

Some glitches as online betting starts in NJ

November 22 2013, by Wayne Parry



This Nov. 19, 2013 photo taken from a computer screen in Atlantic City, N.J., shows a game of online poker in progress on the global partypoker.com site. The site's parent company, bwin.party, is partnered with Atlantic City's Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa and will begin offering a test of Internet gambling to New Jersey residents on Nov. 21. Company officials say the global site is very similar to what New Jersey residents will experience when they log on. New Jersey is the third state in the nation to legalize online gambling. (AP Photo/Wayne Parry)

New Jersey has begun a five-day test of its new Internet gambling

systems to shake out any bugs before the anticipated statewide launch next week.

But for some gamblers Thursday's "soft play" period demonstrated that the sophisticated technology designed to ensure that gamblers actually are within New Jersey's borders appeared to have worked too well.

Tina Gonzalez, of Ocean Township, became frustrated when she was blocked. She fears there could be "mayhem" when online betting launches statewide next Tuesday.

Joseph Brennen of Ventnor traveled 30 miles and three hours to different locations but still wasn't able to part with any of his money.

Seven casinos participated in the rollout. The casinos, approved by the New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement, collectively offered 14 websites where customers can—eventually—make real-money bets.

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