

349.166 EXCLUSIONS; EXEMPTIONS.

Subdivision 1.Exclusions.

(a) Bingo, with the exception of linked bingo games, may be conducted without a license and without complying with sections [349.168](#), subdivisions 1 and 2; [349.17](#), subdivisions 4 and 5; [349.18, subdivision 1](#); and [349.19](#), if it is conducted:

(1) by an organization in connection with a county fair, the state fair, or a civic celebration and is not conducted for more than 12 consecutive days and is limited to no more than four separate applications for activities applied for and approved in a calendar year; or

(2) by an organization that conducts bingo on four or fewer days in a calendar year.

An organization that holds a license to conduct lawful gambling under this chapter may not conduct bingo under this subdivision.

(b) Bingo may be conducted within a nursing home or a senior citizen housing project or by a senior citizen organization if the prizes for a single bingo game do not exceed \$10, total prizes awarded at a single bingo occasion do not exceed \$200, only members of the organization or residents and their guests of the nursing home or housing project are allowed to play in a bingo game, no compensation is paid for any persons who conduct the bingo, and a manager is appointed to supervise the bingo. Bingo conducted under this paragraph is exempt from sections [349.11](#) to [349.23](#), and the board may not require an organization that conducts bingo under this paragraph, or the manager who supervises the bingo, to register or file a report with the board. The gross receipts from bingo conducted under the limitations of this subdivision are exempt from taxation under chapter 297A.

(c) Raffles may be conducted by an organization without registering with the board if the value of all raffle prizes awarded by the organization in a calendar year does not exceed \$1,500 or, if the organization is a 501(c)(3) organization, if the value of all raffle prizes awarded by the organization at one event in a calendar year does not exceed \$5,000.

(d) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the organization must maintain all required records of excluded gambling activity for 3-1/2 years.

349.17 CONDUCT OF BINGO.

Subdivision 1.

[Repealed, [2005 c 166 art 1 s 38](#)]

Subd. 2.Bingo.

During any bingo occasion conducted by an organization, the organization is directly responsible for the:

(1) staffing of the bingo occasion;

(2) conducting of lawful gambling during the bingo occasion;

(3) acquiring, storage, inventory control, and reporting of all gambling equipment used by the organization;

(4) receipt, accounting, and all expenditures of gross receipts from lawful gambling; and

(5) preparation of the bingo packets.

Subd. 2a. - [Repealed, [2002 c 386 art 1 s 12](#)]

Subd. 3. Winners.

Each bingo winner must be determined and every prize shall be awarded and delivered the same day on which the bingo occasion is conducted, except that payment for a progressive prize or a linked bingo prize must be delivered within three business days of the day on which the occasion was conducted.

Subd. 4. Checkers.

One or more checkers must be engaged for each bingo occasion when bingo is conducted using bingo hard cards. The checker or checkers must record, on a form the board provides, the number of hard cards played in each game and the prizes awarded to recorded hard cards. The form must provide for the inclusion of the face number of each winning hard card and must include a checker's certification that the figures recorded are correct to the best of the checker's knowledge.

Subd. 5. Bingo cards and sheets.

(a) The board shall by rule require that all licensed organizations: (1) conduct bingo only using a bingo paper sheet or facsimile of a bingo face that bears an individual number recorded by the distributor or linked bingo game provider; and (2) use each bingo paper sheet for no more than one bingo occasion. In lieu of the requirements of clause (2), a licensed organization may electronically record the sale of each bingo hard card or paper sheet at each bingo occasion using an electronic recording system approved by the board.

(b) The requirements of paragraph (a) shall only apply to a licensed organization that received gross receipts from bingo in excess of \$150,000 in the organization's last fiscal year.

(c) Each bingo hard card, bingo paper sheet, or a facsimile of a bingo paper sheet must have five horizontal rows of spaces with each row except one having five numbers. The center row must have four numbers and the center space marked "free." Each column must have one of the letters B-I-N-G-O in order at the top. Bingo paper sheets may also have numbers that are not preprinted but are filled in by players.

Subd. 6. Conduct of bingo.

A game of bingo begins with the first letter and number called. Each player must cover, mark, or activate the numbers when bingo numbers are randomly selected, announced, and displayed to the players, either manually or with a flashboard and

monitor. The game is won when a player, using bingo paper, bingo hard card, or a facsimile of a bingo paper sheet, has completed, as described in the bingo program, a previously designated pattern or previously determined requirements of the game and declared bingo. The game is completed when a winning card, sheet, or facsimile is verified and a prize awarded pursuant to subdivision 3.

Subd. 7. Bar bingo.

An organization may conduct bar bingo subject to the following restrictions:

(1) the bingo is conducted at a site the organization owns or leases and which has a license for the sale of intoxicating beverages on the premises under chapter 340A;

(2) the bingo is conducted using only bingo paper sheets or facsimiles of bingo paper sheets purchased from a licensed distributor or licensed linked bingo game provider; and

(3) no rent may be paid for a bar bingo occasion.

Subd. 8. Linked bingo games.

(a) A licensed organization may conduct or participate in not more than two linked bingo games per occasion, one of which may be a progressive game in which a portion of the prize is carried over from one occasion to another until won by a player achieving a bingo within a predetermined amount of bingo numbers called.

(b) Each participating licensed organization shall contribute to each prize awarded in a linked bingo game in an amount not to exceed \$300.

(c) An electronic bingo device as defined in section [349.12, subdivision 12a](#), may be used for a linked bingo game.

(d) The board may adopt rules to:

(1) specify the manner in which a linked bingo game must be played and how the linked bingo prizes must be awarded;

(2) specify the records to be maintained by a linked bingo game provider;

(3) require the submission of periodic reports by the linked bingo game provider and specify the content of the reports;

(4) establish the qualifications required to be licensed as a linked bingo game provider; and

(5) any other matter involving the operation of a linked bingo game.