

ASSOCIATION OF CHARITABLE GAMES OF MISSOURI

BINGO CONVENTION FOR 2024

10/29/24

Sales Tax

House Bill No.1427 did not get out of committee last year. We need your representative to sign on to a new **House Bill 985**. The up-coming bill will have a new number. We will send the number out as soon as we get the information. Let your players know what this is about and encourage them to contact their representatives. This Sales tax just takes money that could go to charity. Start now to get in touch with your Representative to let them know the subject: Repeal of Bingo Taxes. Note: you are **ADVOCATING Not LOBBYING**. Lobbyist must be registered by law.



Lynn Ash is the President of the ACGM.

Barbara Whittle's Session

Barbara is a manager with the Missouri Gaming Commission, Bingo Division.

Barbara's Email:

Barbara.Whittle@mfc.dp.s.mo.gov

She was present to advise of any up coming changes and to answer any questions member might have regarding their Bingo halls.

One question had to do with changes to the number of members that can attend the convention. Currently three people can attend the convention each year. She thinks the number has changed to at least four people being able to attend. As soon as she gets the updated information she will get that number out to the bingo halls.

There was a question regarding the audits that the bingo commission completes

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on each hall. Barbara explained that there are four staff members in her section and 162 active organizations that they must audit, and on the average they get to each organization about every 18 months. She went on to say that whereas 18 months is the average, there are a number of reasons an organization could be audited prior to the average 18 months. She gave several examples. For instance if they get a quarterly report where you are \$418. Short for January, \$312. Over for February and \$6.08 to the good in March they will have questions for you, but if you send in two reports in a row like that they will be visiting you. Another reason for a visit would be if they have received a number of complaints regarding your organization, they will make a visit.

When the auditors are not out visiting you or writing you nice little letters, they are reviewing every single report, whether you file on line or you file using paper. As a side note she stated that as long as you file on time it does not matter if it is on line or by paper. They look at

your numbers and all your checks. If your reports are continuing to get further off they will visit you.

She said the one complaint that they get most often is that they are cheating. She will ask what are they doing? How are they cheating? What did you see and who is involved? "Well I feel like." They do not investigate feelings, however, if they say this man who was the caller, I watched him play pull tabs while he called Bingo. They can go look for that, that is not a feeling. There is a complaint form available to the Bingo organization and the public. The complaint can be anonymous if that is what you want. They do have a highway patrolman that will take over in the event that it is a criminal investigation and they have done that in the past.

How long before the start of Bingo can you sell pull tabs? This is found in the code of state regulations and it says three (3) hours prior to the start of the first game.

What to do with pull tabs that you do not sell? There are several options, The answer is in the same code of

regulations that addressed how long before Bingo you can sell pull tabs. The first thing we are going to recommend that you do with event tickets if you plan to stop selling them or if you are going to cease playing bingo, do not. If you have not opened them, return them to the seller, So this is for pull tabs only. The remaining pull tabs you can sell at a discounted price, either individually or in bundles. So, If you have dollar tickets you can bundle in tens and sell for five dollars, Just make sure you keep track on your occasion report what discount you offered.

That way you can get rid of them before you close up completely. You can offer them as a free promotion in accordance with the regulations.



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**Association of Charitable
Games of Missouri next
Annual Convention
August 22-23, 2025**



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