Maryland 4-H Statement on Raffles, Lotteries, and Games of Chance

National 4-H guidelines and philosophies associated with raffles and games of chance as fundraisers can be found at:


It is not the intent of the Maryland 4-H Youth Development Program to forbid all raffles by 4-H clubs/groups authorized to use the 4-H name and emblem. The most important qualifier to determine if such a 4-H club/group should conduct a fundraiser is the statement, “Never let fundraising lower the status or prestige of 4-H. Wholesome educational purpose for funds and wise use of them are the most important guiding principles.” The local societal acceptance of raffles in given communities should be considered into decisions about a raffle as a fundraiser.

The Maryland 4-H Youth Development Program does feel strongly that 4-H members themselves should never be involved in selling tickets or conducting raffles or games of chance. Should an authorized 4-H club/group choose to conduct a raffle the coordination and selling of the tickets should only be done by adults involved in the program.

4-H clubs/groups that plan to conduct raffles or bingo must comply with state/local regulations and obtain appropriate licenses and permits. Full details of gaming rules and guidelines as well as county by county regulations can be found at:

http://www.gambling-law-us.com/Charitable-Gaming/Maryland/

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