



UNLICENSED COMMERCIAL GAMBLING ACTIVITIES

Commercial businesses whose primary purpose is to serve food or drink to the public, may offer several activities without getting a gambling license.

DICE & COIN CONTESTS

Commercial businesses may allow patrons to roll dice or flip coins for food, drink, or coin operated music purchases only. Patrons must never be allowed to roll dice for money.

SPORTS WAGERING

Sports wagering, other than sports boards, is only permitted at tribal gaming facilities. Commercial businesses may only offer one 100-square sports board per sporting event under restricted conditions.

BOWLING SWEEPSTAKES

Two types of sweepstakes are allowed for bowling establishments without a license.

Bowling Sweepstakes #1

- Players contribute to a pool.
- Rules must be posted.
- Players knock marked pins in specified positions.
- Owner does not participate in proceeds from fund.
- Records are open to public inspection.

Bowling Sweepstakes #2

- Players purchase tickets at no more than \$1 each.
- Rules are posted.
- A drawing is held from the tickets purchased.
- Winner of drawing must bowl a strike.
- All money goes to the winner or to charity.

Records must be available for inspection by participants, WSGC agents, or other law enforcement representatives.

CARD GAMES

Card games are allowed if there is no wagering and not a fee to play. If there is wagering or a fee, commercial businesses must get a card room license.

PROMOTIONS

Commercial businesses may offer promotional contests of chance (free drawings), to promote their products and services. A purchase or consideration must not be required. Commercial businesses cannot offer raffles, even if the money is given to charity.

TRIVIA / SKILL GAMES

Commercial businesses may award a prize for high score only if an electronic amusement or video game requires skill instead of a chance to win. Skill games are not a gambling activity.

BAR BINGO/ NO-FEE BINGO

Businesses may offer a promotion similar to bingo, often referred to as “no-fee bingo” or “bar bingo.”

Requirements for Bar Bingo (WAC 230-18-010):

- Not charge a fee to play or require a purchase.
- Use recreational bingo cards (cards that are not used in “real” bingo games).
- Not operate the game for more than a total of three hours per day, twice per week.
- Award only merchandise items, such as food, hats or shirts valued at less than \$25.
- Not award prizes worth more than \$100 per week, or \$5,000 per year.
- Record names of winners and prizes won.

