



Raffles & Lotteries

Raffles and lotteries are a great addition to any event to boost fundraising, or as a standalone fundraiser.

When do I need a license?

Any time that you are selling chances to win, you will require a license. A raffle/lottery is defined as a game of chance, meaning that, aside from buying tickets, the participant has no other means to impact their odds of winning.

Types of Raffles:

Prize Raffles

Prize raffles or lotteries are when tickets are sold for a chance to win a prize(s). A great example is a sports getaway raffle. The prize can be tickets to a game, accommodations, jerseys, spending money and gift cards. You can have your Chapter, committee, volunteers and even friends and family selling tickets.

50/50

A 50/50 raffle is when you sell tickets for a chance to win 50% of the ticket sales proceeds. For example you sell tickets for \$5.00 each and the proceeds raise \$1000.00, the winner would receive \$500.00 and the charity gets the remaining \$500.00.

Penny Sales or Prize Raffles

Often events receive a number of donated items and prizes. One way to fundraise is to sell tickets for people to win those prizes. Often numbered tickets are sold and participants put tickets in prizes they wish to win. A draw for the items happens in conclusion of the event.

Important Things to Remember

- All raffles and lotteries must be run legally with a licence, which must be obtained by HSC.
- Running raffles and lotteries without a licence can put the Society's charitable registration at risk.
- Because of the time to process paperwork, and requests the government can make regarding your raffle, licenses can take time. Please be sure to notify HSC as soon as you know you want to run a raffle.
- All rules and guidelines laid out by the provincial government must be followed.
- It is against gaming regulations to sell arms lengths of tickets – you must define on the license the cost for every quantity of ticket you will sell (ex: \$2, 3 for \$5, 15 for \$20).
- There are limits on the number of lottery licenses that can be in use at a time, and rules vary by province. Contact Chapter Development early to be sure your raffle dates are open.

The Huntington Society of Canada must hold the licence for any raffle or lottery being held where funds are being directed to HSC. Your Chapter Development team will look after all licence applications. If you are planning a raffle or lottery please contact events@huntingtonsociety.ca at least 8 weeks prior to your event to arrange getting a licence.

Alternatives to a Raffle/Lottery

Raffles and lotteries require time and paperwork. If you'd like to avoid this, consider the following:

- Door Prizes – everyone receives a ticket to win by attending. There are no funds collected.
- Auction – individuals bid on the prizes and win based on offering the most money, as opposed to a random ticket draw.
- Pay to play – individuals show skill to win their prize, regardless of the fee they pay to participate.