



P R E S S R E L E A S E

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 2, 2023
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Self-Proclaimed ‘King of Scratchers’ Lottery Player Wins \$5 Million Top Prize in Superstitious Fashion

Plus, Another Four Instant Millionaires Revealed, Including a \$20 Million Prize – The Most Anyone Can Win Playing CA Lottery Scratchers Games

SACRAMENTO – Daniel Peramaki is about as superstitious as it gets playing his favorite \$20 California Lottery Scratchers® games. After many years of trying to strike it rich, all of his determination and rather quirky methods finally paid off in the form of a whopping \$5 million top prize on a *Neon Cash Party* game.



“I thought, ‘no way!’ I honestly thought I scratched it wrong. I was in shock for probably the whole day. I didn’t sleep that night,” Peramaki told the California Lottery.

Peramaki said it was initially looking like he was going to come up short. That’s because he scratched 24 of the dollar signs on the ticket before winning on the 25th and final square!

“I’m the king of the \$20 Scratchers,” he shared. “I win a lot, but it’s never been anything this big.” Peramaki says he always tries to buy ticket numbers seven, eight, or nine of newly opened packs of the \$20 Scratchers games. Lo and behold, his winning ticket did turn out to be number seven of the pack! He also says he never scratches his tickets immediately.

“I’m very superstitious. If I scratch them right away, it’s a loser. I usually buy them, put them in my pocket, and wait,” he explained. “I didn’t scratch this one until midnight.”

Peramaki elected to take the \$2.9 million lump sum and says it’s a life-changing amount of prize money. “I showed someone at work the \$5,000,000. He said, ‘Oh congrats, five thousand,’ and I said, ‘That’s a comma, not a decimal!’”

budget. However, this funding is largely discretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period, the Lottery generated more than \$8.85 billion in sales, more than 95% of which went back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. If you feel you have a gambling problem or know someone who does, you can get free confidential help by calling the California Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLER.

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