

Bingo

Authorisations to conduct minor gaming activities, including BINGO are issued subject to the provisions of the *Gaming Control Act 1993* and to any directions given by the Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission. In accordance with the *Gaming Control Act 1993* the rules and conditions of bingo are as follows:

QUICK FACTS

- A minor gaming permit is required.
- No charge whatsoever may be made for admission
- Goods are not permitted to be offered as prizes.
- All cards used in a game shall be sold at the same price.
- No person under the age of eighteen shall play bingo.
- Jackpot games are limited to two (2) each session.

CONDITIONS

DEFINITION

1. A session of bingo is any one period during the morning, afternoon or evening approved by the Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission, during which a number of bingo games are played.
2. Bingo is a game in which each player is given a card with numbers printed on it and the winner is decided by the player matching randomly selected numbers to the numbers on the player's ticket.

WHO IS PERMITTED TO CONDUCT BINGO

3. The Commission may in its absolute discretion, authorise a person or body of persons to conduct by way of lottery the game known as bingo or a series of such games provided that the proceeds are used exclusively for the lawful purposes of a not-for-profit organisation or a charitable purpose and not for the private gain or benefit of any person except by way of charity. A minor gaming permit is required.
4. An authorisation to conduct the game of bingo may be cancelled by the Commission at any time if there are grounds for believing that the conditions pertaining to the permit have not been complied with.
5. As a holder of a minor gaming permit there is a duty to comply with conditions and rules of bingo. Contravention of the *Gaming Control Act 1993* may result in disciplinary action.
6. A person directly engaged in the calling or drawing of the winning bingo numbers and a person who is a member of the management committee of the minor gaming permit holder are ineligible to enter a bingo game.

SALE OF CARDS

7. A card for bingo means a document or thing that evidences, or is intended to evidence, a person's right to play a bingo game.
8. Every card sold in a game shall have fifteen numbers printed on its face or front.
9. All cards used in a game shall be sold at the same price and the price for a card shall not exceed 20 cents (with the exception of single sheet games as described in conditions 23 and 25).
10. Every card used in a game shall bear a serial number to identify the game being played, and the number shall be announced to players immediately before the commencement of each game.
11. Another identifying number (or numbers) shall be printed on each book or sheet of cards issued, to enable the number of cards sold during the course of the session to be calculated.

PAYMENT OF PRIZES

12. The winner is the first person/s to advise the caller (usually by calling out loudly "bingo"), that they have covered the required numbers from the draw. Should two (2) or more people cover the required numbers from the draw at the same time, all will be declared joint winners.
13. In the event of there being more than one winner in a game, the prize money shall be shared equally between the winners.
14. In the circumstance where a player has completed a card but has not noticed this fact until after another player (or players) has called "bingo" on a subsequent number, the prize for the particular game shall be divided equally between the players concerned.
15. At the conclusion of each game the numbers of the winning card will be called back and shall be checked by two unsuccessful players in the game.
16. A number is considered to have been drawn when it has been determined by random selection, either mechanically or manually. The number so drawn shall take precedence, in the event of a dispute between the number drawn and the number announced (either audibly or visually).

17. If a visual display is being used, the caller must still announce the number clearly before the following number is displayed.
18. No prize shall be awarded to any player in a game unless all the relevant numbers on the card held by him for that game have been properly called.
19. The prizes for all games in the session:
 - (a) shall be paid only from the receipts deriving from the session;
 - (b) shall not be less than fifty percent of the total gross proceeds derived from the session, and
 - (c) shall be paid in cash as soon as practicable after the conclusion of each game.
20. Goods are not permitted to be offered as prizes.

JACKPOT CONDITIONS

21. "Jackpot" games of bingo are subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) Jackpot games are limited to two each session;
 - (b) The total prize for the first game of a jackpot series may be an amount not exceeding \$300;
 - (c) Each jackpot is not to increase by more than \$50 per session;
 - (d) If the jackpot pool reaches \$2 000 for a game the pool must be distributed as prize money in or before the last game in a session; and
 - (e) Jackpot games can be either:
 - A 'Standard Jackpot' where the game is limited to a stipulated number of calls commencing at 50 numbers called and increasing by one over the next one, two, three or four subsequent jackpot games until the prize is won; or
 - A 'Rolling Jackpot' game where the game is limited to and remains at a stipulated number of calls, usually 50 calls, until the prize is won.

LINE GAMES

22. Line games may be played as a separate game or as a game based on the last number (or any other number stipulated by the organisation) of each game.
23. All cards used in a single line game shall be sold at the same price and the price for a sheet containing six (6) cards shall not exceed three dollars.

SINGLE SHEET GAMES

Single sheets containing six (6) cards may be played as either a line game as described above or a full house game.

24. All cards used in a single sheet game shall be sold at the same price and the price for a sheet containing six (6) cards shall not exceed three dollars.

OTHER GENERAL CONDITIONS

25. No charge whatsoever may be made for admission to any session of bingo.
26. No person engaged in the conduct of any session of bingo shall be paid a wage, salary or commission for his services.
27. No person under the age of eighteen years shall play bingo, however, persons sixteen years or over may assist in the conduct of the game.
28. It is not permissible to offer or advertise any guaranteed minimum game prize. This condition does not apply to a jackpot game played in accordance with Condition No 21.
29. It is not permissible to offer any prize (cash or goods) or inducement of any kind that jackpots from one session to another, other than a recognised jackpot game.
30. Bingo may only be conducted on the dates or days and times shown on the minor gaming permit and individual activity notifications.

PROMOTIONAL GAMES CONDUCTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH A BINGO SESSION

31. Promotional games may be conducted in conjunction with a Bingo session provided that:
 - There is no cost of entry associated with the promotional games;
 - Promotional games are not permitted to include a jackpot component;
 - The value of any single promotional game (either in the form of cash or prizes) does not exceed \$1 000;
 - The total value of promotional games conducted in conjunction with a session must not exceed \$2 000; and
 - Any electronic equipment used to determine the outcome of the promotional games must be approved by the Commission.

RECORDS TO BE RETAINED

32. The person to whom the permit has been issued shall be responsible for keeping accurate records of all the transactions of each bingo session and such records are to be retained for seven (7) years and may be inspected by any authorised officer of the Commission or any Police Officer.

RULES

1. A game of bingo is the first person/s to complete their card from a random draw from a set of numbers 1 to 90 and advise the caller.
2. If two (2) or more players declare bingo on the same number, they share the prize as joint winners.
3. A player may play more than one card. Card(s) are purchased prior to commencement of play. Cards may be sold as books of 10 and 20.
4. If a player incorrectly declares himself or herself a winner, that player is permitted to continue to play the bingo game.
5. If an incorrect number is announced, that incorrect announcement, for the purpose of determining the winner of a bingo game, is taken not to have been made.
6. Only one of the following versions may be played in a game of bingo:

Version 1:

The game is won by the first player to:

- have all the numbers in the top horizontal line of numbers on his or her ticket announced by the caller; and
- call "line" or "bingo" or make an audible noise or have another person call "line" or "bingo" on his or her behalf after the caller finishes calling the number but before the next number is called;

Version 2:

The game is won by the first player to:

- have all the numbers in the middle horizontal line of numbers on his or her ticket announced by the caller; and
- call "line" or "bingo" or make an audible noise or have another person call "line" or "bingo" on his or her behalf after the caller finishes calling the number but before the next number is called;

Version 3:

The game is won by the first player to:

- have all the numbers in the bottom horizontal line of numbers on his or her ticket announced by the caller; and
- call "line" or "bingo" or make an audible noise or have another person call "line" or "bingo" on his or her behalf after the caller finishes calling the number but before the next number is called;

Version 4:

The game is won by the first player to:

- have all the numbers on his or her ticket announced by the caller; and
- call "line" or "bingo" or make an audible noise or have another person call "line" or "bingo" on his or her behalf after the caller finishes calling the number but before the next number is called;

Version 5:

The game is won by the first player to:

- have all the numbers on any one of the three horizontal lines on his or her ticket announced by the caller; and
 - call "line" or "bingo" or make an audible noise or have another person call "line" or "bingo" on his or her behalf after the caller finishes calling the number but before the next number is called.
7. "House Rules" must be developed and include:
 - the cost of tickets;
 - the prizes to be awarded in the session;
 - a clear description of the particular arrangement of numbers required to be covered in order to win; and
 - the version of rules to be played in a game of bingo.

The "House Rules" should be appropriately displayed where the game is conducted.

DUTIES OF THE CALLER AND THE SUPERVISOR:

1. A person must be appointed a caller and another person must be appointed as supervisor for each bingo game.
2. The caller and the supervisor must not participate as players during the bingo game.
3. The caller must announce at the start of the bingo game which of the versions specified in rule six (6) will be played.
4. The caller must announce, at the start of the bingo game and at the callback, the serial number printed on the back of the card relating to each individual game.
5. The caller must randomly select numbers from:
 - a random number generator; or
 - a receptacle containing 90 balls numbered consecutively from 1 to 90; andmust announce each selected number.
6. If numbers are being selected from a receptacle as specified the selected numbered ball must be handed to the supervisor immediately.
7. The supervisor must:
 - display a visual representation of each selected number in such a way that it is clearly visible to all players until the end of the game; and
 - if numbers are being selected from a receptacle, check that the number has been correctly announced by the caller and place it on a rack which is clearly visible to all players until the end of the game; and
 - determine the winner of the bingo game by collecting the winning bingo ticket from each player who has declared himself or herself to be a winner; and

- confirm the serial number and ticket book number (if any), and that the ticket was sold or played in the relevant game; and
 - count back the numbers on the ticket against the numbers called, in the presence of an independent player.
8. If the caller or the supervisor becomes aware that an error has been made in the calling or display of numbers, he or she must immediately make an announcement correcting the error.

If you would like further information, please contact the Liquor and Gaming Branch.

LIQUOR AND GAMING CONTACT DETAILS

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