used is no longer used and is replaced. This makes it impossible to identify the shuffled playing card set that is currently being used at the game table since the shuffled playing card set is often replaced with a new one. For this reason, in case of any problem with the card shoe apparatus or if any irregular card has been inserted, it is difficult to investigate the cause thereof or to take countermeasures therefor, which is a problem.

[0005]

Embodiments of the present disclosure seek to provide a table game system that may be capable of identifying the shuffled playing card set that is currently being used at a game table, and also capable of, if any problem occurs with a card shoe apparatus or if the insertion of any irregular card is found, identifying the shuffled playing card set that has been used at the time of the occurrence thereof, thereby enabling an investigation of the cause thereof or the taking of countermeasures therefor.

[0006]

[Solution to Problem]

An aspect of the present invention provides a table game system comprising:

a barcode reader or an input interface, wherein the table game system is configured to obtain, by a detection via the barcode reader or by a data input via the input interface, a shuffled card ID that is indicated on a set of shuffled playing cards as an ID code for uniquely identifying the set of shuffled playing cards, wherein the set of shuffled playing cards is composed of a plurality of decks of playing cards arranged in a unique order;

a database; and

a card shoe apparatus that comprises:

a card housing unit for storing the shuffled playing cards;

an opening through which the playing cards are able to be manually drawn one by one from the card housing unit and onto a game table in a casino;

a card reading unit for reading information of each of the playing cards drawn from the card housing unit onto the game table; and

a control unit that includes a display unit;

wherein:

the control unit is configured to:

judge a winner/loser of a card game based on the information read by the card reading unit;

show a result of the judgment via the display unit;

identify the set of shuffled playing cards associated with the shuffled card ID obtained via the barcode reader of the input interface as a current card set being used in the card game, which is currently being played; and

input into the database the shuffled card ID obtained via the barcode reader of the input interface; and

the database contains:

information associating the shuffled card ID with the game table on which the set of shuffled playing cards is used, and with one or more specified events; and

at least one of:

(a) an identification of which of the playing cards is drawn from the card shoe apparatus when any of the one or more specified events happens;

(b) an association of the card game with an occurrence of the any of the one or more specified events; and

(c) a time of the occurrence of the any of the one of more specified events; and

the one or more specified events includes at least one of (1) to (4):

(1) an error of reading at least one of the playing cards of the identified set of shuffled playing cards;

(2) an attempt to draw at least one of the playing cards while no card should be drawn according to rules of the card game;

(3) an attempt to move or insert a card in a direction opposite to a drawing direction; and

(4) an occurrence of a preset irregular operation detected by the control unit.

There is also disclosed a table game system including:

shuffled playing cards composed of playing cards made up of a plurality of number of decks shuffled to have a unique arrangement order, a uniquely identifiable shuffled card ID being attached to the shuffled playing cards as an ID code; and

a card shoe apparatus that includes a barcode reader or an input means capable of identifying the shuffled card ID, and houses the shuffled playing cards such that the housed shuffled playing cards are manually dealt one by one onto a game table,

the card shoe apparatus including:

a card housing unit for housing the shuffled playing cards;

a lid that enables the entry/removal of the shuffled playing cards;

an opening for drawing cards from the card housing unit one by one;

a card reading unit that reads from a card drawn from the card housing unit onto the game table information contained in the said card on a rank thereof;

a control unit that stores rules of a card game and includes a winner/loser determination unit that determines the winner/loser of the card

game based on the information on the ranks of the cards read by the card reading unit; and

a display unit that outputs a result of the winner/loser determined by the winner/loser determination unit,

wherein the control unit has a function of storing the uniquely identifiable shuffled card ID read by the barcode reader or the input means, identifying the shuffled playing cards as the card set to be used in a current game in connection with the shuffled card ID, and storing each specified event that occurs during the use of said identified shuffled playing cards at a game table, and

the items of the specified events stored in connection with the shuffled card ID include at least one of the following:

(1) a reading error in the card reading unit of a card in the identified shuffled playing cards;

(2) an end of a game due to an operation of an end button to end the use of the shuffled playing cards currently set in the card shoe apparatus, or the drawing of a cut card from the shuffled playing cards currently set in the card shoe apparatus;

(3) an attempt to draw a card when no card should be drawn according to the rules of the card game;

(4) an attempt to move or insert a card in a direction opposite to a drawing direction of a card at the opening; and

(5) an occurrence of a preset irregular operation to be determined to be irregular by the card shoe apparatus.

[0007]

[Advantageous Effects]

As disclosed, it is possible to provide a table game system that may be capable of, if any problem occurs with a card shoe apparatus or if the insertion of any irregular card is found, identifying the shuffled playing card set being used at the time of the occurrence thereof, and thereby enables the investigation of the cause thereof or the taking of countermeasures therefor by identifying the shuffled playing card set being used at the time of occurrence thereof.

[0008]

[Brief Description of Drawings]

[Fig. 1] Fig. 1 is a perspective view schematically showing the entirety of a