



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
BUREAU OF STATE LOTTERY
LANSING



BRIAN O. NEILL
LOTTERY COMMISSIONER

August 11, 2020

Dear Licensee,

The Charitable Gaming Division has been asked whether licensed bingos should be treated as events, facilities, or restaurants under Executive Order 2020-160 when determining the maximum number of participants.

- A licensed bingo is an event. Under Section 7 of EO 2020-160, indoor events are limited to a maximum of 10 persons and outdoor events are limited to a maximum of 100 persons. Under Section 8 of EO 2020-160, outdoor events are limited to a maximum of 250 persons in Regions 6 and 8.
- A licensed bingo hall is a facility. Under Section 4(e) of EO 2020-160, "facilities . . . for amusement or other recreational or entertainment purposes" including "bingo halls" are currently closed. Under Section 8 of EO 2020-160, licensed bingo halls may open if located in Regions 6 and 8.

Licensed bingo events and halls must comply with all requirements of Executive Orders. Failure to comply may be considered a violation of the conditions of licensure and result in suspension or revocation of your license, or other action.

Bingo licensees may wish to consider car bingo, an event held outside in a parking lot, field, or other location, during which participants remain in their vehicles. Similarly, hall licensees may wish to consider making outdoor space and equipment available for rent to bingo licensees seeking to hold car bingos. Organizations may also wish to consider offering charity-game tickets during car bingos to raise additional funds during the event. If these alternatives are of interest, please contact your local inspector or call 517-335-5780 for more information. Additional licensing and/or fees for active bingo and hall licenses may be unnecessary.

We recognize the important work performed by nonprofit organizations across Michigan and the critical need for fundraising activities. We hope to work with you through these challenging times, finding new ways to offer charitable gaming as a meaningful fundraising mechanism consonant with public-safety concerns.

Sincerely,

Todd A. Gardner
Licensing Director
Charitable Gaming Division
Michigan Bureau of State Lottery