



Victoria Government Gazette

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Gambling Regulation Act 2003

Section 8.4.2D

RULES OF BINGO

with effect from 11 November 2010

1. Application of the Rules of Bingo

- 1.1 The Rules are for the conduct of Bingo on behalf of declared Community and Charitable Organisations. The conduct of Bingo must comply with the **Gambling Regulation Act 2003** and the Gambling Regulation Regulations 2005.
- 1.2 Bingo is a game played in accordance with these Rules and can only be offered or played during periods notified to the Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation.
- 1.3 Numbers are randomly drawn and announced and players compete to match these on a ticket. Between 1 and up to 90 numbers inclusive will be drawn, dependent on the Type of Bingo being offered for play.
- 1.4 A copy of these Rules must be made available for players at any Bingo session.

2. Types of Bingo

- 2.1 A Type of Bingo is defined by the range of numbers available to be drawn and the format of the Bingo Ticket used.
 - 2.1.1 **Type 1** – Numbers between 1 and 90 are randomly drawn and announced.
 - 2.1.2 **Type 2** – Numbers between 1 and 80 are randomly drawn and announced.
 - 2.1.3 **Type 3** – Numbers between 1 and 75 are randomly drawn and announced.
- 2.2 Only one of the above Types may be played in each game of Bingo.

3. Bingo Versions

- 3.1 Within each Type of Bingo there can be several different Versions. Each Version must be differentiated by a specific pattern or stipulated amount of numbers that must be matched by a player on their Bingo ticket in order to win a game.
- 3.2 The Commission must be notified of each new Version in advance of its intended introduction and the new Version must not be offered to players until written confirmation is received that the Version has been noted.
- 3.3 Versions noted by the Commission will be placed on the Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation website for the use of all Community and Charitable Organisations or Bingo Center Operators without the need for further reference to the Commission.

4. Prizes

- 4.1 A Version of Bingo is won by the first player(s) to:
 - (a) (i) Have all the numbers in the predetermined pattern on his or her ticket announced by the Caller; and/or
 - (ii) Have the specified amount of numbers on his or her ticket announced by the Caller;
- AND
- (b) Call 'line' or 'pattern' or 'Bingo' or make an audible noise or have another person call 'line' or 'pattern' or 'Bingo' or make an audible noise on his or her behalf.
- 4.2 Two or more prizes may be awarded to correspond with playing more than one Version of Bingo in the same game.

SPECIAL

- 4.3 If two or more players win a Version of Bingo, they share the prize as joint winners.
- 4.4 If a player, on the announcement of a number which entitles the player to declare himself or herself a winner, fails to do so, the player is taken to have forfeited the prize in that game.
- 4.5 If a player incorrectly declares himself or herself a winner, that player is permitted to continue to play the Bingo game.
- 4.6 If an incorrect number is announced, that incorrect announcement, for the purpose of determining the winner of a Bingo game, is taken not to have been made.
- 4.7 Prize money won in a Bingo game conducted under these Rules must be paid at the end of each game.

5. Admission, Price of Tickets, Display of Notice

- 5.1 Players must be at least 18 years of age.
- 5.2 No charge may be made for admission to premises for the purpose of playing Bingo.
- 5.3 The Type and Version(s) of each game being played, including the range from which numbers will be drawn, must be conspicuously displayed:
 - (a) at the point of sale of Bingo tickets at the premises in which a session of Bingo games is conducted; and
 - (b) at some other place where it can be clearly observed in the area where the game is being conducted; or
 - (c) must be otherwise brought to the attention of players prior to the commencement of the game.
- 5.4 The price of Bingo tickets must be the same for each ticket in a game but may vary from game to game.
- 5.5 The Notice of Authorised Bingo Sessions issued by the VCGR and any written authority referred to under Regulation 67 must be conspicuously displayed at the entrance to premises in which a session of Bingo games is conducted.
- 5.6 The availability of electronic tickets, including whether manual and/or auto-marking functionality is available, is to be displayed on a notice at the point of sale of Bingo tickets.
- 5.7 The maximum number of electronic tickets permitted for sale to an individual for each game is to be determined by the Supervisor and displayed on a notice at the point of sale of Bingo tickets.

6. Duties of the Caller and the Supervisor

- 6.1 A person must be appointed a Caller and a person (pursuant to regulation 67, the responsible person) must be appointed as Supervisor for each Bingo game.
- 6.2 The Caller and the Supervisor must not participate as players during the Bingo game.
- 6.3 The Caller must:
 - (a) before the commencement of a session of Bingo:
 - (i) announce which Type of Bingo will be played;
 - (ii) announce that the call back of the numbers on the tickets can be caused by the Supervisor or another person in the presence of an independent player(s);
 - (iii) announce that it is a duty of the Supervisor to determine any disputes about the playing of Bingo;
 - (b) before the commencement of each Bingo game in a session of Bingo:
 - (i) announce the Version(s) of play in that game;

- (c) select from a set of numbers between, and including, 1 to 90 or 1 to 80 or 1 to 75 as clearly disclosed to players in accordance with rule 2:
 - (i) numbers using a random number generator; or
 - (ii) numbers from a receptacle containing 90 balls numbered 1 to 90 or 80 balls numbered 1 to 80 or 75 balls numbered 1 to 75;
 - (d) cause each selected number to be announced; and
 - (e) if numbers are being selected from a receptacle as specified in paragraph (c)(ii), hand the selected ball to the Supervisor.
- 6.4 The Supervisor must:
- (a) cause a visual representation of each selected number to be displayed in such a way that it is clearly visible to all players until the end of the game; and
 - (b) cause a visual representation of the serial numbers (if any) and the first and last ticket book numbers (if any) for the game to be displayed; and
 - (c) if the numbers are being selected from a receptacle as specified in sub-rule 6.3(c)(ii), check that the number has been correctly announced and place it on a rack which is clearly visible to all players until the end of the game; and
 - (d) determine any disputes about the playing of a game of Bingo that is played during any session he or she is supervising.
- 6.5 The Supervisor must determine the winner of the Bingo game by undertaking the following steps or by causing them to be undertaken by another person –
- (a) collecting the winning Bingo ticket from each player who has declared himself or herself to be the winner;
 - (b) confirming the serial number and ticket book number (if any), of the ticket;
 - (c) confirming that the ticket was sold for play in the relevant game; and
 - (d) verifying the numbers on the ticket against the numbers called in the presence of an independent player(s).
- 6.6 If the Caller or the Supervisor becomes aware that an error has been made in the calling or display of numbers he or she must immediately make an announcement correcting the error.
- 7. Jackpots**
- 7.1 Part of the gross receipts of one or more Bingo games in a session may be held in a jackpot pool for distribution as prize money:
- (a) in a later game in that session; or
 - (b) in a game in a later session in a rolling jackpot sequence.
- 7.2 Before the commencement of the first Bingo game in a session of Bingo games in respect of which a jackpot will operate, the Caller must notify –
- (a) the game or games in which some or all of the jackpot pool will be distributed and the method of distribution; and
 - (b) if the jackpot is part of a rolling jackpot, the date of the session from which the jackpot pool is carried forward and the balance carried forward from that session.
- 7.3 After the last Bingo game in a session of Bingo games in a rolling jackpot sequence, the Caller must announce:
- (a) the closing balance of the jackpot pool; and
 - (b) the time, date and place of the next session in the sequence.

8. Standards for Bingo Tickets

For the purposes of section 8.4.3(1) of the Act, the prescribed standards for Bingo tickets, other than Braille tickets in the form approved by the Commission, are –

- a) each Bingo ticket in a series must include:
 - (i) **Type 1** (1 to 90 numbers) – in a grid of three horizontal lines of five numbers each, a unique combination of 15 different numbers (between 1 and 90 inclusive); or
 - (ii) **Type 2** (1 to 80 numbers) – in a grid of four horizontal lines of four numbers each, a unique combination of 16 different numbers (between 1 and 80 inclusive); or
 - (iii) **Type 3** (1 to 75 numbers) – in a grid of five horizontal lines of five numbers each, where the central square is blank or identified as a ‘free’ number, a unique combination of 24 different numbers (between 1 and 75) inclusive; and
- b) must include a serial number identifying the series
- c) if a series of Bingo tickets is printed in books of consecutive games –
 - (i) the books must be consecutively numbered throughout the series; and
 - (ii) each game in the series must be printed on paper of a different colour from the four preceding games; and
- d) there must be a master book or master electronic table for the series, sufficient to identify each of the unique combinations referred to in Rule 8(a)(i), 8(a)(ii) or 8(a)(iii).

9. Standards for Random Number Generators

For the purposes of section 8.4.3(3) of the Act, the prescribed standards are –

- (a) capable of selecting a number at random from the numbers 1 to 90 inclusive or 1 to 80 inclusive or 1 to 75 inclusive and incapable of selecting numbers other than at random; and
 - (b) incapable, within a single Bingo game, of selecting the same number twice.
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