

Games of Chance

A carefully planned and executed a game of chance can be an excellent fundraiser for any organization. The following information should help you plan a successful game of chance.

Games of Chance

If your student organization would like to organize a fundraiser involving a game of chance (example: bingo, raffles, paddlewheels, guess the number of jelly beans, etc) you must contact the City Clerk of Moorhead at 218.299.5304 for information on how to comply with local laws and policy.

Games of Chance Prizes

Keep in mind that the more useful and creative the prize, the better the success of your game of chance as a fundraiser. Consider what your target audience needs/wants and would invest money in a chance to win. All of the game of chance prizes should be collected and secured in a safe place before you begin selling your game of chance tickets. Some organizations find it successful to collect a few large prizes (TV, CD player, cash, etc.) while others gather one big prize and a large pool of smaller prizes (gift certificates, dinners, etc.) You should be cautious of counting on anticipated ticket sales to purchase your prizes. If the proceeds or a portion of your proceeds will benefit a local charity, you may be successful in getting prizes donated from local store and companies. Note: In the state of MN, the value of all prizes awarded may not exceed \$750 in a calendar year.

Ticket Sales

The more tickets that your organization sells, the greater your profits. Every member of the organization should assist with ticket sales. The game of chance Coordinator should keep a log of what members have what tickets. You should set a deadline for when they must turn in the money collected and any unsold tickets. Members should be accountable for any discrepancies.

Game of Chance Tickets

Game of chance tickets should have two portions.

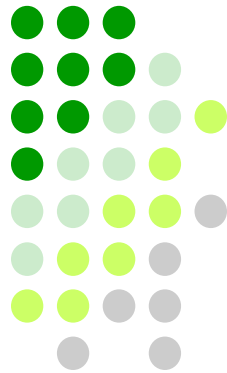
The organization's half should contain:

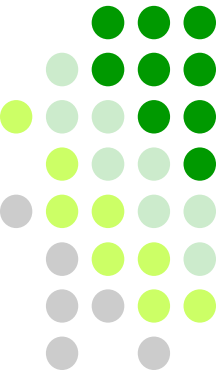
- * The ticket number
- * The name of the buyer
- * The phone number of the buyer
- * The name of the seller

The portion of the ticket that the buyer keeps should include the following information:

- * The ticket number
- * Name of the sponsoring organization
- * Name of the charity the money will go to (if applicable)
- * The day, dates, and time of the drawing for prizes
- * A listing of the prizes to be awarded (a summary is acceptable if you have several prizes)
- * The phrase "Winners need not be present at time of drawing"

Each ticket must be numbered. The number on the ticket should be in different color ink from the printed information on the ticket. This can help prevent fraud because the tickets will be harder to duplicate.





Drawing of the Prizes

All drawings should be held in a public area. It is advisable to have someone not directly affiliated with the organization do the actual drawing of the winners. Although winners need not be present at the time of the drawing to win, they should be immediately notified of their good fortune. All prizewinner/s are responsible for any taxes on their winnings. You should keep a list of all the winners and their prizes.

Who may conduct gambling in the state of Minnesota?

Only an organization which is a religious, fraternal, veterans, or other nonprofit organization may conduct lawful gambling.

To obtain copies of the Minnesota statutes and rules, which govern lawful gambling, contact Minnesota's Bookstore at 651-297-3000 or 1-800-657-3757, or write:

Minnesota's Bookstore
117 University Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55155