

# WELCOME TO THE TAVERN GAMING INFORMATIONAL SESSION

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**pennsylvania**  
LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD

# Your Packet Includes

- Draft applications
- Frequently asked questions
- Brochure with contact information
- Copy of this presentation

# Act 90 of 2013

- Allows certain alcoholic beverage licensees to apply for a license to conduct “tavern games”
- Signed into law on Nov. 27, 2013
- Most provisions did not go into effect until Jan. 27, 2014
- Application process is based on this law

# What is a Tavern Game?

- Pull-tab games
- Daily drawings
- Tavern raffles (games must be, in part, for a charitable or public purpose)

# Who CAN apply?

First, the municipality where a licensee is located must have authorized Small Games of Chance (review the list [here](#))

Then, applicants for a Tavern Gaming License must hold an active and current:

- Restaurant liquor license (this includes specialized licenses such as PAF, PGR, AR, etc.)
- Hotel liquor license
- Privately-Owned Public Golf Course liquor license
- Brewery Pub license

# Who CANNOT apply?

- Eating Place Retail Dispenser licensees (“E” license type)
- Club and Catering Club licensees (“C”, “CC” and “O” license types)
- Limited Winery (“LK”) and Limited Distillery (“AL”) licensees
- Grocery stores (most hold an “R” license)
- Casinos (most hold an “R” license)
- Venues that hold professional sporting events
- Any licensee that operates in a municipality that has not approved Small Games of Chance
- Locations declared nuisances under Section 611 of the Liquor Code
- Licensees whose liquor license is in safekeeping
- Licensees whose liquor license locations have been objected to by the PLCB Bureau of Licensing
- Individuals convicted of a felony offense or a misdemeanor gambling offense in any jurisdiction within the last 15 years
- Locations that sell liquid fuels

# Cost of a Tavern Gaming License

- Nonrefundable application fee: \$2,000 (\$1,000 to PLCB; \$1,000 to Gaming Control Board)
  - Payment can be made in PLCB+ via credit card or automated clearing house (ACH)
  - Cash is not accepted
- Upon approval, the licensee must pay an additional \$500 fee before the license is issued
- Annual renewal fee: \$1,000



# About the Tavern Gaming License

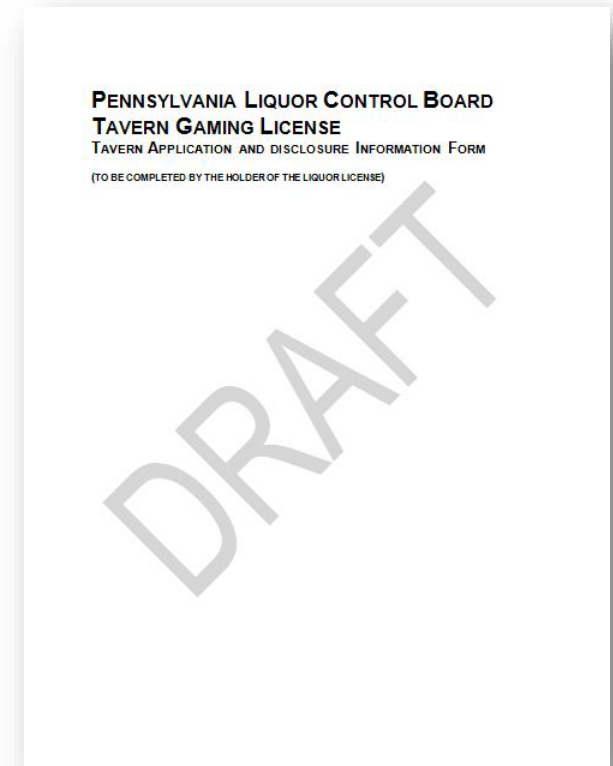
- Non-transferrable
- No security interest may be placed on a license
- Must be renewed annually

# Application Process

- Review the [Tavern Gaming License Application Packet Instructions](#), complete the last page and initial all pages to indicate review and consent.
- Complete the [Tavern Application and Disclosure Information Form](#)
- Complete the [Entity Application and Disclosure Form](#)
- Complete the [Individual Application and Disclosure Information Form](#)
- Follow the [How to Apply for a Tavern Gaming License on PLCB+](#) instructions

# Tavern Application & Disclosure Form

- Must be in the same name as whoever or whatever holds the liquor license
- Must include a current ownership and management table of organization, including ownership percentages totaling 100%

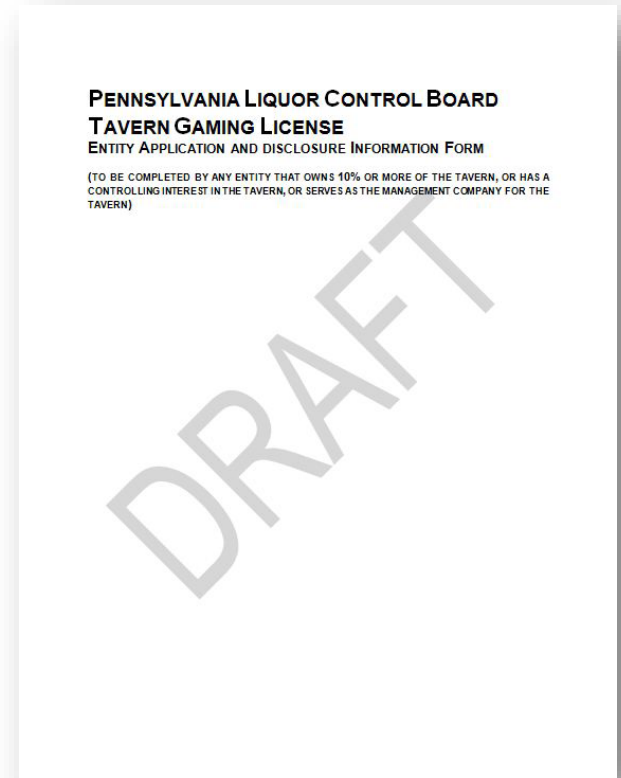


# Entity Application & Disclosure Form

Must be completed for any entity that:

- Owns 10% or more of the licensee
- Has a controlling interest (the power or authority to manage, direct, govern, administer or oversee) the operation of a licensed business
- Serves as the management company

Application must include a current ownership and management table of organization, including ownership percentages totaling 100%



# Individual Application & Disclosure Form

For every individual that:

- Serves as an officer (president, treasurer, secretary, chief executive officer, chief financial officer, chief operating officer and manager)
- Owns 10% or more of the licensee
- Has a controlling interest (the power or authority to manage, direct, govern, administer or oversee)
- Serves as management
- Holds the liquor license

**PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD  
TAVERN GAMING LICENSE  
INDIVIDUAL APPLICATION AND DISCLOSURE INFORMATION FORM**

(TO BE COMPLETED BY ANY INDIVIDUAL THAT SERVES AS AN OFFICER OF THE TAVERN, OR OWNS 10% OR MORE OF THE TAVERN, OR HAS A CONTROLLING INTEREST IN THE TAVERN)

DRAFT

# Individual Application & Disclosure Form (Cont'd)

Each application must include for the individual:

- Copy of their Social Security card
- Copy of their driver's license or of another government-issued photo ID as set forth in Section 495 of the Liquor Code
- Photograph
  - 1.5" square, matte finish, unmounted
  - Must bear the name of the individual, applicant's liquor license and LID numbers and the address of the licensed premises
  - Must be taken within 60 days of application submission
- Original Criminal History Summary from the FBI

# Federal Tax Return

The most recent federal tax return filed by the holder of the liquor license

## IRS Form 4506-T

- Authorizes the release of transcripts of previous federal tax returns
- Must be completed for the most recent federal tax return
- Completed by the holder of the liquor license
- Free of charge

# Completing the Applications

- Read each question carefully before answering
- Entries must be typed
- Answer every question. Do not leave blank spaces. If a question does not apply, type “Does not apply”
- Some parts may seem redundant; make sure to answer every question
- All pages – including the application instructions, which also must be returned – must be initialed by the person supplying the information
- Additional pages may be used and attached. Indicate the number of the question being answered on each page



## Completing the Applications (cont'd)

- All required documentation must be submitted with the forms
- Applicant must promptly notify the PLCB and/or the Gaming Control Board if any information provided changes
- Refusal to provide information required during the background investigation will result in immediate denial of a Tavern Gaming License
- Failure to completely and truthfully answer any question will be cause for denial of the application and may subject you to criminal penalties

# How long the process takes depends on...

- Completeness of the application
- Truthfulness of the application
- Complexity of the background investigation
- Payment of fees, including investigation fees

# Quick Review

- Tavern Gaming Licenses are only allowed for certain types of alcoholic beverage licensees located within municipalities that allow Small Games of Chance
- Will cost at least \$2,500 to obtain, \$2,000 of which is a non-refundable application fee
- Applications must be completed truthfully and comprehensively
- How long it takes to obtain a license varies by applicant



**pennsylvania**  
GAMING CONTROL BOARD

# The Bureau Of Investigations And Enforcement

WE ARE:

***A branch of the PA Gaming Control Board*** which has been conducting background investigations for casino gaming licenses since 2005.

***Aware of the need for timeliness*** to enable a decision to be made on your license in as swift of a time as possible...*however, we are also...*

***Thorough.*** The BIE won't sacrifice quality for time. The more complete and forthright you are in your application, the more swift we can finish our work.

# The Bureau Of Investigations And Enforcement

WE ARE NOT:

***A law enforcement agency.*** Our role is to verify your submitted information and provide any additional information so the PLCB can determine suitability for licensure.

***The licensing entity of tavern games.*** That is the role of the PLCB, so all questions during the licensing process should be addressed to that agency.

***Your enemy.*** We also want the process to be as seamless as possible. Thus, the importance of providing complete, accurate and legible information in your application.



# What Is Required Of Applicant?

There is an upfront cost for the background check:

- **Non-refundable \$1,000 – must be paid before background can begin.**
- The scope of the investigation is determined by BIE.
- There could be a request for additional cost reimbursement if more time, including a need for an in-person meeting with the applicant is required.
- **There will be no surprises.** You will be notified ahead of time of any anticipated additional costs.

The Tavern Gaming Act calls for BIE to look at:

**Criminal History**

**Regulatory History**

**Financial Suitability**



# Criminal History Key Points

You must submit to **fingerprinting**.

You must obtain an **FBI Criminal History Summary**.

**All criminal offenses** will be investigated.

There is an automatic **suitability ban for convictions**.

**15 year ban** from date of conviction for felony  
and misdemeanor gambling offense convictions

A lack of **full disclosure** will elongate the process  
and may hinder or adversely affect suitability.



## Regulatory History Key Points

We will review the last five years of your regulatory history including your liquor license.

We will look at records regarding unemployment compensation and workers compensation from the PA Department of Labor and Industry.

## Financial Suitability Key Points

Your suitability report will include information on **your taxes** from:

PA Department of Revenue

Internal Revenue Service

We will obtain and review a **credit report** to gain information on possible liens, judgments & bankruptcies.



**pennsylvania**

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

# Small Games of Chance

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STATE AND HOST MUNICIPALITY TAX  
OBLIGATIONS RELATING TO TAVERNS



# W-2 Forms

- Under federal law, taverns must report a payment of SGOC winnings via W-2G when the amount paid is:
  - \$600 or more, and
  - at least 300 times the amount of the wager.
- A copy of each W-2G must be provided to the Department of Revenue and the IRS.
- Additional information and W-2G forms are available at <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Form-W-2G,-Certain-Gambling-Winnings>.
- While SGOC prizes are subject to PA personal income tax, taverns have no obligation to withhold the tax from the prize.



# Tavern Games Tax Rates

- **State Tax:** 60 percent of net revenue from tavern games, which include pull-tabs, tavern daily drawings and tavern raffles.
- **Host Municipality Tax:** 5 percent of net revenue from tavern games
- Both taxes are remitted to the Department of Revenue; distributors and taverns have tax roles.
- Taverns offering SGOC will be required to electronically file quarterly returns with the department.



# Tavern Games Tax Obligations Vary By Game

## **Pull-Tabs:**

- For games purchased from a licensed distributor (pull-tabs), a tavern will pay tavern tax to the distributor, and the distributor will remit the tax.
- Pull-tabs are subject to the 65 percent state/ municipality tavern tax, as well as sales tax, which is 6 percent of the cost of the pull-tabs (additional 1 percent local sales tax in Allegheny County and 2 percent local sales tax in Philadelphia).



# Tavern Games Tax Obligations Vary By Game

## Pull-Tabs:

- A tavern should keep records regarding tavern tax paid to distributors to facilitate quarterly and annual reporting.
- Taverns that sell only pull-tabs will file quarterly tavern tax returns indicating tax paid to distributors on pull tabs and zero tax obligation for tavern daily drawings and raffles.
- A list of licensed distributors can be found on the department's website:  
[www.revenue.pa.gov/TaxTypes/SGOC/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.revenue.pa.gov/TaxTypes/SGOC/Pages/default.aspx)



# Tavern Games Tax Obligations Vary By Game

## Tavern Daily Drawings and Tavern Raffles:

- State and municipality tavern tax on daily drawings is 65 percent of net revenue, or 65 percent of what's left after paying prizes and the cost of the game.
- Tavern tax on tavern raffles, which may be conducted up to once monthly for charity, is 65 percent of what's left after paying prizes, game costs and donating half of proceeds to a designated charity.
- ***Taverns are responsible for collecting the state/host municipality tavern tax on these games and paying and reporting those taxes quarterly.***





# Tavern Tax Examples

## Tavern Daily Drawing Examples:

1. Tavern sells \$1 tickets for a prize equaling 100 percent of ticket sales. In such case, there is no net revenue and therefore no tavern tax due.  
***Note prize cap is always \$2,000.***
2. Tavern sells \$1 tickets for a prize of 50 percent of ticket sales, prize not to exceed \$2,000. Tavern sells 5,000 tickets for gross revenue of \$5,000
  - Winner gets \$2,000; cost of game is \$50; net revenue is \$2,950.
  - Tavern tax is imposed on \$2,950: state tax of \$1,770 (60 percent of \$2,950) and municipality tax of \$147.50 (5 percent of \$2,950).



# Tavern Tax Examples

## Tavern Raffle Example:

Tavern sells \$1 raffle tickets to benefit the local food bank. One winner will receive \$400. 1,000 tickets are sold over a course of the month for total gross revenue of \$1,000.

- Winner gets \$400; raffle ticket printing costs total \$10; net revenue is \$590.
- At least \$295, or 50 percent of the remaining \$590, must be given to the food bank.
- Tavern tax is imposed on what remains: state tax of \$177 (60 percent of \$295) and host municipality tax of \$14.75 (5 percent of \$295).



# Eligible Tavern Game Costs

Deductible game costs are:

- Cost to purchase the game
- Cost to purchase materials to make the game

Other costs are NOT deductible, for example:

- Labor or wages of employees selling tickets
- Regular tavern operating expenses
- Taxes paid relating to tavern operation
- Advertising for game events



# Tavern Registration With Dept. Of Revenue

- The Department of Revenue does not license taverns for tavern gaming; questions regarding applying to become licensed to sell tavern games should be directed to the PLCB.
- Once the department receives notice from the LCB that a tavern is licensed to sell tavern games, the department will send the tavern notification of filing and reporting requirements for tavern taxes.
- Taverns will be required to file and pay tavern games tax using the LID number issued by the PLCB.



# Taverns' SGOC Tax Filing Requirements

- Quarterly returns must be filed to report/pay tax on tavern daily drawings and tavern raffles, as well as to report tavern tax paid to distributors for pull-tabs purchased in that quarter.
- Electronic filing system in development; will be available at [www.revenue.pa.gov/TaxTypes/SGOC/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.revenue.pa.gov/TaxTypes/SGOC/Pages/default.aspx) by March 20.
- Returns due on the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month following the close of each calendar quarter: April 20, July 20, October 20 and January 20.
- ***A tavern must file quarterly returns with the department so long as it maintains a tavern gaming license, regardless of SGOC activity.***



# Taverns' SGOc Tax Filing Requirements

- Tavern will need the following to file tavern tax returns:  
LID #, FEIN/SSN, Sales Tax Account ID, County and Municipality of location, net revenue for tavern daily drawings, net revenue for tavern raffles and amount of tax paid to distributors for pull-tabs.
- A spreadsheet to assist with record-keeping will be made available within the electronic filing system for download.
- Along with the fourth quarter return due Jan. 20, a tavern must complete an annual report.



# Taverns' Annual Reporting Requirements

Taverns will have to complete an annual report in paper form that will require information itemized by week and game type regarding:

- **Pull-tabs:** number of W-2Gs, gross winnings reported from W2-Gs, total gross revenue, total payable prizes, total net revenue, state/municipality tavern tax
- **Tavern daily drawings & tavern raffles:** Type of game, number of W-2Gs, gross winnings reported from W2-Gs, total gross revenue, total prizes paid, total net revenue, total amount donated (raffles) and state/municipality tavern tax



# SGOC Tax Information For Taverns

[www.revenue.pa.gov/TaxTypes/SGOC/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.revenue.pa.gov/TaxTypes/SGOC/Pages/default.aspx)

- Listing of licensed pull-tab distributors
- Tax filing system, when completed
- Annual reporting form, when completed
- Informational resources
- Contact information







**pennsylvania**

STATE POLICE

BUREAU OF LIQUOR CONTROL ENFORCEMENT

# Tavern Gaming

The information being provided in this presentation is based upon the Bureau's interpretation of the statute. Like many new laws, they are subject to interpretation and further clarification by the courts going forward as well as regulations promulgated by the Department of Revenue.



# Overview

- Operations of Games
- Prize Limits
- Discussion of Individual Games
- Records



# Tavern Gaming

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## OPERATION OF GAMES



# Operation Of Games

## PERMITTED TAVERN GAMES

- The Act is very specific as to the games of chance that licensed “Taverns” are permitted to operate.
- They are:
  - Pull-Tabs
  - Tavern Raffles
  - Daily Drawings



# Operation Of Games (cont'd)

## PROHIBITED PERSONS:

- It is unlawful for an individual under 21 years of age to play or attempt to play or otherwise participate in a tavern game. [§914(5)]
- It is unlawful for a licensee to permit an employee under 18 to operate Tavern Games. [§914(6)]
- No one visibly intoxicated may purchase or sell a chance. [R&R § 901.731(a)]



# Operation Of Games (cont'd)

## PROHIBITED PERSONS (CON'T):

- It shall be unlawful for an owner or officer of a licensee or for an employee of the licensee who operates the tavern game to participate in the game [§914(8)]
  - This does not apply to a raffle.
  - Interpretation of subsection 914(8):

The apparent intent of this subsection of the Act is to prohibit persons with inside knowledge, influence or control of a game from participating in that game in an effort to prevent any fraudulent or criminal activities.



# Operation Of Games (cont'd)

## PROHIBITED PERSONS (CON'T):

- Interpretation of subsection 914(8) (CONTINUED):
  - As the subsection includes the phrase, “the game of chance” and not “games of chance”, for purposes of this subsection, the phrase “operates the game of chance” is interpreted to include the following activities related to a particular game of chance:
    - the selling of chances.
    - collection of money
    - paying winners
    - note-taking or recording of information (winners, payouts, etc of the individual game)
    - involvement in the process of selecting a winner.





# Operation Of Games (cont'd)

## PROHIBITED PERSONS (CON'T):

- It is unlawful for an owner, officer or employee of a licensee to sell, operate or otherwise participate in the conduct of tavern games if the employee has been convicted in any jurisdiction within the past 15 years of:
  - Any felony.
  - A misdemeanor gambling offense.
    - Pool selling / Bookmaking
    - Video Poker / Slots



# Tavern Gaming

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## PRIZE LIMITS



# Prize Limits

- General Prize limits – Prizes awarded in tavern games may not exceed:
  - \$2,000 for single chance.
  - \$35,000 in a seven-day period.



# Prize Limits (cont'd)

All prizes awarded are included in 7 day prize totals. E.g.:

- Pull-tabs prizes regardless of amount.
  - The value of winning Pull-tab plays redeemed for additional plays are included.
- Tavern Raffle prizes.
- Daily Drawing prizes.



## Prize Limits (cont'd)

All prizes awarded are included when calculating 7 day totals. There are **NO** exceptions for “Tavern Games” as there are for games operated by eligible organizations.



# Tavern Daily Drawings

## TAVERN DAILY DRAWING DEFINED

A game in which:

- an individual at a tavern selects or is assigned a number for a chance at a prize with the winner determined by random drawing to take place at the tavern during the same operating day;
- a winner may be determined with the aid of a passive selection device or utilizing a state lottery drawing;
- chances are not sold for an amount in excess of \$1;and
- no more than one chance per individual is sold per drawing.



# Tavern Daily Drawings (cont'd)

## KEY PROVISIONS:

- May only be sold on the licensed premises.
- No more than \$1 per chance.
- No more than one chance per individual in each drawing.
- Drawing **MUST** be conducted during same operating day in which chances were sold.
  - May **NOT** begin selling for next drawing until the next operating day.
- No requirement that person be present to win.



# Tavern Daily Drawings (cont'd)

## OPERATION:

- Within the definition contained in the Act, there are numerous ways a “Tavern Daily Drawing” may be conducted.
- Licensees must determine the manner in which they will operate their drawing and develop rules for the game that comply with the Act. [R&R §901.783]
- The rules of the game must be prominently displayed.





# Tavern Daily Drawings (cont'd)

Tavern Daily Drawing prize limits:

- May not exceed \$2,000 per chance.
- Prizes are added when calculating \$35,000 / 7-day prize limit.

Tavern Daily Drawings **MUST** be structured as to not exceed prize limits.



# Tavern Daily Drawings (cont'd)

## TAVERN DAILY DRAWING PRIZE LIMITS :

When utilizing the daily number to arrive at a winner, it is important that the rules of the game have a provision for an alternative method of selecting a winner to ensure the individual prize limit is not exceeded.



# Tavern Daily Drawings (cont'd)

TAVERN DAILY DRAWING RULES SHOULD INCLUDE AT A MINIMUM:

- Method of arriving at a winner.
- Payout percentage.
- Time of drawing.
- Posting of winning number / individual.
  - Method and time frames.
- Awarding of prizes.
  - Unclaimed prizes.



# Pull-Tabs

- A pull-tab deal must comply with the following:
  - Must be purchased from licensed distributor.
  - Minimum 65% payout.
  - Prize for individual pull-tab may not exceed \$2,000.
  - Flare provided by manufacturer must be unaltered and on display.
  - No more than 4,000 pull-tabs per deal.
  - Only one flare displayed per deal.
  - Winners and prizes must be predetermined by the manufacturer.



# Pull-Tabs (cont'd)

- Winning pull-tabs are to be perforated, punched or marked when redeemed.
- Tip Boards are a form of pull-tab
  - Must meet all requirements for pull-tabs.
  - Prizes must be predetermined by manufacturer.



# Tavern Raffle

## DEFINITION:

A raffle held in part for a charitable or public purpose that must comply with the following:

- No more than one tavern raffle may be held in a calendar month.
- A tavern raffle must be held for a designated charitable purpose and each individual participating must be informed of the charitable purpose involved.
- At least 50% of the proceeds \* from the tavern raffle shall be provided to the designated charity within seven days of the completion of the tavern raffle.
- Funds not given to the designated charity are subject to rules for the distribution of net revenue.

**MEND-A-HEART RAFFLE**  
TO BENEFIT  
CARDIAC PATIENTS  
AND PROGRAMS

FIRST PRIZE ..... \$1,000.00  
SECOND PRIZE ..... 500.00  
THIRD PRIZE ..... 250.00

DRAWING, SUNDAY, FEB. 6, 2010  
donation \$2.00 - 5 for \$8.00

6455

6455

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Tavern Raffle (cont'd)

Tavern Raffle tickets must comply with the following printing requirements:

- Tickets must be sequentially numbered and have a detachable stub with the same number.
- The stub must contain the purchaser's name address and phone number.
- The portion the purchaser retains must contain:
  - The date time and location of drawing
  - The name of the licensee
  - SGOC license number
  - Must list the cost of the ticket and the available prizes.



## Tavern Raffle (cont'd)

- There must be a winner for every prize in a raffle.
- Drawing must be conducted in plain view of players present.
  - Use of state lottery number is permissible:
    - Only when tickets sales equal the total possible numbers.
    - E.g. 1000 tickets must be sold to utilize the daily number.
- Winners need not be present.
- Tickets do not have to be purchased from licensed distributors.





## Tavern Raffle (cont'd)

A tavern raffle prize remaining unclaimed by a winner 60 days after the tavern raffle was held shall be donated by the licensee within 30 days to the designated charitable organization for which the tavern raffle was conducted.



# Tavern Gaming

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## RECORDS



# Records

## GENERAL RECORDS SHOULD INCLUDE:

- Prizes awarded which require the completion and submission of IRS Form W-2G
- Net revenue received from each tavern game conducted, itemized by week.
- Amount of prizes paid from all tavern games, itemized by week.
- Amount of tax remitted to the department.
- Amount given to designated charities from tavern raffles.
- Other information as required by the department.



# Records

- RECORD RETENTION:
  - Tavern Games records are considered business records and as such must be retained for at least two years as per the Liquor Code.
  - Generally Tavern Game records must be maintained as long as required to satisfy State and Federal tax obligations.



# Records (cont'd)

## TAVERN RAFFLES

- Records for each tavern raffle should include:
  - Gross proceeds received.
  - Expenses.
  - List of merchandise, prizes and their receipts.
  - Names and address for all winners over \$600.
  - Cash value of all prizes.



# Records (cont'd)

## PULL-TABS

- Pull-Tab records should include:
  - Name and serial number of games.
  - Date placed into and removed from play.
  - Total number of plays in each game.
  - Cost per play, cost of prizes paid and cash value of all prizes in games.
  - If a prize is awarded in excess of \$600:
    - The form and serial number of the game.
    - The name of the game.
    - Date of win.
    - The amount of cash or the cash value and description of merchandise.
    - The full name and address of the winner.



# Records (cont'd)

## PULL-TABS (CONTINUED)

- All unplayed chances must be retained for two years
- All winning chances for prizes in excess of \$600 must also be retained for two years.



# Records (cont'd)

## TAVERN DAILY DRAWING RECORDS

- Licensees records should include:
  - Operating day in which chances are sold and the date/time of drawing.
  - List of entrants.
  - Each entrant's assigned number.
  - Gross proceeds and payout percentage.
  - Winner's name. (and address if > \$600)
  - Winners signed acknowledgment of receipt of prize.





# Fingerprinting

## REMINDER:

- Tavern gaming applicants are NOT to report to PSP facilities to be fingerprinted.



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING  
DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

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