



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 20, 2020

Media Contact | Max Hartgraves

602.255.3802 | [mhartgraves@azgaming.gov](mailto:mhartgraves@azgaming.gov)

### Bingo & Raffles: Do You Know What's Legal?

PHOENIX – In several states across the country, individuals may see forms of gambling being offered online. However, in the State of Arizona, **all forms** of online gambling are illegal. That said, other forms of gambling in the State are legal, including bingo and raffles. Both provide legal methods for charitable organizations to raise funds, though there are different restrictions and requirements that organizations need to follow if they want to host a bingo or raffle event legally.

#### Bingo

Bingo is legal in the State of Arizona, both for recreational purposes or to allow certain types of nonprofit organizations to generate funds to support their activities. To legally host a bingo event, an organization must be licensed by the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR). Additionally, there are specific bingo rules that have to be followed when conducting a bingo game. Questions? You can call (602) 716-7801, email [bingo@azdor.gov](mailto:bingo@azdor.gov), or visit <https://bit.ly/BingoinAZ> for more information.

#### Raffles

While ADOR regulates bingo, no state agency regulates raffles. Raffles in Arizona can only be conducted by an organization that has qualified for an exemption from taxation of income under section 501 of the internal revenue code and has been continuously in existence for a five-year period immediately before conducting a raffle. Additionally, raffles should be registered with the Attorney General's office.

There are also a few other rules and requirements relating to the management, sales and operation of a raffle that a charitable organization needs to follow to conduct a raffle in Arizona legally. You can learn more by taking the charitable raffle quiz on the Arizona Department of Gaming website: <http://bit.ly/charitableraffle>

ADG takes complaints about illegal gambling seriously. If you have a tip concerning suspected illegal gambling, please contact us at (602) 771-4263.

**Please note, this information is not intended to provide legal advice, and it is recommended to obtain independent legal advice to assure compliance with the law.**

#### About ADG

Established by the Arizona State Legislature in 1995, ADG is the state regulatory agency for [tribal gaming](#), [racing and pari-mutuel/simulcast wagering](#), and [unarmed combat sports](#). ADG also provides and supports education, prevention and treatment programs for people and families affected by problem gambling through its [Division of Problem Gambling](#) and 24-hour confidential helpline, 1-800-NEXT-STEP.

###