

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 135, May 04, 1948]

**REGULATING THE ESTABLISHMENT, MAINTENANCE AND
OPERATION OF FRONTONS AND BASQUE PELOTA GAMES (JAI
ALAI)**

By virtue of the powers vested in me by Commonwealth Act No. 601, entitled "An Act to regulate the establishment, maintenance and operation of places of amusements in chartered cities, municipalities and municipal districts," the following rules and regulations governing frontons and basque pelota games are hereby promulgated:

SECTION 1. *Definitions.*—Whenever used in this Order and unless the context indicates a different meaning, the following terms shall bear the meaning indicated herein:

(a) "Basque pelota game" shall include the pelota game with the use of pala, raqueta, cesta punta, remonte and mano, in which professional players participate.

(b) "Fronton" comprises the court where basque pelota games are played, including the adjoining structures used in connection with such games, such as the betting booths and galleries, totalizator equipment, and the grandstands where the public is admitted in connection with such games.

(c) "Pelotari" is a professional player engaged in playing basque pelota.

(d) "Professional player" is one who plays for compensation.

SEC. 2. *Supervision over the establishment and operation of frontons and basque pelota games.*—Subject to the administrative control and supervision of the Secretary of the Interior, city or municipal mayors shall exercise supervision over the establishment, maintenance and operation of frontons and basque pelota games within their respective territorial jurisdiction, as well as over the officials and employees of such frontons and shall see to it that all laws, orders and regulations relating to such establishments are duly enforced. Subject to similar approval, they shall appoint such personnel as may be needed in the discharge of their duties and fix their compensation which shall be paid out of the allotment of one-half per centum (1/2%) out of the total bets or wager funds set aside and made available for the purpose in accordance with section 19 hereof. The Secretary of the Interior shall have the power to prohibit or allow the operation of such frontons on any day or days, or modify their hour of operation and to prescribe additional rules and regulations governing the same.

SEC. 3. *Particular duties of city or municipal mayors regarding operation of basque pelota games and frontons.*—In connection with their duty to enforce the laws, orders, rules and regulations relating to frontons and basque pelota games, the city

or municipal mayor shall require that such frontons shall be properly constructed and maintained in accordance with the provisions of Commonwealth Act No. 485; shall see that the proper sanitary accommodations are provided in the grandstands and other structures comprising such frontons; and shall require that such frontons be provided with a properly equipped clinic for the treatment of injuries to the pelotaris.

SEC. 4. *Permits.*—In the absence of a legislative franchise, it shall be unlawful for any person or entity to establish and/or operate frontons and conduct basque pelota games without a permit issued by the corresponding city or municipal mayor, with the approval of the provincial governor in the latter case. Any permit issued hereunder shall be reported by the provincial governor or city mayor, as the case may be, to the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 5. *License fees.*—The following license fees shall be paid:

(a) For each basque pelota fronton, five hundred pesos (P500) annually, or one hundred and twenty-five pesos (P125) quarterly.

(b) For pelotaris, judges or referees and superintendents (intendentes) of basque pelota game, eighteen pesos (P18) each annually.

The above license fees shall accrue to the funds of the city or municipality where the fronton is operated.

SEC. 6. *Location.*—Except in the case of any basque pelota fronton licensed as of December 8, 1941, no basque pelota fronton shall be maintained or operated within a radius of 200 lineal meters from any city hall or municipal building, provincial capitol building, national capitol building, public plaza or park, public school, church, hospital, athletic stadium, or any institution of learning or charity.

SEC. 7. *Buildings, sanitary and parking requirements.*—No permit or license for the construction or operation of a basque pelota fronton shall be issued without proper certificate of the provincial or city engineer and architect certifying to the suitability and safety of the building and of the district or city health officer certifying to the sanitary condition of said building. The city or municipal mayor may, in his discretion and as circumstances may warrant, require that the fronton be provided with sufficient space for parking so that the public roads and highways be not used for such purposes.

SEC. 8. *Protest and complaint.*—Any person who believes that any basque pelota fronton is located or established in any place not authorized herein or is being operated in violation of any provision of this Order may file a protest or complaint with the city or municipal mayor concerned, and after proper investigation of such complaint the city or municipal mayor may take such action as he may consider necessary in accordance with the provisions of section 10 hereof. Any decision rendered on the matter by the city or municipal mayor shall be appealable to the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 9. *Persons prohibited admission.*—Persons under 16 years of age, persons carrying firearms or deadly weapons of any description, except government officials actually performing their official duties therein, intoxicated persons, and persons of