

Charitable Games Bulletin

To: All Bingo Licensees

Date: March 11, 2015

This bulletin contains new information regarding electronically filing your quarterly report as well as reminders regarding special bingo games, renewing your bingo license, and unlicensed bingo games.

Bingo licensees can now use an updated version of the electronic filing system available at www.mgc.dps.mo.gov to file quarterly reports *without filing the occasion detail*. The current option, requiring occasion reports to be entered, is still available. A second option, requiring only the monthly summary data to be entered, has been added and will be available for use beginning Monday, March 16, 2015. You will still use your password to utilize the new feature. If you need to reset your password, please contact our office.

As many of you have noticed, your annual bingo renewal is now asking you to submit a membership roster for your organization. The Constitution of Missouri, Article III, Section 39(a) (2) states in part that, "An organization must have twenty bona fide members to be considered to be in existence." Because some organizations have fallen below the 20 member mark, we are now requiring that a membership roster, complete with names and addresses of the paid current members, be submitted with your renewal. This roster should list ALL current members of your organization and is separate from your bingo worker list. Please ensure deceased members are not included on the list.

As the busiest season for special bingo games begins, please be reminded that Chapter 313.015.2 requires that a special bingo be held in conjunction with a fair, picnic, festival, or celebration not to exceed one week, and not to be held more than once annually. A bingo game, including cosmic bingo, cannot be the sole event for a special bingo license. Please keep this in mind when applying for a special bingo license.

In the past few months, we have taken several calls regarding unlicensed bingo games being held, both in restaurants and halls. Please keep in mind that any time there is a charge to play bingo, a license must be obtained by a qualified organization in order for the game to be legal. If your organization is approached about hosting a bingo fundraiser on your premises, it is your responsibility to make sure those holding the event have obtained the necessary license. If you have questions about the legality of a fundraiser, in order to protect your license, please contact our office prior to allowing the fundraiser to be conducted on your premises.

Should you have any questions please feel free to call our office toll free at 866-801-8643 or at (573) 526-5370.

Sincerely,

Barbara Whittle
Charitable Games Manager