

where a player accumulates indicated sections on the wheel in the plurality of games. In this embodiment, the indicated sections remain highlighted or illuminated for a designated number of games. The designated number of games may be predetermined, randomly determined or determined in any suitable manner. The progressive accumulation of the indicated sections enables one or more players to be able to accumulate multiple sections in a game or games and also increases the probability that a player will obtain the big bonus award by accumulating all the sections associated with one of the awards in the outer most annular area in a game. In one aspect of this embodiment, the awards are associated with a probability of being indicated such that the relatively small awards include greater probabilities than the relatively large awards. In this aspect, a significant portion of the relatively small awards are indicated before the relatively large awards are indicated on the wheel. This creates excitement and enjoyment of the game because the longer the game is played or the more games that are played, more of the sections of the wheel are illuminated or indicated. Also, as more sections are indicated on the wheel, the awards associated with the non-indicated sections increase to enable players to obtain larger awards in a game or games. Once the designated number of games are reached, the gaming device resets the award wheel so that none of the sections are indicated (i.e., highlighted) on the wheel. It should be appreciated that the gaming device may reset the award wheel so that none, one, a plurality or all of the sections remain highlighted on the wheel.

**[0108]** In another embodiment, a plurality of section indicators are associated with the wheel such that multiple sections are indicated on the wheel in a spin. This enables a player to obtain multiple awards associated with the multiple sections indicated on the wheel in a single spin. In one embodiment, the section indicators associated with the wheel are activated such that only the activated section indicators indicate sections on the wheel. The section indicators may be activated by particular sections on the wheel or based on the number of spins provided to the player in the game. The number of section indicators may also be based on a wager made by the player in the base game or in a bonus game.

**[0109]** In a further embodiment the multiple section indicators are moveable such that the section indicators move about the wheel at the beginning of a game and are stopped or locked in place by the gaming device or the player. The section indicators may move at the beginning of the game, during the game, after one spin or a plurality of the spins of the wheel or at any suitable point in a game. The moveable indicators enable the player to interact with the game and therefore provides additional excitement and enjoyment of the game.

**[0110]** In another embodiment, a time dimension is associated with the present invention to offer enhanced play and awards in the game. In one aspect of this embodiment, a larger award or awards are provided to the player when a designated number of sections are indicated in a designated number of spins of the wheel. For example, the gaming device provides a larger award or a bonus award to a player when the player indicates all of the sections associated with one of the awards in a particular number of spins such as five

spins. The gaming device decreases the award for each additional spin or spins needed by the player to indicate those sections.

**[0111]** In another aspect of this embodiment, the gaming device only provides a bonus award when the player indicates a specific section or sections in a designated number of spins. If the section or sections are indicated after the designated number of spins are reached, the gaming device does not provide a bonus or extra award to the player. It should be appreciated that the designated section or sections may be predetermined, randomly determined or determined according to any suitable determination method.

**[0112]** In a further aspect of this embodiment, a time period is associated with the game such that the gaming device or the player spins the wheel during the time period and indicates sections and accumulates awards associated with those sections during the time period. When the time period expires, the game ends and the player receives the total accumulative award for the game.

**[0113]** It should be appreciated that the present invention may be employed in a primary or base game or, a secondary or bonus game or any suitable type of game such as poker, blackjack, roulette, dice, slots, multi-line slots or any other suitable wagering game.

**[0114]** It should also be appreciated that multiple pointers or indicators for simultaneously indicating different sections may be employed in the present invention.

**[0115]** While the present invention is described in connection with what is presently considered to be the most practical and preferred embodiments, it should be appreciated that the invention is not limited to the disclosed embodiments, and is intended to cover various modifications and equivalent arrangements included within the spirit and scope of the claims. Modifications and variations in the present invention may be made without departing from the novel aspects of the invention as defined in the claims, and this application is limited only by the scope of the claims.

The invention is claimed as follows:

1. A gaming device comprising:

- a game operable upon a wager;
- an award distributor including a plurality of sections, each of said sections defined by one of a plurality first coordinates and one of a plurality of second coordinates;
- a plurality of groups of said sections including a symbol group and a plurality of modifier groups;
- a plurality of symbols associated with the sections in the symbol group;
- a plurality of modifiers associated with the sections in the modifier groups;
- at least one section indicator associated with the award distributor; and
- a processor operable to determine one of the first coordinates of one of the sections in the modifier group, independently determine one of the second coordinates of one of the sections in said modifier group, cause the section indicator to indicate the section in the modifier group associated with the determined first and second