

**THE STATEWIDE SHOWDOWN: LEWES STORE OWNER NAMED
REIGNING CHAMP IN 2016 XFINGERS CHALLENGE**

Annual Competition Crowns Retailer with Fastest Fingers Fingers Title in the State

The Statewide Showdown took place on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at the Modern Maturity Center in Dover to determine who among all licensed Delaware Lottery terminal operators can most adeptly operate lottery machines. With fifteen retailers – five from each county- entering the finals, the Delaware Lottery crowned Brad Alwood of the Daily Market, Lewes as the 2016 XFingers Challenge winner and leading titleholder.

A three-time XFingers champion (2016, 2015 and 2000) Brad beat his second place competitor by just **.56 seconds** and was awarded a \$1,000 cash prize for having the fastest time of **1:30.07**.

XFINGERS formerly known as FASTEST FINGERS, began in March 1994 as FASTEST FINGERS IN THE FIRST STATE. It was designed to benefit the retailers and give recognition and show support to those that represent the Lottery products on a daily basis and play a key role in contributing to the state's General Fund. Retailer contestants in the XFingers Challenge are timed on how fast they can enter a variety of lottery ticket request into a terminal, with the fastest players moving on to the finals. All contestants completed the same script and the fastest time won.

When it began we had a retailer base of approximately 450 retailers and would average around 15 percent participation. Retailers competed for a cash prize up to \$500 and there were 3 top winners from each county that advanced to the finals. Over the years our retailer network grew but it became a challenge to increase our participation in the contest so we implemented various components to attract new participation. This proved to be very successful and now with a retailer network of approximately 600 retailers we average approximately 40-50 percent participation. Retailers now compete for cash prizes up to \$1,500 and the top 5 competitors from each county advance to the finals.