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# STATE OF WISCONSIN OFFICE OF CHARITABLE GAMING

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



## ABOUT US

- Our mission is to protect the integrity of charitable gaming in Wisconsin through regulatory responsibilities that protect the public interest and protect the integrity of games of chance played in the state.

We are responsible for the licensing and regulation of raffles and bingos conducted by charitable organizations. We process over 12,500 raffle license applications and various reports for 370 licensed bingo organizations annually. Additionally, we perform on-site operational inspections of bingo events and initiate compliance audits of organizations conducting charitable gaming.

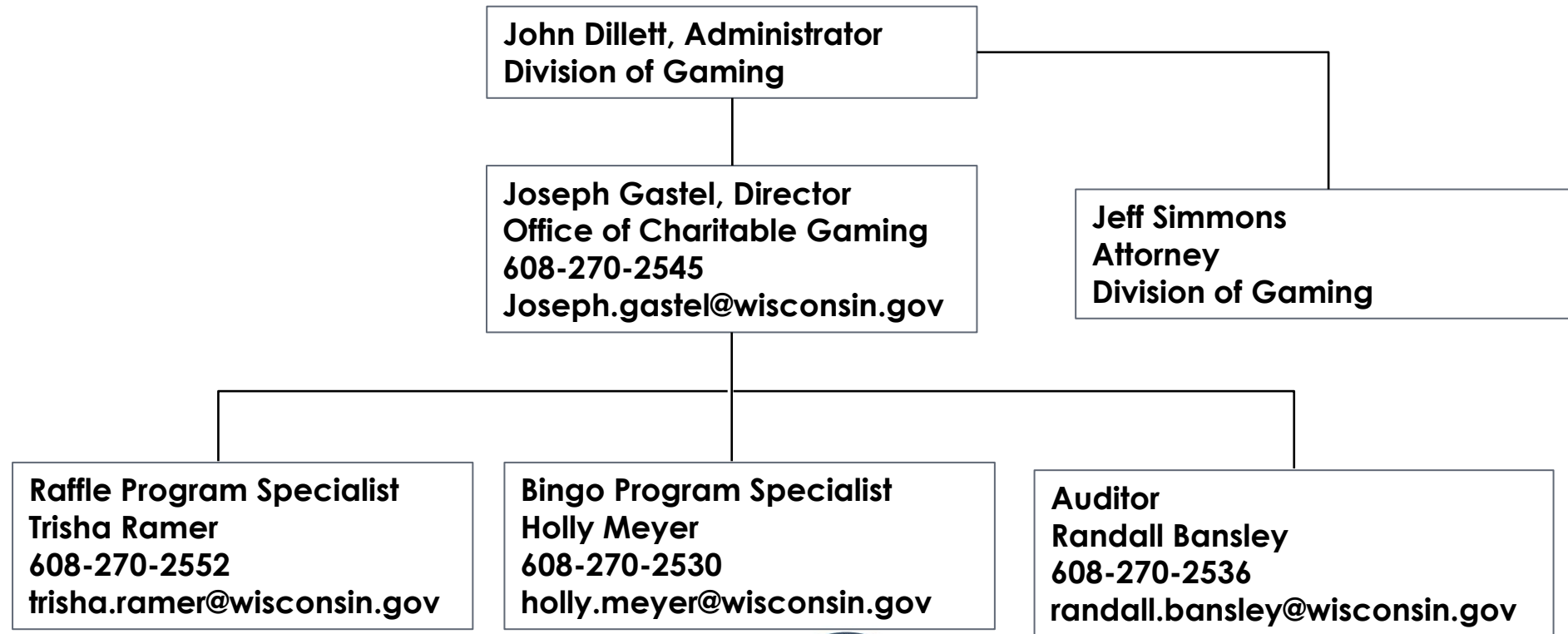


# INTRODUCTION

- From ratification in 1848 to 1965, the Wisconsin Constitution stipulated that “the legislature shall never authorize any lottery.”
- Between 1965-1987 four separate Constitutional amendments were made to modify the strict gambling prohibition.
  - 1965 - Promotional Contests
  - 1973 - Charitable Bingo Games
  - 1977 - Charitable Raffles
  - 1987 - State Lottery & Pari-Mutuel on-track betting



# DIVISION OF GAMING-OFFICE OF CHARITABLE GAMING



# WHO MAY QUALIFY FOR BINGO AND RAFFLE LICENSES

## Non-Profit Charitable Organizations

- ❖ Religious
- ❖ Fraternal
- ❖ Charitable
- ❖ Service
- ❖ Veteran
- ❖ 501c3



# WHO MAY QUALIFY FOR BINGO AND RAFFLE LICENSES

- **Must be in Existence:**
  - Raffle – 1 year
  - Bingo – 3 years



# WHO MAY NOT CONDUCT BINGOS & RAFFLES

- ❖ **Individuals or a group of Individuals**
- ❖ **Businesses**
- ❖ **Out of State/National Organizations**
- ❖ **Purely Social Groups**



# DEFINITION OF GAMBLING

1. Prize
2. Chance
3. Consideration

- All three elements must be present to meet definition





# LEGAL GAMBLING IN WISCONSIN

- ❖ **Bingo**
- ❖ **Raffle (includes duck races)**
- ❖ **State Lottery**
- ❖ **Pull Tabs**



# LEGAL GAMBLING IN WISCONSIN

- ❖ **Tribal Casinos**
- ❖ **Sports Betting (Tribal Casinos Only)**



# LEGAL GAMBLING IN WISCONSIN

**State Lottery & Pull Tabs are regulated by the Department of Revenue.**

**Tribal Casinos are regulated by the Division of Gaming – Office of Indian Gaming and Regulatory Compliance**



# ILLEGAL GAMBLING IN WISCONSIN

- ❖ Dice Games
- ❖ Paddle Wheels
- ❖ Texas Hold'em/Casino Nights
- ❖ Video Poker if you can win
- ❖ Poker Runs/Tournaments
- ❖ Queen of Hearts/Progressive Raffles
- ❖ Cow Pie Bingo



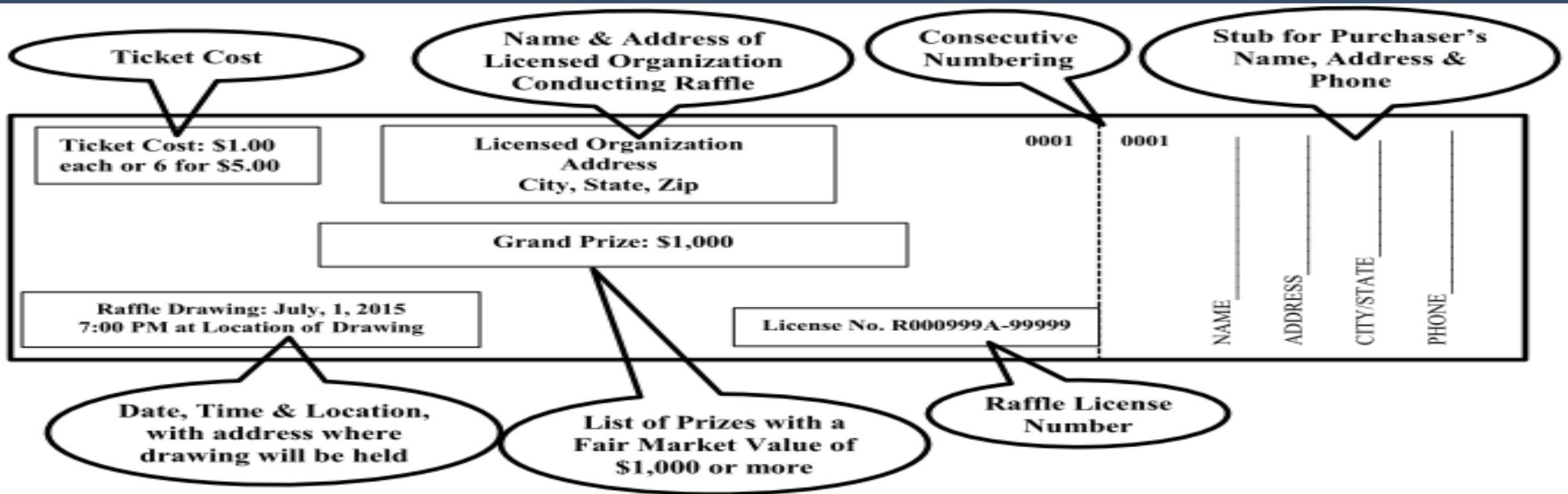
# CLASS “A” RAFFLE LICENSE

*TICKETS ARE SOLD IN ADVANCE OF THE DRAWING*

- ❖ **\$25 License Fee**
- ❖ **Up to 365 raffles per year**
- ❖ **No Limit on Ticket Price**
- ❖ **Class A raffle tickets can be sold up to one year before the date of the drawing.**



# CLASS "A" TICKET REQUIREMENTS



- All 7 elements are required



# CLASS “A” REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ All raffle drawings must be held in public
- ❖ Only organization can authorize someone to sell tickets
- ❖ Price of tickets & discounted price i.e., 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20
- ❖ Age or felony restrictions (alcohol/firearms)



# CLASS “A” COMMON ERRORS

- ❖ Incentives for sellers
- ❖ Early bird drawings
- ❖ Missing required information on tickets
- ❖ Tickets used for purposes other than a raffle





# CALENDAR RAFFLES

- ❖ **Require a class “A” license.**
- ❖ **Calendar format must be pre-approved by our office.**
- ❖ **Drawing must be held on the same date as prize listed on the calendar.**
- ❖ **One calendar raffle allowed per year.**



# CLASS “B” RAFFLE LICENSE

*TICKETS SOLD AND DRAWING HELD ON SAME DAY*

- ❖ **No Limit on Ticket Price**
- ❖ **Up to 365 per license year**
- ❖ **Identical in form and color**
- ❖ **Does not need to be consecutively numbered**
- ❖ **Drawings held in public**
- ❖ **Must be present to win\***
- ❖ **Drawing Location, Time & Prize pre-determined**



## APPLICATIONS AND RENEWALS KEY PERSON: DESIGNATED MEMBER

- **Designated Member (DM)**
- **The individual volunteering to be a contact person for raffles conducted by the organization. The individual answers questions concerning any renewal issues, or errors that happens during your raffles.**
- **DM area on report. The address and for the DM is your personal address, not the organization address**
- **They are required to be present during audits.**



## APPLICATIONS AND RENEWALS KEY PERSON: OTHER OFFICER

- **This individual commonly is the president, priest or individual in charge of the organization**
- **This individual serves as a secondary contact for the organization**
- **The address requested on the application and renewal is the individuals address, not the organizations address**
- **This has to be a different individual, DM cannot be Other Officer.**
- **It is suggested they attend any audits.**



# CLASS “B” COMMON ERRORS

- ❖ **Exceeding drawings/year limit**
- ❖ **Holding “B” raffles without a license**
- ❖ **Invalid ticket format**
- ❖ **Pre-Sales of Class B tickets**



# DUCK RACE RAFFLE

- ❖ Same as a traditional raffle except that winning tickets are determined by numbered rubber ducks crossing a pre-determined point in the water.
- ❖ Participants “adopt” a rubber duck by purchasing a raffle ticket numbered to correspond to a rubber duck.
- ❖ The ducks, all of equal size and shape, are dropped into a moving body of water and the first duck to cross the finish line wins (subsequent finishers may receive consolation prizes).
- ❖ See website for game requirements



# MAILING OF RAFFLE TICKETS

- ❖ Title 18, United States Code, Section 1301 & 1302 prohibits the mailing of raffle tickets, stubs, order forms, and money.
- ❖ This also includes private carriers (UPS, FedEx, etc.)
- ❖ For more information, visit <http://faq.usps.com> search “raffle”



# INTERNET SALES OF RAFFLE TICKETS

- ❖ Internet sales of raffle tickets is not permitted per state regulations.
- ❖ Wisconsin Statutes require pre-printed raffle tickets in which a purchaser enters their name and contact information on the stub.
- ❖ Title 18, United States Code, Section 1301 & 1302 prohibits the mailing of raffle tickets and stubs.





# RAFFLE CONTACT INFORMATION

**Trisha Ramer**  
**Charitable Gaming – Raffles**  
**PO Box 8979**  
**Madison, WI 53708**

**608-270-2552**

**800-791-6973**

**[trisha.ramer@wisconsin.gov](mailto:trisha.ramer@wisconsin.gov)**

**<https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/AboutDOA/Gaming.aspx>**



# BINGO

- ❖ All organizations conducting bingo games must be licensed by the division.
- ❖ Each bingo organization must maintain a segregated bingo checking account.
- ❖ Each licensed organization must file reports & pay occupational tax every 6 months.
- ❖ Each organization must have a sellers permit & collect sales tax from players.



# BINGO CONTINUED

- ❖ **All profits from operations must be used for proper and legitimate expenditures**
- ❖ **All bingo supplies & equipment must be purchased from a licensed supplier**
- ❖ **Only workers with no record of criminal activity can assist in the conduct of bingo**



# BINGO CONTACT INFORMATION

**Holly Meyer**  
**Charitable Gaming – Bingo**  
**PO Box 8979**  
**Madison, WI 53708**

**608-270-2530**

**800-791-6970**

**holly.meyer@wisconsin.gov**

**<https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/AboutDOA/Gaming.aspx>**



# AUDITS & INSPECTIONS

- ❖ OCG conducts routine audits of raffle & bingo licensees
- ❖ Compliance with statutes & rules
- ❖ Bingo Inspectors inspect bingo sessions throughout state



