Million for college scholarships for Arkansas residents. As for the five Powerball and Mega Millions jumbo jackpots of \$200 Million or higher in the past 12 months, they have generated more than \$10 Million for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarships.

Since its launch in April 1992 in 15 states with jackpots that started at a guaranteed \$2 million, Powerball® has grown into one of the world's biggest and most recognizable lottery games. Today it's played in 44 jurisdictions across the nation, with players buying more than \$3 billion annually in Powerball® tickets. The biggest jackpot in the game so far was a \$365 million prize split by eight co-workers at a Nebraska meat-packing plant in February 2006.

Powerball® drawings are Wednesdays and Saturdays at 9:59 p.m. Arkansas time. For more information about Powerball® please visit myarkansaslottery.com.

Contact: Julie Baldrige, julie.baldrige@arkansas.gov; 501 683 1877

[Jackpot Records – U.S.](#)

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. \$656.0 Million | KS, IL, MD; March 30, 2012 Mega Millions |
| 2. \$390.0 million | GA, NJ; March 6, 2007 Mega Millions |
| 3. \$380.0 million | ID, WA; Jan. 4, 2011 Mega Millions |
| 4. \$365,000,000 | NE; Feb. 18, 2006 Powerball |
| 5. \$340,000,000 | OR; Oct. 19, 2005 Powerball |
| 6. \$336,400,000 | RI; Feb. 11, 2012 Powerball |
| 7. \$336.0 million | CA, NY; Aug. 28, 2009 Mega Millions |
| 8. \$330.0 million | MD, NJ, TX, VA; Aug. 31, 2007 Mega Millions |
| 9. \$320,000,000 | <u>WEDNESDAY JACKPOT – AUGUST 15, 2012 Powerball</u> |
| 10. \$314,900,000 | WV; Dec. 25, 2002 Powerball |
| 11. \$314,300,000 | IN; Aug. 25, 2007 Powerball |