

Chapter 57

BINGO AND RAFFLES

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Grottoes 1-2-1974. Amendments noted where applicable.]

§ 57-1. Statutory authority. [Amended 7-8-1996]

The Town Council of Grottoes is hereby authorized to issue annual permits to volunteer fire departments, rescue squads and other nonprofit organizations to conduct bingo games and raffles within the corporate limits of the Town of Grottoes, as authorized under § 18.2-340.2 of the Code of Virginia 1950,¹ as amended. Permits issued by Rockingham County will be approved by the Town of Grottoes upon filing the permit with the Town of Grottoes.

§ 57-2. Permit required.

No volunteer fire department, rescue squad or organization described in § 53-3 of this chapter shall conduct any bingo games or raffles within the corporate limits of the Town of Grottoes without first having obtained an annual permit for such activity from the Town Council of Grottoes. Applicants for an annual permit shall submit a request in writing, accompanied by the financial statement required by § 53-4 of this chapter to the Town Treasurer. The Town Treasurer shall submit all applications for permits to the Town Council for approval or disapproval.

§ 57-3. Issuance of annual permit.

An annual permit to conduct bingo games or raffles may be issued to any of the following:

- A. The Voluntary Fire Department of Grottoes and any other voluntary fire department or rescue squad which shall be subsequently recognized by an ordinance or resolution as being a part of the safety program of the Town of Grottoes.
- B. An organization which, for purposes of this section, shall be defined as any of the following which operates without profit and which has been in existence continuously for a period of two years immediately prior to seeking a permit as hereinafter provided:
 - (1) A corporation, trust, church, association, community chest, fund or foundation organized and operated exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, community or educational purposes.

¹. Editor's Note: Section 18.2-340.2 was repealed effective 7-1-1996. See now § 18.2-340.25 of the Code of Virginia.

- (2) Posts or associations of war veterans or auxiliary units or societies of any such posts or associations, if such posts, associations, units or societies are organized in the United States or any of its possessions.
- (3) A fraternal society, order or association operating under the lodge system.
- (4) A corporation or association organized and operated exclusively for the restoration and maintenance of historic gardens and the general promotion of beautiful gardens.

§ 57-4. Gross receipts; records. [Amended 7-8-1996]

No part of the gross receipts derived from an activity for which a permit has been issued shall inure directly or indirectly to the benefit of any private shareholder, member, agent or employee of any volunteer fire department, rescue squad or organization. Records of all receipts and disbursements of an activity for which a permit has been issued shall be kept, and an annual financial statement, signed by the President and Treasurer of the volunteer fire department, rescue squad or organization, shall be filed with the Town Treasurer not later than December 31 of each year. Such records shall be a matter of public record.

§ 57-5. Restrictions on conduct of games.

No volunteer fire department, rescue squad or organization to which a permit has been issued shall enter into a contract with any person or firm, association, organization, partnership or corporation of any classification whatsoever for the purpose of organizing, managing or conducting bingo games or raffles. Such volunteer fire department, rescue squad or organization may delegate the authority or duty of organizing, managing or conducting bingo games or raffles only to a natural person or persons who are bona fide members of such volunteer fire department, rescue squad or organization. No volunteer fire department, rescue squad or organization shall place or permit to be placed on the premises or within 100 yards of the premises where a bingo game is to be conducted any sign or signs advertising such bingo game.

§ 57-6. Violations and penalties. [Amended 7-8-1996]

The Town Council may revoke the permit of any volunteer fire department, rescue squad or organization found to be not in compliance with this chapter, and any person, shareholder, agent, member or employee of any such volunteer fire department, rescue squad or organization violating this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine as provided in § 1-7, General penalty, of Chapter 1, General Provisions; provided, further, that should any volunteer fire department, rescue squad or organization be found in violation of this chapter, the Commonwealth Attorney for Rockingham County may, in addition to the foregoing criminal penalty, apply to any court of competent jurisdiction for an injunction against such volunteer fire department, rescue squad or organization from continuing to operate bingo games and raffles for a period not to exceed three years from the date of such violation.