



Alternative Drawing Format Raffles

ALTERNATIVE DRAWING FORMATS

Alternative drawing format raffles typically determine a winner using a random selection process other than simply drawing a numbered ticket. Authorized alternative drawing formats can be found in WAC 230-11-055, WAC 230-11-060, and WAC 230-11-090.

Qualified nonprofit or charitable organizations must obtain a raffle license to conduct alternative drawing format raffles. Businesses or individuals do not qualify to conduct raffles. See our Raffle Brochure for additional raffle rules and qualifications.

Alternative drawing format raffles must follow all other raffle requirements listed in WAC 230-11. In addition, you must maintain an audit trail sufficient to compare tickets sold based on ticket numbers to the actual cash collected for the sale of tickets. Refer to our raffle record keeping packet for standard raffle forms.

There are several common alternative formats covered in this brochure. To see all approved formats and raffle requirements visit our website at www.wsgc.wa.gov. Review all raffle rules in chapter WAC 230-11.

POKER RUN DEFINITION

A poker run is a raffle where tickets or tally sheets are sold, and prizes are awarded to winners based on their hand of playing cards (“alternative” drawing).

In poker run raffles, winners are determined by a randomly selected hand of cards. Usually, the best poker hand determines the winner.

OPERATING A POKER RUN

The organization sells consecutively numbered tickets or tally sheets. Participants travel (often using motorcycles, snowmobiles, classic cars, boats or horses), to predetermined checkpoints. Usually, there are five to seven checkpoints. At each checkpoint, participants randomly draw a playing card for each ticket or tally sheet purchased. Checkpoint attendants verify the card drawn

and record the card value on the poker tally sheet. After all participants have completed the run, the operator determines the participant with the best, or worst, recorded poker hand wins the raffle prize.

MOCK ANIMAL RACES (Duck Race)

This type of alternative drawing format raffle typically uses a moving body of water to float a sold population of pre-numbered toy ducks. The first numbered duck crossing a pre-determined finish line is declared the raffle winner.

OPERATING A MOCK ANIMAL RACE

Participants purchase consecutively numbered tickets, (duck adoption sheet), corresponding to a numbered toy animal or other similar object that floats or travels down a course. After ticket sales are completed, all corresponding numbered mock animals are released at the same time to freely travel the raffle course. This is typically a moving body of water such as a river, stream, or canal. The first mock animal crossing the finish line determines the winner. All mock animals must be the same size, weight, and shape, so all participants have an equal opportunity to win.

JOKER POKER/QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLES

This type of alternative drawing format uses a second element of chance to determine the prize for winners.

OPERATING A JOKER POKER RAFFLE

Prior to selling raffle tickets, the operator will randomly set up a standard deck of playing cards concealing the identity of suits and card values. The cards are usually hidden inside envelopes. The operator will disclose which card will be the raffle jackpot prize card. This can be any card in the deck but is typically a Joker or Queen of Hearts. Note: the procedure for hiding the jackpot prize card, like the Joker, should be designed in such a way that the person hiding the card does not know where the card is.



The organization then sells consecutively prenumbered raffle tickets, usually in a limited time period such as an hour or two prior to the drawing. At the designated time, a standard random drawing is conducted, and winner(s) are selected.

Once the winner(s) have been determined, they will have the opportunity to determine their prize by using a second element of chance by randomly selecting one of the concealed playing cards. If the card chosen is the raffle jackpot prize card, the winner will win the disclosed raffle jackpot prize. If the card chosen is something other than the jackpot prize card, the winner(s) win a lesser consolation raffle prize. Note: if the raffle jackpot prize card, like the Joker, is not selected, there must be at least a consolation prize for each drawing. Even though this is a single raffle, operators typically conduct a weekly Joker Poker raffle removing already selected cards from the current week's card drawing. The advertised jackpot prize usually increases each week, and the number of cards to find the jackpot card decreases each week, until a player selects the jackpot card and the raffle jackpot prize is awarded. Note: as in all raffles, the organization must make a profit.

Raffle records must be maintained to adequately verify all sales and prizes.

50/50 RAFFLE

50/50 raffles are not considered an alternative drawing format raffle. If the organization qualifies, they can be operated as an unlicensed raffle.

The name "50/50" describes the raffle cash prize, meaning 50% of ticket sales will go to the nonprofit or charitable organization and 50% of ticket sales will be

awarded as the prize. The drawing is a standard drawing with a random selection process to determine the prize winner from the population of tickets sold. Operators must disclose a minimum prize amount prior to selling tickets.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Operators offering raffles must fully disclose all rules and requirements prior to selling tickets, so participants are fully aware of the method used to select winners and the prizes available. With alternative drawing formats, it is extremely important to detail the drawing or prize selection process to prevent possible misunderstanding or unfair practices.

In every raffle, the operator must maintain records to verify ticket sales and the use of raffle proceeds. Raffles are allowed for the purpose of raising funds for your charity or organizational purposes. Make sure when you plan your raffle, you maximize the potential to raise money for your organization's purposes.

If you have questions, please visit our website at www.wsgc.wa.gov or contact your local gambling agent who can assist you with your questions.

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS-ONLY ALTERNATIVE DRAWING FORMATS.

Notwithstanding alternative drawing formats that can be conducted by selling chances to the public, additional alternative drawing formats may be available as a members-only raffle.