

These guidance notes relate to Small Society Lotteries only

If you require information on any other form of Lottery, a more comprehensive guide is available from the Licensing Unit (the address is at the end of these notes).

Small Society Lotteries

Under the previous gambling legislation, the term 'Society' was defined, however this is not the case under the Gambling Act 2005. Therefore, provided the Society states in their application that it is established and conducted for one or more of the bullet points shown below, then the status of the Society seeking Registration has to be accepted. A Society commits an offence if it fails to provide statutory information in relation to its operation or gives false or misleading information in connection with a statutory return.

Societies who run Small Society Lotteries, that is lotteries which are not Large Society Lotteries (essentially those in which **£20,000 (or less)** worth of tickets are put on sale and where the Society's aggregate proceeds from lotteries **do not exceed £250,000 a year**) may operate without a Gambling Commission Licence provided they register with their local Licensing Authority.

The Societies will be required to be **registered** with the local Licensing Authority in the area where their **Principal Office** is located. If the local Licensing Authority believes that the Society's Principal Office is situated in another area it should inform the Society as soon as possible and if possible inform that other Licensing Authority.

Societies who run Small Society Lotteries under Registration with a Licensing Authority and who sell tickets by means of remote communication (internet, telephone etc) will not be required to hold a Remote Gambling Licence issued by the Gambling Commission.

Small Society Lotteries are lotteries promoted for the benefit of a non-commercial society. A society is non-commercial if it is established and conducted:

- For charitable purposes;
- For the purpose of enabling participation in, or of supporting, sport, athletics or a cultural activity or
- For any other non-commercial purpose other than private gain.

Small Society Lotteries – proceeds and other monetary limits

A Small Society Lottery must apply a **minimum of 20%** of the gross proceeds of each lottery directly to the purposes of the Society.

Up to a **maximum of 80%** of the gross proceeds of each lottery may be divided between prizes and the expenses of the lottery.

The **maximum** prize in a single lottery is **£25,000**

Up to £20,000 worth of tickets may be sold and the Society's aggregate proceeds from lotteries must not exceed **£250,000 a year**.

Rollovers are permitted provided the maximum single prize limit is not breached.

Every ticket in the lottery must be the same price and the cost of purchased tickets must be paid to the Society before entry into the draw is allowed.

There is no maximum price for a lottery ticket.

Ticket Information

All tickets in a Society lottery must be licensed by either the Gambling Commission (ie Large Society Lotteries) or Registered with a Licensing Authority (ie Society Lotteries) must state:

- **Name of the Society** on whose behalf the lottery is being promoted;
- **Price of the ticket;**
- **Name and address of the member of the Society responsible for the promotion of the lottery** (in the case of a Small Society Lottery run under Licensing Authority registration, the name and address of the External Lottery Manager if there is one may be given as an alternative)
- **Date of the draw**, or the means by which the date may be determined; and
- The fact, where that is the case, that the Society is licensed by the Gambling Commission.

Tickets which are issued through a form of remote communication or any other electronic manner must specify this information to the purchaser of the ticket and ensure that the message can be either retained or printed.

Financial Requirements

Every Society registered with a local Licensing Authority to run Small Society Lotteries must submit a statement providing the following information.

- **Date on which tickets were available** for sale or supply and the date of the draw;
- **Total proceeds** of the lottery;
- **Amounts deducted by promoters of the lottery in providing prizes, including rollovers;**
- **Amounts deducted by the promoters of the lottery in respect of costs incurred in organising the lottery;**
- The **amount applied directly to the purpose for which the promoting society is conducted;** and
- **Whether any expenses incurred in connection with the lottery were not paid for by deduction from the proceeds and, if so, the amount of expenses and the sources from which they were paid.**

A registered Society's statement must be sent to the Licensing Authority within **three months** beginning on the day on which the draw (or last draw) in the lottery took place. It must be **signed by two members of the Society appointed in writing** for that purpose by the Society's governing body **and** accompanied by a copy of that appointment.

Age for participating in a Lottery

The minimum age for participation in a lottery is 16 years of age.

Enquiries

If you have any questions about Lotteries under the Gambling Act 2005, please contact us

Bolton Council
Licensing Unit
1st Floor, Town Hall
Victoria Square
Bolton
BL1 1RU
Tel - 01204 336584
E-mail - licensing.unit@bolton.gov.uk

Other useful contacts

Gambling Commission

Victoria Square House, Victoria Square, Birmingham, B2 4BP
Tel – 0121 230 6666 / fax – 0121 230 6720
E-mail – info@gamblingcommission.gov.uk or
Web - <http://www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk>

Department for Culture, Media and Sport

2-4 Cockspur Street, London, SW1Y 5DH
Tel – 0845 333 0850
E-mail – enquiries@culture.gov.uk or
Web - <http://www.culture.gov.uk>