

CASINO EVENTS IN BALTIMORE COUNTY

Annotated Code of Maryland –Criminal Law

Title 12, Subtitle 1, Section 12-103

Title 13, Subtitle 6, Section 13-603 and 13-604

[Definition: Department - “Department” means the Baltimore County Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections]

Title 12. GAMING – STATEWIDE PROVISIONS **Subtitle 1. General provisions**

Section 12-103. Playing Certain Games.

- a) **Prohibited** – for money or any other thing or consideration of value, a person may not play:
- 1) the game called “thimbles”;
 - 2) the game called “little joker”;
 - 3) dice or the game commonly called “craps”; or
 - 4) any other gaming device or fraudulent trick.
- b) **Penalty** – A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment for not less than 6 months and not exceeding 2 years or a fine not exceeding \$100.00 or both (Annotated Code of MD 1957, Art. 27, Sec.245; 2002, Ch.26, Sec. 2.)

Title 13. GAMING – LOCAL PROVISIONS **Subtitle 6. Baltimore County**

Section 13-603. Gaming Events & Casino Events - In General.

- a) **Permit Required** - Before an organization listed in subsection (b) of this section may operate a gaming event or casino event in Baltimore County, the organization shall obtain a permit from the Department.
- b) **Qualified Organizations** -
- 1) an organization that meets the conditions of paragraph “2)” of this subsection may conduct a gaming event or casino event to if the organization is a bona fide:
 - i) religious organization;
 - ii) fraternal organization;
 - iii) civic organization, including:
 1. a hunting organization;
 2. a social organization; or
 3. a sporting organization;
 - iv) volunteer fire organization;
 - v) veteran’s organization;
 - vi) veteran’s hospital;
 - vii) amateur athletic organization; or
 - viii) charitable organization.
 - 2) An organization that conducts a gaming event or casino event under this section shall spend a majority of the net proceeds from the gaming event or casino event for the following in Baltimore County:
 - i) purposes that benefit religious purposes;
 - ii) fraternal purposes;
 - iii) civic purposes;
 - iv) volunteer fire operations;
 - v) purposes that benefit veterans;
 - vi) purposes that benefit a veteran’s hospital;
 - vii) purposes related to amateur athletics; or
 - viii) charitable purposes.

c) **Permit Terms** -

- 1) a permit to conduct a gaming event or casino event shall provide that only the members of the permit holder may manage the gaming event or casino event.
- 2) a permit is not transferable.

d) **Conditions and Limitations** -

- 1) An organization that obtains a permit may award a prize of money or merchandise using:
 - i) a paddle wheel;
 - ii) a wheel of fortune;
 - iii) a chance book;
 - iv) bingo; or
 - v) any other game of chance except:
 1. a card game;
 2. a dice game; or
 3. roulette
- 2) Except as provided for in Sec. 13-604 of this subtitle, a person may not:
 - i) operate a card game, dice game, or roulette; or
 - ii) conduct a casino event.
- 3) An organization that obtains a permit shall ensure that:
 - i) an individual or group of individuals does not benefit financially from the holding of the gaming event;
 - ii) an individual or group of individuals does not receive any of the proceeds of the gaming event for personal use or benefit; and
 - iii) the gaming event is managed personally by the members of the permit holder. (Annotated Code of MD 1957, Art. 27-255b(1), (3), (f)(1), (4), (5)(i); 2002, Ch. 26, sec.2.)

Section 13-604. Casino Events

- a) **In general.** – Subject to subsections b) and c) of this section, an organization may conduct:
- 1) one casino event that includes a card game during each calendar month; and
 - 2) one casino event that includes roulette during each calendar year.
- b) **Qualifications** – To conduct a casino event under subsection a) of this section, an organization shall be a bona fide:
- 1) religious organization;
 - 2) fraternal organization;
 - 3) civic organization, including:
 - i) a hunting organization;
 - ii) a social organization; or
 - iii) a sporting organization;
 - 4) volunteer fire company;
 - 5) war veteran’s organization; or
 - 6) charitable organization.
- c) **Conditions and Limitations** -
- 1) A permit holder for a casino event that includes a card game or roulette shall ensure that:
 - i) the event is conducted in accordance with Sec. 13-603 d) 3) of this subtitle;
 - ii) a parent, subsidiary, or affiliate of the organization sponsoring the event has not sponsored a casino event within the calendar month; and
 - iii) the casino event is conducted between 4 p.m. and 1 a.m.
 - 2) A person that holds a casino event that includes a card game or roulette game may not:

- i) offer or award a money prize to a player of the card game or roulette game;
 - ii) allow a player to bet more than \$10 in any one game within the calendar month;
 - iii) exchange tokens used in wagering for an item of merchandise that is worth more than \$1,000.00; or
 - iv) exchange merchandise that was received for tokens that were used in wagering for:
 1. money; or
 2. an item of merchandise having a value that is different from the fair retail market value of the item of merchandise that was received for the tokens.
- 3) i) Within 60 days after holding a casino event that include a card game or roulette, the holder of the permit for the event shall submit to the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections a financial report that lists the receipts and expenditures for the casino event.
- ii) Before the permit holder submits the report to the Department, the permit holder shall submit the report to the Baltimore County Police Department for review.

d) **Regulations** –

- 1) The Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections shall adopt regulations to govern:
 - i) the issuing of a permit to conduct a casino event; and
 - ii) the conduct and management of a casino event in a manner designed to prevent fraud and protect the public.
- 2) The regulations shall require that a separate permit be issued for each casino event to be conducted.

Section 13-607. Unauthorized Casino Event.

- a) **Prohibited** - a person may not knowingly conduct or attempt to conduct a casino event in violation of sections 13-603 through 13-604 of this subtitle.
- b) **Penalty** - a person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 or both. (Annotated Code of MD 1957, Art. 27 sec. 255 f(6); 2002, Ch. 26, sec. 2.)

CASINO EVENT RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

Any word or term not defined in this section shall have the ordinarily accepted definition as set forth in the most recent edition of Webster’s Third New International Dictionary of the English Language, Unabridged. (Bill No. 149, 1987.)

[Definition: *Casino Event* – “Casino Event” means an event that includes card games or roulette games (dice games are prohibited) with or with out other games of chance. [for information on “other games of chance” see Annotated Code of MD – Criminal Law : Title 13, Subtitle 1, 2, 6]

1. Majority of Casino Event Net Proceeds to be spent in Baltimore County – Only bona fide religious, fraternal, civic (includes bona fide hunting, social, and sporting organizations), volunteer fire, veterans, veteran’s hospital, amateur athletic, or charitable groups, organizations, or bona fide charitable corporations that spend, in Baltimore County, a majority of the net proceeds from the casino event to benefit: religious purposes; fraternal purposes; civic purposes; volunteer fire operations; purposes that benefit veterans; veteran’s hospital purposes; purposes related to

amateur athletics; or charitable purposes, in Baltimore County, shall be eligible for a Casino Event Permit.

2. Permit Required – Any bona fide religious, fraternal, civic (includes bona fide hunting, social, and sporting organizations), volunteer fire, veterans, veteran's hospital, amateur athletic, or charitable group, organization, or corporation planning to hold a casino event in Baltimore County, shall first obtain a Casino Event Permit, which shall not be transferable.

3. Application Requirements –

A. Application forms shall be provided by the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections.

B. The fee for Casino Event Permits shall be established by the County Administrative Officer. [Current fees are shown on the Casino Event Permit Application.]

C. A Casino Event Permit application to include the following:

1) Sponsoring Organization Information –

- a) Organization's name, address, etc.
- b) Name, address, etc. of member/officer(s), who possess the power to bind the sponsoring organization by legal contract, and who are responsible for the Casino Event.

2) Member/Game Operators Information –

Only members of the sponsoring organization shall manage the casino event personally and conduct/operate all games personally.

- a) List of names of the sponsoring organization members who will operate each game table.
- b) The date each game operator became a member, as they must have been members for a minimum of 1 year, prior to the casino event.
- c) Indication that all game operators are at least 21 years of age.

3) Games to be Played –

- a) List all games of chance to be played at the Casino Event.
- b) Indicate the total number of gaming tables to be used.

4) Prizes to be Awarded –

- a) List all prizes of merchandise (cash prizes are prohibited)
- b) Each prize's fair market value, which must not exceed \$1,000.00 per prize.

D. Applications must be submitted a minimum of 14 days prior to the desired casino event date.

4. Wagers at Casino Event Restricted –

- A. Cash may not be used for wagering.
- B. Per Game, wagers shall not exceed \$10.00 per player.

5. Casino Event Prizes Restricted –

- A. No cash prizes shall be offered or awarded to any player.
- B. The value of any merchandise item used in exchange for tokens shall not exceed \$1,000.00 per item and the value of the merchandise must be valued at the fair market value of similar retail merchandise.
- C. Merchandise that is received in exchange for the value of tokens used for wagering may not be exchanged for cash.

6. Casino Event – When/Where held Restricted –

A. No parent, subsidiary, or affiliate of the applicant sponsoring organization may have sponsored a casino event that included card games within each calendar month of a previously sponsored casino event; or during each calendar year, if roulette was included.

B. The casino event must be conducted Monday through Saturday between the hours of 4:00 P.M. and 1:00 A.M.

C. No casino event permit holder may conduct a casino event in the same location and on the same date as a casino event conducted by another permit holder.

7 Required Report – Casino Event Financial

Summation Sheet (Blank forms will be provided by the Department of Permits and Development Management.)

A. Within 60 days after holding a casino event, the sponsoring organization must submit a completed Casino Event Financial Summation Sheet to the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections.

B. The Casino Event Financial Summation Sheet shall include the following:

- 1) Name of the bona fide religious, fraternal, civic (includes bona fide hunting, social, and sporting organizations), volunteer fire, veterans, veteran's hospital, amateur athletic, or charitable group, organization, or bona fide charitable corporation that sponsored the Casino Event.
- 2) Date the Casino Event was held.
- 3) Name and address of the location where the Casino Event was held.
- 4) Gross receipts from the Casino Event.
- 5) Itemized list of each expenditure made for the purpose of conducting the Casino Event.
- 6) Net profit or loss from the Casino Event.

C. A member of the sponsoring bona fide religious, fraternal, civic (includes bona fide hunting, social, and sporting organizations), volunteer fire, veterans, veteran's hospital, amateur athletic, or charitable group, organization, or bona fide charitable corporation possessing the power to bind the sponsoring the bona fide religious, fraternal, civic (includes bona fide hunting, social, and sporting organizations), volunteer fire, veterans, veteran's hospital, amateur athletic, or charitable group, organization, or bona fide charitable corporation by legal contract must sign the financial report and affirm its accuracy under the penalty of perjury.

D. A certification that the Casino Event Financial Summation Sheet has been reviewed by the Vice Unit of the Baltimore County Police Department.

8. Penalties for Violation of Casino Event Law and/or Rules and Regulations -

- A. In Baltimore County, any person, association, or corporation operating or attempting to operate a casino event in violation of the Annotated Code of Maryland Criminal Law: Title 13, Subtitle 6, Section 13-603 and 13-604 is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 1 year or a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 or both.
- B. Failure to comply with requirements of these rules and regulations may result in administrative actions being taken by the Department of Permits, Approvals and Inspections to deny issuance of future casino event permits.

CASINO EVENT RULES AND REGULATIONS



**BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
PERMITS, APPROVALS AND INSPECTIONS**



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