



Liquor and Gaming
Authority of Manitoba

GAMING INTEGRITY STANDARDS BINGO BALLS

Background

The Manitoba Liquor and Gaming Authority of Manitoba (LGA) is an independent crown agency that regulates licensed and provincial gaming in Manitoba to ensure that gaming is conducted honestly, with integrity and in the public interest. This authority is established by *The Liquor and Gaming Control Act* (the “Act”) and requires all lottery schemes to have LGA Gaming Integrity (GI) approval, including approval of any associated gaming equipment. Suppliers intending to provide gaming equipment must be licensed with the LGA. Maintaining a supplier license requires compliance with Supplier Terms and Conditions, including ensuring that at all times equipment supplied complies with any applicable Gaming Integrity Standards. The LGA reserves the right to amend these standards at any time.

Purpose

This document is intended to provide regulatory guidance to manufacturers, suppliers and purchasers of Bingo balls by providing Gaming Integrity Standards for bingo balls, their production and distribution. These standards ensure that bingo balls used in lottery schemes in the Province of Manitoba meet the tests for fairness, honesty, security, safety, and auditability.

Definitions

1. “Bingo Ball” means the designator used in the game of Bingo when a mechanical random number generator is used.
2. “Design Schematic” means a true rendering of the proposed Bingo ball.
3. “Gaming Operator” means a business entity or association of persons that owns or operates premises, in whole or in part, in which the MLLC conducts and manages provincial gaming.
4. “Lottery Scheme” means a lottery scheme within the meaning of the *Criminal Code* (Canada).
5. “MLLC” means the Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation.
6. “Play” means the patron wagers his/her own currency to obtain a chance for realizing a reward.
7. “Provincial Gaming” means a lottery scheme conducted and managed by the MLLC under an agreement with a Gaming Operator.
8. “Set” means the 75 lettered and numbered balls used in the game of Bingo.

9. “Unique Manufacturer Identifier” (UMI) means the manufacturer’s assigned number to identify the ball or set, including but not limited to; the casino in which the Bingo ball was manufactured for, the brand, and the manufacture date.

LGA License

The manufacturer and/or supplier are required to be licensed, if their product is intended to be offered for play.

Gaming Equipment Specifications

Quality assurance testing is required for Gaming Integrity approval of the gaming equipment. A design schematic may also be required if any custom design features are used in the construction of the gaming equipment.

1. A design schematic is to be supplied if the set contains any custom design features, i.e., unique manufacturer identifier, security features or casino name/logo.
2. Each design schematic must be a true rendering of the Bingo balls showing the following characteristics:
 - a. Physical dimensions and specifications in metric measurement
 - b. Mass weight
 - c. Security feature(s) utilized, if any
 - d. Type of material/substance used
 - e. Colour of the substance used
 - f. Casino name/logo, if any
 - g. Manufacturer’s name, logo or an identifying mark
 - h. Colour and pantone utilized for lettering

The schematic should reference the manufacturer’s name, logo, and address; indicate the brand or style of Bingo ball; and provide a section for the purchaser to approve and accept the schematic for production.

3. Once constructed and provided within the shipment to the purchaser; the applicant is required to conduct quality assurance testing and submit the testing to the LGA for retention.

Standards

At any time Bingo balls do not meet the following standards, the equipment may be returned to the supplier.

Construction

1. Each bingo ball shall be formed in the shape of a perfect sphere and have a diameter no smaller than 1.5 inches.

2. Each bingo ball must have the same size (consistency of shape) and weight to ensure that each bingo ball has an equal chance of being selected.
3. Each Bingo ball in a set must be numbered 1 – 75 inclusively.
4. All Bingo balls within a set must be constructed of a high quality material that is not conducive to deterioration and have the ability to resist cracking/punctures, fading, and deterioration of numbers and lettering.
5. The compound used for the numbers and letters must form a permanent bond with the bingo ball.
6. The number printed upon each Bingo ball must be at least ½ inch in height.
7. The number printed upon each Bingo ball must have the corresponding letter from the word “BINGO” above them.
8. The number must be positioned on the white half of the Bingo ball.
9. The number printed upon each Bingo ball must be circled in red.
10. Bingo balls must have the following colours covering half the ball and in the following sequence of colours:

B	(1 – 15)	White and Blue
I	(16 – 30)	White and Red
N	(31 – 45)	White on White
G	(46 – 60)	White and Green
O	(61 – 75)	White and Yellow
11. All bingo balls must be permanently marked with some form of unique manufacturer identification, manufacturer name or logo

Distribution/Packaging

1. Each package, box, or other container must be sealed at the factory with a tamper resistant seal or tape, including a warning to the purchaser that it may have been tampered with if the package, box or other container was received by the purchaser with the seal broken. The seal or tape must be visible from outside the package, box, or container and must be of such construction as to guarantee that should the container be opened or otherwise tampered with, evidence of the opening or tampering would be easily detected.
2. The manufacturer’s name or logo and must be placed on each packaged shipment or alternatively placed on each box/package containing individual sets of Bingo balls.

3. A label shall be placed on, or be visible from, the exterior of each carton to easily determine the intended casino, the type of equipment, amount contained within and the manufacturer.
4. Manufacturers are required to supply a packing slip inside the carton listing the same information required in point 3.