



INTEROFFICE MEMO

Gary Grief, Executive Director LaDonna Castañuela, Charitable Bingo Operations Director

To: Robert G. Rivera, Chairman
Cindy Fields, Commissioner
Mark A. Franz, Commissioner
Erik C. Saenz, Commissioner
Jamey Steen, Commissioner

From: Tyler Vance, Assistant General Counsel *TV*

Date: August 11, 2022

Re: Consideration of and possible discussion and/or action on the June 22, 2022 request of Red Men Tribe 14 Tonkawa for a bingo advisory opinion regarding whether certain bingo games are authorized under the Bingo Enabling Act and Charitable Bingo Administrative Rules

The Legal Services Division and Charitable Bingo Operations Division would like to discuss the attached request for a Bingo Advisory Opinion and seek direction from the Commission.

June 22, 2022

Advisory Opinion
Charitable Bingo Operations Division
Texas Lottery Commission
P.O. Box 16630
Austin, Texas 78761-6630

Via email: Advisory.Opinion@lottery.state.tx.us

Dear Charitable Bingo Operations Director:

On behalf of Red Men Tribe 14 Tonkawa, a licensed authorized organization to conduct charitable bingo, I request a Bingo Advisory Opinion (“BAO”) under Occupations Code, Section 2001.059 on the following questions. Please accept this Request in lieu of the June 7, 2022 Request that was submitted June 8, 2022.

QUESTIONS:

Do the Bingo Enabling Act and Charitable Bingo Administrative Rules authorize the following bingo games as described herein? If these bingo games are authorized, how is the prize amount determined? If the prize amount for each game is \$50, is the total prize amount for the multiple games exempt from the cap of \$2,500 for the total aggregate amount of prizes that may be awarded for regular bingo games during a single bingo occasion? If the prize amount for each game is \$50, is the bingo prize amount for each game exempt from the cap of \$750 for a single bingo game?

Game Description for Play on a Card-minding Device

A player purchases multiple electronic bingo cards for play of multiple games on a card-minding device. The electronic bingo cards are identical. The caller draws the balls and calls the numbers. The bingo cards are all played at the same time. The prize amount for each game is \$50. If a player “bingo’s” on a bingo card, the caller verifies the bingo. The winning electronic bingo card is printed. The caller closes the 1st game and then goes to the next game and repeats the process. Since the electronic bingo cards purchased by the player are identical, the same player wins for each one of the multiple electronic bingo cards. The player is paid for all the games at the same time.

For example, a player purchases one card each for 20 games (20 identical cards), the player "bingo's", and the prize amount for each game is \$50. The player receives \$1,000 (\$950 after the 5% prize fee is deducted for each of the 20 winning cards).

Game Description for Play on Bingo Paper

A player purchases multiple sheets of disposable bingo paper that are stapled together. Each sheet is identical in terms of the face or faces. The caller draws the balls and calls the numbers. The bingo sheets are all played at the same time. The prize amount for each game is \$50. If a player "bingo's" on a bingo face, the caller verifies the bingo. The caller closes the 1st game, the 1st sheet, and then goes to the next game and repeats the process. Since the sheets purchased by the player have identical faces, the same player wins for each one of the sheets. The player is paid for all the sheets at the same time.

For example, a player purchases one sheet each for 20 games (20 sheets with identical faces), the player "bingo's", and the prize amount for each game is \$50. The player receives \$1,000 (\$950 after the 5% prize fee is deducted for each of the 20 winning cards).

Please let me know if you have any questions or require additional information in connection with this request for a Bingo Advisory Opinion. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jimmy Gaskin", written over a horizontal line.

Jimmy Gaskin

Bingo Chairperson

Red Men Tribe 14 Tonkawa