

# THE GAMEPLAN

RETAILER NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY • JUNE 2026 EDITION

COVER STORY

## BREAKING NEWS: Summerville Store Named Best Place to Win the Lottery

The State newspaper recently recognized a convenience store in Summerville as one of the luckiest places to play the lottery.

Krishna of Summerville has sold 16 winning scratch-offs worth \$10,000 or more in the past five years, amounting to more than \$2.9 million in winnings. The biggest one was for \$2 million.

Deoaney Rowell, manager at Krishna, told The State the woman who won the \$2 million is a regular customer, a working single mother who still plays.

“She still wins,” Rowell said. “Some people just have more luck.”

The millionaire spoke with lottery officials in April of 2024 after cashing in the ticket. She says she was headed to the grocery store when she dropped by the store called the BP by locals. “I gasped,” she said when she won. “I thought there is no way this is happening.”

Today the winner is debt free, has set aside money for her kids’ education and has splurged on herself a little. “I got my nails done,” she said.

In October, the store sold a \$375,000 winning ticket. And in 2002 they sold top prize tickets worth \$300,000 and \$150,000. Several players have won \$10,000 at the store. And with more than 100 slots for scratch-offs, they have had hundreds more smaller wins along the way.



**GETTING PAID.** Hitesh Patel in Summerville leads the area in number of lottery tickets cashed for players.

Rowell and store co-owner Hitesh Patel weren’t surprised to learn their store was tops for selling so many winning scratch-offs. They sell a lot of tickets. Krishna occupies the No. 7 spot in the Lottery’s Million Dollar Sales Club that ranks retailers with yearly sales of \$1 million or more. Its sales exceed \$3.7 million.

How are they so successful? Three things stand out.

One, they have a great location. Krishna is located at the bustling intersection of Dorchester Boulevard and Ladson Rd. Hitesh says customers stop by in the morning for scratch-offs, at lunchtime to put their numbers in and they stay busy in the afternoon until closing.

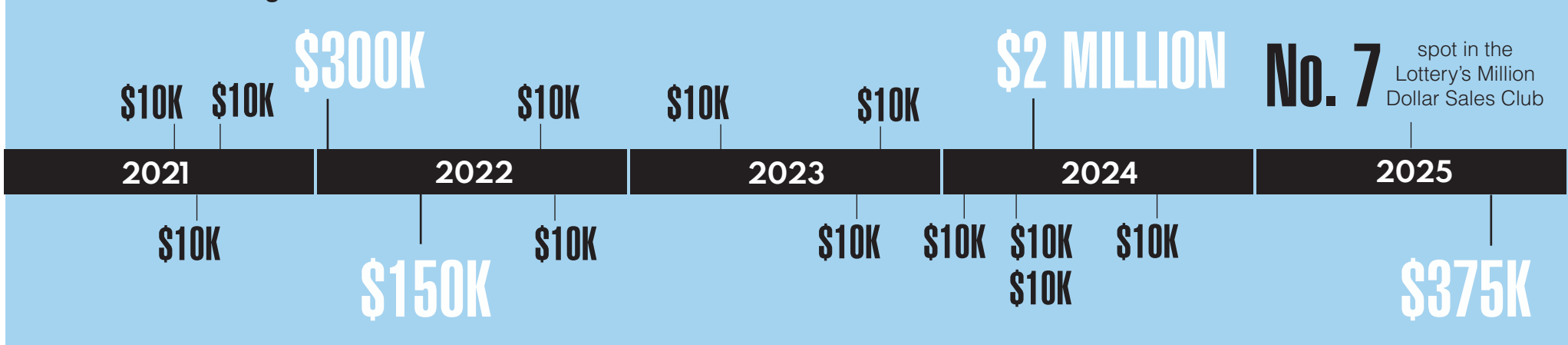
Second, they always cash winning tickets of \$500 or less. “We don’t say ‘no’ to anyone,” said Hitesh. He adds they gladly pay players for winning tickets purchased at other stores, in hopes these players will start buying tickets from him.

*(Lucky, continued)*



**WOW FACTOR!** This is just a small sampling of the winning tickets on display at the Krishna of Summerville store’s “Wall of Winners.”

### 5-Year Timeline of Big Scratch-off Wins at Krishna of Summerville



**No. 7** spot in the Lottery’s Million Dollar Sales Club

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The Game Plan is published monthly by the South Carolina Education Lottery. Every effort is made to ensure the information presented is accurate. Due to print lead times, certain information may not be the finalized product or version. For questions about this publication, call 803-737-4419.

## REMINDERS

**BY STATE LAW, ODDS INFORMATION MUST BE DISPLAYED IN ALL RETAIL OUTLETS ADJACENT TO SCEL POINT OF SALE.** This information is included in the piece called "Odds of Our Games."

**Display the Top Prizes Remaining Report:** Every morning when you sign in the terminal will generate a "Top Prizes Remaining" report. Post this updated report in the clear sleeve or change mat on your counter. The clear sleeve must be on your dispenser or near the point of purchase.

Prizes remaining, end-of-game and odds information for scratch-off games is available by scanning a QR Code posted at the play station. Make sure you display this QR Code in your play station.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Ticket Orders: Contact Your MSR  
 Stolen/Missing Tickets: 1-866-269-5668  
 Brightstar Help Desk: 1-844-458-8535  
 Customer Information: 1-866-736-9819  
 Licensing: 1-866-737-7235 (Option 4)  
 Gambling Hotline: 1-877-452-5155

South Carolina Education Lottery  
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 Columbia, SC 29211-1949  
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Launch dates and tickets are subject to change. Artwork shown is not necessarily representative of final product.

## DATES TO KNOW

### LAST DAY TO SELL

Wed., June 3: Neon Jackpot (#1634)  
 Wed., June 10: Hit \$500 (#1639) & Hit \$50 (#1640)

### LAST DAY TO RETURN

Fri., June 8: Bingo (#1652)  
 Fri., June 12: Corner Payout (#1620)

### LAST DAY TO CLAIM

Tues., June 9: Oh, Snap! (#1642) & Million Dollar Mania (#1633)  
 Tues., June 16: Elf (#1643)  
 Tues., June 23: Holly Jolly Jackpot (#1644)



### "SCEL COIN" DRAWINGS

\$5,000 Cash (10 winners) – Draw Date 6/10  
 \$500 Cash (50 winners) – Draw Date 6/10

### "SCEL COIN" ACHIEVEMENTS

June 1-30

Enter \$50 worth of any tickets  
 Enter \$15 worth of Powerball  
 Enter \$20 worth of Cash Pop  
 Enter \$30 worth of Gold Vault Extra Play  
 Enter \$15 of Lady Jumbo Bucks Crossword  
 Enter \$50 in Hit \$500 & \$50 in Mighty Jumbo Bucks  
 June 1-7, 8-14, 15-21, & 22-28  
 Enter \$10 in Super Loteria  
 Enter \$5 in Pick 3



(Lucky, continued)

And lastly, they have created a winning atmosphere. Krishna has a massive "Winners Wall" that's impossible to miss. There are rows and rows of winning scratch-offs stacked in long lines. Every week they swap out some of the old tickets with new ones, so there's always something fresh for customers to see. And recently, Rowell began posting a selection of winning tickets on Facebook for even more exposure.

Rowell says their lottery business grows by word of mouth.

"Families, hard-working people," she told *The State* describing their typical customers.

Ten years in, Hitesh and his brother, co-owner Vijay Patel, plan to continue welcoming new players to their store. "They tell us they saw it in the news that we are the number one winning store in Summerville," said a proud Hitesh.

## RETAILER SPOTLIGHT

# Players Count on the 'Happy Helpers' at This Store

Bhavi and her family have operated **Party World in Manning** for nearly a decade. They have always greeted customers with respect and are renowned for their helpfulness and reliability.

Customers seek their assistance with inquiries ranging from "How do I fill out a lottery ticket?" to "How do I access the highway?"

The store is a member of the Million Dollar Sales Club and holds the distinction of being the top-performing establishment in the area. Its success is due to timely updates on lottery displays, meticulous inventory management and technological advancements. Notably, they were the pioneering store in the area to implement a Digital Lottery Display, enabling customers to view the numbers on their tickets and make informed decisions without repeatedly consulting the clerk.

Sonu, Bhavi and Jay's (pictured) unwavering commitment to excellence has earned them the top spot in the

## ⚠️ IMPORTANT DEBIT CARD MESSAGE

The Lottery has seen an increase in player complaints regarding retailers who are either charging a debit card fee or requiring a minimum purchase amount for lottery ticket transactions. Charging any additional fee for the purchase of lottery tickets is a violation of state law. South Carolina Code Ann. § 59 150 210(A) prohibits selling a lottery ticket at any price other than the price established by the Commission. This includes charging a fee for debit card purchases. This requirement is also outlined in your Lottery Retailer Contract (Section II, 4.a). Additionally, imposing any minimum purchase requirement (including a minimum dollar amount of lottery tickets) will be considered a violation of your Lottery Retailer Contract. Section II, Part 4.b. states that you agree not to condition the sale of lottery tickets on the purchase of any other item or service, nor impose any similar restriction.

**Imposing any debit card fee or requiring a minimum lottery purchase to use a debit card is not allowed.**

Effective July 1, the retailer contract will include explicit language addressing these requirements. Imposing fees or minimums will be considered a contract violation. The Lottery will contact the retailer and issue a warning letter for the first offense. Any subsequent violations will result in a suspension, termination, or revocation. As a reminder, the Lottery does not require retailers to accept debit cards, but if they do then they must abide by these restrictions.



area and a reputation for exceptional reliability. By knowing their regular customers' preferences, they ensure players leave the store with a sense of satisfaction knowing their lottery selections align with their expectations.

- Mike King, Coastal LSR

## NEW GAMES

Tuesday, June 2:



Tuesday, July 7:

