

BINGO

THE GAMING ACT

SECTION 15:

For Bingo played occasionally, as an amusement at non-commercial entertainment such as bazaars, sales of work, fetes, dinners, dances sporting or other athletic events. The following conditions apply:

- ◆ The whole proceeds of the entertainment, after deducting expenses (including provision of prizes) must not be used for private gain.
- ◆ Bingo must not be the only, or the main reason for attending.
- ◆ there are no limits on stake money, charges to take part in the Bingo, or the value of prizes, which may be in cash or articles.

SECTION 40:

For Bingo as one of the activities of a club, (a group must not have gaming as its main aim) the following conditions apply.

- ◆ The group must have not less than 25 members and must have a constitution
- ◆ The charge for taking part in the playing (admission only) must not exceed 60p per day.
- ◆ There is no limit on stakes (card money), which must be returned to the players **IN FULL CASH PRIZES** on the game in which it is staked. Staked money, therefore, cannot be transferred from one game to another, nor can it be accumulated to provide jackpot or Snowball prizes.
- ◆ The play must be limited to Club members and signed in guests.
- ◆ Club Bingo must not be advertised to the public.

SECTION 41:

For Bingo as part of an entertainment or as the sole entertainment, played by a group the following conditions apply:

- ◆ Not more than one payment for the whole entertainment, to include entrance fee, ticket money to be made by each player the cost must not exceed £4.00.
- ◆ The total value of all prizes must not exceed £400.00.
- ◆ After the deduction of prize money and reasonable expenses all proceeds must be applied to purposes other than private gain.
- ◆ It is not necessary to return all the stake money taken from the purchase of bingo tickets to the players as prizes.
- ◆ Two or more entertainments promoted on the same premises, by the same person, the same day will be treated as one single entertainment.
- ◆ “Snowballs”: in a series of Bingo sessions, each session will count as a separate entertainment, but, in order to take part in the final session, when the total value of prizes may be increased players must have taken part in previous sessions in the series.
- ◆ There are no restrictions on advertising and members of the public may attend.

Links believes that this information is correct at the time of publication, however details may change. You are advised to contact Links for the up to date position and seek legal advice where appropriate.

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