

## **RULES FOR SOCIETY LOTTERIES (ARTICLE 137)**

### **The Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1995**

1. In this Article “lottery” means a society lottery.
2. The promoter of the lottery shall be a member of the society, authorised in writing by the governing body of the society, to act as the promoter.
3. Every ticket distributed or sold shall specify the name of the society, the name and address of the promoter, and the date of the lottery.
4. The Department may, by order subject to affirmative resolution, specify –
  - (a) The maximum number of lotteries that may be promoted on behalf of the same society in any year; and
  - (b) The minimum number of days that must elapse between the dates of any two lotteries promoted on behalf of the same society.
5. No ticket or chance in a lottery shall be sold at a price exceeding £1.00
6. The price of every ticket or chance shall be the same, and the price of any ticket distributed or sold shall be stated on the ticket.
7. No person shall be admitted to participate in a lottery in respect of a ticket or chance except after payment to the society of the whole price of the ticket or chance; and no money received for or on account of a ticket or chance shall in any circumstances be returned.
8. The price shown on every ticket shall be the whole price paid for it.
9. The total proceeds from the sale of tickets or chances shall constitute the whole proceeds of the lottery.
10. Subject to the conditions governing the lottery, participation on the lottery shall depend solely on the purchase of a ticket or chance in it.
11. No prize in a lottery shall exceed in amount or value £25,000 or 10% of the proceeds of the lottery which ever, is the greater.
12. The total value of the tickets or chances sold in a lottery shall not exceed £80000 for any single lottery or £1,000,000 for all lotteries promoted by any society in any year.
13. The amount of the proceeds of a lottery appropriated for the provision of prizes shall not exceed 50% of the proceeds of the lottery.
14. The amount of the proceeds of a lottery which may be deducted to meet expenses (exclusive of prizes) shall not exceed is whichever the less is of:
  - (a) the expenses actually incurred; or
  - (b) whichever of the amounts specified in paragraph (15) applies.
15. The amounts referred to in paragraph (14)(b) are—
  - (a) where the whole proceeds of the lottery are £10,000 or less, 20% of those proceeds; or
  - (b) where the whole proceeds of the lottery exceed £10,000, 15% of those proceeds.

15A for the purposes of paragraph (14), the amount of any expenses that are met—

  - (a) by the society on whose behalf the lottery is promoted, or

(b) by any beneficiary of the lottery,

shall be treated as having been taken for expenses from the proceeds of the lottery.

15B In paragraph (15A) "*beneficiary of the lottery*" means a person (other than the society on whose behalf the lottery is promoted) to whom or for whose benefit any of the proceeds of the lottery, other than amounts appropriated in respect of expenses or prizes, are lawfully paid or applied.

15C The amount of the proceeds of a lottery appropriated for the provision of prizes and the amount of those proceeds appropriated on account of expenses (exclusive of prizes) shall not exceed in aggregate such percentage of the whole proceeds of the lottery as the Department may specify, by order subject to affirmative resolution.

16. A society shall not employ any person as an external lottery consultant or manager unless that person holds a lottery certificate. *Where an external lottery consultant is involved, copies of that person's Certification must accompany the application for registration/ renewal as well as the other information required on the form.*
17. The promoter of the lottery must, not later than the end of the third month after the date of the lottery, send a completed return, certified by a qualified accountant to the council. *A qualified accountant means a person who is eligible for appointment as a company auditor under Article 28 of the Companies (NI) Order 1990.* A copy of the ticket sold in the lottery must also be attached to this return.
18. Every registered society must keep copies of any return sent under paragraph (17), together with copies of supporting bills, receipts and accounts for at least 18 months. If asked to do so during this period, the society must supply copies to Council or the PSNI.
19. Any officer of the district council authorised in writing in that behalf may enter the office of a registered society at any reasonable time and
  - (a) inspect its records; and
  - (b) inspect the promotion of the lottery
20. Every person who obstructs an officer of a district Council in the exercise of the powers conferred by paragraph (19) shall be guilty of an offence.

## Definitions

"Society" - includes any club, institution, organisation or association of persons, by whatever name called, and any separate branch or section of such a club, institution, organisation or association.

"Society's Lottery" – means a lottery promoted on behalf of a society, which is established and conducted wholly, or mainly for one or more of the following purposes:

- a) charitable purposes;
- b) participation in or support of athletic sports or games or cultural activities;
- c) purposes which are not described in a) or b) but are neither purposes of private gain nor purposes of any commercial undertaking.