

## §1832. Licenses

**1. License or registration required.** Except as provided in sections 1837-A and 1837-B, a person, firm, corporation, association or organization may not hold, conduct or operate a game of chance without a license issued by or, as applicable, without registering with the Gambling Control Unit in accordance with this section. A license is not required when a game of chance constitutes social gambling.

[PL 2021, c. 136, §5 (AMD).]

**2. Eligible organizations; licenses.** The Gambling Control Unit may issue a license to operate a card game and certain tournament games to an organization that submits a completed application as described in subsection 5 and has been founded, chartered or organized in this State for a period of not less than 2 consecutive years prior to applying for a license and is:

A. An agricultural society; [PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

B. A bona fide nonprofit charitable, educational, political, civic, recreational, fraternal, patriotic or religious organization; [PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

C. A volunteer fire department; or [PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

D. An auxiliary of any of the organizations in paragraphs A to C. [PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

[PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. KKKKK, §15 (AMD).]

**2-A. Registration.** The Gambling Control Unit may accept a registration from an eligible organization described in subsection 2 and other persons as specifically provided under section 1835-A, section 1836, subsection 4-B and section 1837-A to conduct games of chance, raffles and charitable cribbage tournaments. An eligible organization or person seeking to register to conduct a game of chance, raffle or charitable cribbage tournament shall register in the manner prescribed by the Gambling Control Unit and shall maintain records and reports in the same manner as described under section 1839, except that disposition of funds reports are not required to be submitted to the Gambling Control Unit but must be maintained in the same manner as other records.

[PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. KKKKK, §15 (NEW).]

**3. Must be 18 years of age.** The Gambling Control Unit may not accept a registration to conduct a game of chance, a raffle or certain tournament games or accept an application from or issue a license for card games and certain tournament games under this section to a person or representative of an eligible organization who is not 18 years of age or older.

[PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. KKKKK, §15 (AMD).]

**4. Municipal approval required.** An eligible organization described in subsection 2 applying for a license to conduct a card game and tournament games requiring a license shall obtain written approval from the local governing authority where the game is to be operated or conducted. This written approval must be submitted with the application to the Gambling Control Unit as described in subsection 5.

[PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. KKKKK, §15 (AMD).]

**5. Application.** An eligible organization described in subsection 2 seeking to obtain a license to conduct a card game or certain tournament games requiring a license shall submit an application to the Gambling Control Unit. The application must be in a form provided by the Gambling Control Unit and must be signed by a duly authorized officer of the eligible organization. The application must include the full name and address of the organization, a full description of the card game or tournament game, the location where the card game or tournament game is to be conducted and any other information determined necessary by the Gambling Control Unit for the issuance of a license to operate a card game

or certain tournament games, including but not limited to membership lists, bylaws and documentation showing the organization's nonprofit status or charitable designation.

[PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. KKKKK, §15 (AMD).]

**6. Multiple licenses.** The Gambling Control Unit may issue more than one license or registration to conduct or operate a game governed by this chapter simultaneously to an eligible organization described in subsection 2. Each game governed by this chapter must have a separate license, the nature of which must be specified on the license.

[PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. KKKKK, §15 (AMD).]

**7. Agricultural fairs.** Notwithstanding any provision in this chapter to the contrary, in addition to games of chance, the Gambling Control Unit may accept a registration to conduct or operate games of chance known as "penny falls" or "quarter falls" at any agricultural fair, as long as the net revenue from those games is retained by the registered agricultural society.

[PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. KKKKK, §15 (AMD).]

**8. Electronic video machines.** The Gambling Control Unit may issue a license to operate an electronic video machine to any eligible organization described in subsection 2.

A. An electronic video machine licensed under this section may only be operated for the exclusive benefit of the licensee, except that up to 50% of the gross proceeds from the operation of the machine may be paid to the distributor as a rental fee and for service and repair of the machine. Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, a licensee may rent an electronic video machine from a distributor. [PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

B. No more than 5 electronic video machines may be operated on the licensee's premises. A separate games of chance license is required for the operation of each electronic video machine. [PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

C. A licensee may operate an electronic video machine only on the licensee's premises. [PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

D. Two or more licensees may not share the use of any premises for the operation of electronic video machines. [PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

E. A distributor or employee of the distributor may not be a member of the licensed organization. [PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

F. An electronic video machine licensed under this subsection may not be operated in a manner that meets the definition of illegal gambling machine as described in Title 17-A, section 952, subsection 5-A. [PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. A, §2 (NEW).]

[PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. KKKKK, §15 (AMD).]

## SECTION HISTORY

PL 2009, c. 487, Pt. A, §2 (NEW). PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. KKKKK, §15 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 129, §1 (AMD). PL 2021, c. 136, §5 (AMD).

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