

An addition to the NEW MEXICO BINGO AND RAFFLE ACT

60-2F-2. Purpose.

The purpose of the New Mexico Bingo and Raffle Act is to authorize and regulate certain games of chance by licensed nonprofit organizations.

History: Laws 2009, ch. 81, § 2.

60-2F-26. Exemptions.

A. Except as provided in Subsection B of this section, nothing in the New Mexico Bingo and Raffle Act shall be construed to apply to:

(2) a bingo or a raffle held by a qualified organization that holds no more than one bingo occasion or one raffle in any three consecutive calendar months and not exceeding four occasions in one calendar year.

(3) A Casino Night held by a qualified organization that holds no more than one Casino night in any three consecutive calendar months and not exceeding four occasions in one calendar year.

(a) The qualified organization shall apply for a permit no less than 10 days prior to the event from the Dept. of Gaming Control pursuant to 60-2F-10 or as determined by Gaming Control.

(b) If the venue for the Casino night is on a licensed premise, the license holder shall apply to Dept of A&G for a temporary suspension of license including a floorplan showing the specific gaming area where alcohol shall not be present, consumed or served.

60-2F-4. Definitions.

F. "Casino Night" A charity fund raising event held by a qualified organization in which games of chance involving the use of dice, playing cards, and mechanical wheels e.g. roulette and wheel of fortune, are used for entertainment. Donations are accepted by the qualified organization in return for chips or tokens to play these games, with no cash being returned to the players at any time during or after the event. Proceeds are to be used, after bona fide expenses pursuant to 60-2F-20, entirely for the charitable cause determined and advertised by the qualified organization. Winners may be awarded prizes, or, tokens or chips may be used to purchase prizes or to bid on auction items at the event. "Poker runs" and "Poker Tournaments" meeting these qualifications may also be permitted as Casino nights.

Y. "qualified organization" means a bona fide chartered branch, lodge or chapter of a national or state organization or any bona fide religious, charitable, environmental, fraternal, educational or veterans' organization operating without profit to its members that has been in existence in New Mexico continuously for a period of two years immediately prior to conducting a raffle or making an application for a license or permit under the New Mexico Bingo and Raffle Act and that has had a membership engaged in carrying out the objects of the corporation or organization. A voluntary firefighter's organization is a qualified organization and a labor organization is a qualified organization for the purposes of the New Mexico Bingo and Raffle Act if they use the proceeds from a game of chance solely for scholarship or charitable purposes;