

BINGOS – HOW THEY WORK

Sonia's is one of a privileged few charities that is a member of Saskatoon Twin Charities Inc.. As such, we hold voting rights and receive grant money each quarter in addition to the revenue we earn working bingos. Bingos are the club's main fundraising source of revenue. It pays for instructor fees, facility rentals, storage fees, competition fees, costumes, etc. that are not covered by our dance fees. Bingos have proven to be the least amount of work in terms of organizing and the most amount of revenue.

On average, we make \$10,000 per year working Bingos plus approximately \$750 per quarter in grant money.

OVERVIEW

- Bingos run from August 1st – July 31st each year.
- Our club will be offered a minimum of 4 bingos per year, each with two shifts.
- Parents/guardians are required to work six bingo shifts to fulfill their quota.
- A "shift" is considered one 4-hour session, either 5pm - 9:30pm or 9:30pm - 1:30am.
- Participation in other fundraisers is in addition to, not a replacement of, working Bingos.
- It's not necessary for a parent to work the Bingo, family members or friends are all welcome to work in your family's name. If the parent cannot work, we strongly encourage you to find someone to come in your place, instead of just cashing one of your fundraising cheques.



REGISTRATION & DEPOSITS

- At time of registration, parents/guardians must provide the club with six deposit cheques for \$100 each that are undated, but signed and made payable to our Bingo Coordinator, Andrew Martens.
- A cheque is returned to you when you work a shift.
- If you do not work, a cheque will be cashed within 2 days before or after the bingo. This money is used as a supplement to pay workers that we need to hire in order to cover the shift.

SCHEDULING

- Once the club hears from the bingo hall that we have a shift(s) to work, an email will be sent out asking parents/guardians to sign up or decline if they are unavailable on that date.
- The hall usually gives us two shifts at a time: 5pm - 9:30pm, and 9:30pm - 1:30am.
- We need approximately 18-23 people to work per shift.
- Anyone age 13+ can work the bingos
- There are multiple positions that we work at the hall - front counter, runner, radio, and "balls". The Bingo Coordinator will put you on the schedule with a position.
- Everything you need to do is explained to you and we have many families who have done this before, so there is always someone around to help!



NOTE: Any parent/guardian who works over his/her quota of 6 shifts will be paid \$80 per shift over quota. This money can go straight in your pocket, or kept in your "dance account" to pay for next year's fees/costume rental/etc.



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POSITIONS

- Most people will start as a "Runner". You will be given a folder of bingo cards to walk around and sell on the floor. Most cards are \$1 each but at the beginning, full card packages are sold for different prices.
- "Balls" tickets can only be sold by people over 16 years of age. They are \$1 each and are sold in sets.
- "Ticket counter" - an earlier shift where you sell full bingo cards and electronic bingo cards behind the counter. Some admin work is sometimes required including counting cards and working with the runners.
- "Radio" - you carry a radio to talk to the caller when someone calls Bingo. Sometimes Runners are given them in addition to selling cards. Closest person to the "Bingo" calls in the serial number of the bingo card.



WHAT TO EXPECT

- Shifts are approximately 4 hours long but it also depends on how long the games take to complete. We do not start cleaning until the games are completed.
- You will be on your feet for the whole shift, wear comfortable shoes and dress in layers as it can get warm in the hall.
- Bring small snacks and water or coffee in a thermos.
- After each shift:
 - all electronic tablets are brought back to the counter and cleaned,
 - all balls signs and schedules are returned to the counter,
- After the final shift:
 - all garbage is removed from bins and taken to the back door,
 - tables are all washed,
- Once all tasks are done, the shift is over and we can leave.