



# Minor Bingo Session Conditions

*Lottery and Gaming Regulations 2008*

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**A licence is not required under the *Lottery and Gaming Regulations 2008* ('the Regulations') for the conduct of a minor bingo session where the total gross proceeds of the session does not exceed \$500 however the session must comply with the minor bingo rules.**

**This brochure contains an explanation of the minor bingo rules as set out in Regulation 25 of the Regulations and other important information.**

## What are bingo sessions?

Bingo sessions are fundraising and non-fundraising lotteries involving the conduct of the game of chance commonly known as "bingo", "housie", "housie housie" or "eyes down bingo".

Bingo is a game played with game cards in which each card contains at least 15 numbered squares. The caller randomly selects a number and, if matched, the player marks or covers the number on their game card. A player wins when all of the numbers are marked or covered to correspond with a predetermined format.

Fundraising bingo sessions can only be conducted by an association. An association is a body of persons which has at least ten members, a management committee appointed or elected by the members of the association and a written constitution. It is not formed for private gain and includes charities, social clubs, political parties, registered clubs, sporting clubs and trade unions.

No part of the net proceeds of the bingo sessions can be applied for the benefit of a member of the association or a registered corporation that returns profits to its members.

The funds raised by the bingo sessions are to be applied for the approved purposes of an association, as set out in the Regulations. The approved purposes for which fundraising bingo sessions can be conducted are:

- religious, educational, charitable or benevolent purpose
- promoting or encouraging literature, science or the arts
- providing medical treatment or attention, or promoting the interests of persons who have a particular physical, mental or intellectual disability
- establishing, carrying on or improving a community centre, or promoting the interests of a local community or a particular section of a local community
- sport, recreation or amusement
- promoting animal welfare
- conserving resources or preserving any part of the environmental, historical or cultural heritage of the State
- promoting the interests of students or staff of an educational institution
- political purpose
- promoting the common interests of persons who are engaged in or interested in a particular business, trade or industry.

## Conduct of minor bingo

A maximum of three sessions can be conducted in any week.

If two or more sessions are to be conducted on the same day, there must be an period of at least 30 minutes between the each sessions.

A bingo session must not exceed three hours.

Bingo sessions must be conducted under the supervision of the association with at least

two members of the management committee or staff present at the session.

A person under the age of 18 years must not participate in a bingo game unless accompanied by, and under the supervision of an adult.

## Proceeds

The gross proceeds from each session of bingo must not exceed \$500.

The whole of the net proceeds of the bingo session is to be applied for one or more of the approved purposes specified in the Regulations.

At least 10% of the gross proceeds of the session must be applied for an approved purpose.

No part of the net proceeds of the bingo session is to be applied for the benefit of a member of the association or for a registered corporation which returns profits to its members.

Sharing of the facilities or services of the association or acquisition of goods or services from a registered corporation will not be construed as receiving a benefit from the net proceeds of the lottery.

## Prizes

Prizes from any other game of chance available to persons attending the session cannot be used to subsidise the bingo prizes.

The prizes in any game of bingo must be not less than 20% of the gross proceeds of the game (less any amount allowed for a jackpot).

Prizes must be paid in cash immediately after the completion of the game. If more

than one person wins the game, the prize must be divided equally between them.

Prizes must not accumulate or jackpot between a game played in one session and a game played in another session.

The amount of a jackpot cannot exceed 10% of the gross proceeds of the session.

Bingo sessions cannot promote prohibited goods or services which include:

- Tobacco products within the meaning of the *Tobacco Productions Regulation Act 1997*
- Firearms, antique firearms and ammunition within the meaning of the *Firearms Act 1977*
- Dangerous articles within the meaning of the *Summary Offences Act 1953*
- Cosmetic surgery or other similar procedure with the main purpose of improving personal appearance
- All goods and services that cannot legally be sold in South Australia, including but not limited to prohibited weapons within the meaning of the *Summary Offences Act 1953*.

No gift, reward or other benefit (other than the prizes in the lottery) may be offered as an inducement to enter or participate in the lottery.

## Bingo Sheets

Must be purchased from a licensed supplier of instant lottery tickets and each game must consist of at least 15 different numbers. All bingo sheets are to be kept in a secure place.

Must not be issued to the person conducting the session more than one session in advance.

All bingo sheets used in a bingo game must be priced at the same price and must give rise to an equal chance of winning. No bingo sheet can be given free of charge.

Each bingo sheet used in a game must have the same serial number that is unique to that game.

The unique serial number applicable to a game of bingo must be announced to players immediately prior to the commencement of the game.

Unsold bingo sheets must be retained for a period of three months from the date of the bingo session.

## Administration

The association must maintain accurate records of the bingo sheets used, prizes and gross proceeds for each game (see major bingo and minor bingo session record of games). A copy of this form is available from this Section or can be downloaded from our website.

This record is to be retained for a period of three months from the day on which the bingo session was conducted and must be available for inspection by the Minister.

The net proceeds of all bingo sessions is to be paid into a financial institution/bank account which is operated by the association.

## Advertising

An association which conducts fundraiser bingo must not advertise or promote the lottery:

- on the radio on a weekday between the hours of 6.00 a.m. and 8.30 a.m.; or
- on the television on a weekday between the hours of 4.00 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.

An association which conducts bingo that is a fundraiser must ensure that the following requirements with respect to advertising or promoting the lottery are complied with:

- the advertising or promoting must not be such so as to appear, to a reasonable observer, to:
  - be directed at minors or to portray minors participating in gambling activities; or
  - imply that the lottery is a means of relieving personal or financial difficulties or providing for the payment of such things as rent, mortgages, education or household staples; or
  - imply that the lottery is a means of enhancing social, sexual or employment prospects;
- the advertising or promoting must not:
  - exaggerate the prizes or the chances of winning a prize; or
  - present the chances of winning in a manner which is false, misleading or in a manner that cannot be verified;
- the advertising or promoting must not state or imply that the skill of the participant can influence the outcome of the lottery;

- the advertising or promoting must not associate the lottery with excessive alcohol consumption;
- the advertising or promoting must not exaggerate the connection between the lottery and the use to which the association intends to apply the proceeds of the lottery;
- the advertising or promoting must not refer to the value or nature of a prize, or the frequency with which a prize may be won unless the advertising or promoting:
  - includes sufficient information for a reasonably informed person to understand the odds of winning or the overall return to the participant; and
  - if the advertising or promoting is intended to encourage a person to participate in the lottery during a particular period—includes sufficient information for a reasonably informed person to understand the likelihood that the prize will be won by a person during that period.

## Offences

A child under the age of 15 years is not permitted to sell lottery tickets unless the child is accompanied by and under the supervision of an adult.

It is offence for a person who conducts a minor bingo session to offer any gift, reward or other benefit (other than the prizes in the session) as an inducement to enter or participate in the session.

It is an offence to provide false or misleading information.

If an association is guilty of an offence against the Regulations, each member of the management committee at the time the offence was committed, or any employee of the association who was responsible for the conduct of the lottery, is guilty of an offence and liable to the same penalty.

Section 113A of the *Lottery and Gaming Act 1936* provides that a person involved (whether as principal, agent or employee) in the conduct of any lawful or unlawful lottery, gaming or betting operations who acts in a dishonest, deceptive or misleading manner in connection with the operations is guilty of an offence.