



## CASINO TIPS AND SUGGESTIONS

Congratulations on choosing Fun Services of Kansas City to help you with your casino event. With over 35 years experience, we know what it takes to put on a great party! We may provide entertainment to thousands of events each year, but you will feel like you are our only event that day! We like to think of ourselves as partners in the success of your event. We do all the hard work, you get all the credit. But, that's ok, we want to help make you look like an event planning superhero to your guests. The information below should give you a great idea about how our parties work, the legalities of a private casino party, how to give away prizes, and some fun extra things you can do to make your event even more exciting. If you have any more questions, don't hesitate to call your Fun Services Sales Rep to get the answers you need.

### How it Works

We will always arrive before your party starts and set up your tables. Someone from Fun Services will call you the week of your event to let you know what time we will be there. Then, our dealers will show up 15-30 minutes before the start time of the tables to get the chips, cards, and accessories ready to go. When the party starts, we will give each guest \$5,000 in play money (in the form of a \$5,000, Fun Services Casino Voucher). The players then exchange that at any of the tables for chips to play with all night. ***Please keep our chip values what they are. For certain situations, you can request special exceptions, but it makes the dealing go a lot more smoothly if our dealers can use the chip values below... what they are trained with:***



**White: \$100**



**Red: \$500**



**Blue: \$1,000**



**Green: \$5,000**



**Black: \$10,000**

If your guests don't know how to play a certain game... don't worry. All of our dealers are professionally trained, friendly, and extremely helpful. We will be glad to teach anyone how to play a game. We may not teach them how to win, but at least they will know how to try!

Most parties play for only three hours (unless you arrange otherwise with your Sales Rep). At the end of the event, our dealers will count up the chips won by each player and give them an auction voucher, double raffle tickets, or single raffle tickets (see PRIZE DISTRIBUTION section for more info) or nothing at all – if you aren't doing prizes. Then, it's time to give out gifts or end the evening.

It really is that simple. Every party is unique. If you have any special requests or want certain games played looser (easier for players to win) or tighter (played strictly by Las Vegas rules), let us know. If you want to be the CASINO KING or QUEEN for the evening, simply tell the pit boss, and we will give you extra chips to give to VIP guests all evening and make you look like a star!

### **Legalities of Casino Parties**

When determining whether the party you are putting on is legal or illegal, you have to look at three things: 1) Consideration – Did the guests pay to play the casino games? 2) Game of Chance – Is the game they played a game of chance or skill (Unfortunately, all casino games are defined as games of chance – even poker, although members of State and Federal Congresses are working to redefine poker) and 3) Redemption – Are prizes being awarded for the casino games? This can be anything of monetary value including cash, prizes, gift certificates, and trophies. If all three of these things are occurring, then you are operating an unlicensed casino and can have your party shut down. On top of that, the facility hosting the event can have their liquor license removed (if they have one) and we can have our tables seized... don't worry, it has never happened. Here's why:

If you are putting on a private party such as a house event or a company party, you are probably ok. Why? Well, you are paying us to be there. You aren't charging your guests anything. So, if they don't pay to play, then you can give away whatever you want, and play any game of chance. If you remove one of the three factors, you are ok. Since you can't change the definition of the games, yet, they are considered games of chance, so you have to remove consideration or redemption. In the above example, you have removed consideration (free to play).

However, many of our events are fundraisers and charity events where the whole point is to charge people to play. To make your event legal you have one of two options. Either, don't charge for the gaming or don't give prizes. But, you still need to make revenue! So, to do this, and stay legal, simply charge for admittance to the event. If you have something else going on (ie. Dinner, a band, a dj, anything else) then you can charge for that. Also, if there are "re-buys" it has to be for a donation, of any total, not a set amount, or else you are creating a monetary ratio between the money paid and the chips given. Although, you can use the words "suggested donation amount" and let the player decide if they want to give the suggested amount or be a jerk! Problem solved. The only downside is that if someone shows up and request to play for free, legally, you have to let them, unless your are SOLD OUT (wink wink). Or, if you are working with a registered 501C3 charity, they can legally do door prizes, trivia, and bingo without restriction. So, you can charge to play (limiting admittance to those who pay something) and don't give prizes. But, when a player loses, they can go to the Trivia Table, run by the charity, and be asked a trivia question. They then receive a prize for their answer – right or wrong. I think you get how to do it now. If you need more explanation or help coming up with how to run your event legally – call your sales rep.

## **Prize Distribution**

There are several ways to give away prizes. We want you to know your options so that you can decide which way (or combination of ways) is best for you and your group. First of all, prizes can be anything. We have some clients that give \$5.00 McDonalds gift certificates and some that give away trips to Vegas and Plasma TV's! IT depends on the size of your party and the budget you are on. Don't be afraid to have fun – give away some mystery prizes or funny stuff, like a can of SPAM or a pack of Ramen Noodles. Remember, this is a party, not a gambling house – make people laugh – it's all about creating memories that will last! Our Pit Boss can give the gifts away (no extra fee if that section is short or included in casino time), or one of our talented DJs, or you can do it yourself after we pack up and go.

**PRIZE GIVEAWAY** – This is the easiest one to do and the best if you are on a tight budget and can only give away one, two, or three gifts. In this format, we don't give the players anything. You tell us ahead of time how many gifts you have and we keep track of the top finishers for the night. Then, when all the chips have been counted, you can announce the top finishers, from lowest to highest (3<sup>rd</sup> place, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and Grand Prize Winner). This can also be done in conjunction with any of the other methods as a fun way to recognize the top casino winners at the party.

**AUCTION** – This can be lots of fun, but you have to watch out for some of the pitfalls too. If you have a small group, auctions work better. The problem with a large group is that you will have a huge diversity of winnings. In a three-hour party, some people will lose all their money and some will win upwards of \$100,000. Also, couples and friend tend to pool their winnings to make them stronger bidders in the auction which will prevent some players from bidding on anything. The solution to this is to split the group into two or three auction groups (based on how much they have won) but this can be time consuming, since the other two groups have to wait and watch one group at a time bid for the prizes set aside for their group's auction.

**GROUP RAFFLE\*\*** – This is probably the most popular prize distribution method we have. It's simple, it's quick, and it's fair. Each player will receive on raffle ticket when they start, so even if they lose all their money, they still get at least one chance at a prize. Then, at the end of gaming, when the chips have been counted, each player will receive one extra raffle ticket for every \$5,000 they have won, up to, say \$50,000. This way, you still reward those that have done well but don't punish those that haven't. Your best player will have ten raffle tickets, for playing well, and your losers (or should I say, "Winning Impaired"? ) will still have one ticket. You can set those limits however you deem necessary. If you want the tickets to be given for every \$1,000 or every \$10,000, let us know. Of we can set the limit at 5 or 20 tickets, based on what you think is fair at your event. Then, all of the tickets are dropped into a raffle drum (which you can rent from us) and given to the Master of Ceremonies to draw from. Now, whether there is one prize or one hundred prizes... you simply draw one name at a time until all the prizes are done. The only downside is that you need to start with the biggest prizes first and work your way down. Otherwise, if you start with the smallest prizes, and someone who has one ticket in the drum might get mad if they won a small prize but lost out on a chance to win the grand prize because their name was pulled early. I know... people can be ungrateful. They should just be happy that they got to come to the party! But, trust us, they won't.

**INDIVIDUAL RAFFLE\*\*** – This is the method that we recommend. It is the most fun and the most fair. Tickets are still given as mentioned above, but instead of putting them all in one raffle drum, you get to choose where you put your tickets. All the prizes are laid out on tables with a small bag, box, jar, cup, etc. in front of each one (please label them... or they can get mixed up). Now, players decide which prizes they want to enter the drawing for. It makes the tickets part of

the fun. If you have ten tickets, you get to decide whether to put one ticket into ten different prize drawings (giving you a better chance at winning more than one prize) or all in won drawing (increasing your chances of winning that one prize). Then, the Master of Ceremonies goes through each prize in whatever order he or she wants, and draws a name for a prize from its accompanying bag, box, jar, cup, etc.

**\*\*SPECIAL NOTE FOR RAFFLES** – Fun Services can provide you with raffle tickets upon request. We carry two different kinds. We have the double tickets, where they tear off one of the two matching tickets, put it into the drawing, and then keep the other half for verification if they win. Or, we can give you the single tickets and have them write their name on the back. There are pros and cons to each method.

The double tickets make it easy to read (since the players don't have to write their name) and no pens are required making getting them into the raffle quicker. But, it is impersonal to call out a number for a winner, and sometimes slow, if they have to look through 20 stubs to match up the number called. We recommend using this only if you have a large group (since finding pens and writing names on each would take a while) and limit the number of tickets given out to 5 to 10.

Or, you can use our single tickets. When doing this, players will write their names on the back before they drop them into the raffle. The cons are that sometimes it is hard to read the name (and names get mispronounced) and you have to have enough pens or pencils available for everyone to write their names and get the tickets in quickly. The pros still outweigh the cons. With this method, no one needs to keep a stub, which saves time in the raffle (since everyone knows their own name!) and it is much more personal. What would you rather here, "The winner is number 6453527!" or, "The winner is John Smith!" Exactly.

### **Fun Extras**

Fun Services offers a lot of other exciting things for casino parties other than the tables. Make sure to ask your sales rep about possibly adding a DJ, band, fortune teller, caricature artist, balloon artist, magician, airbrush tattoo artist, wax hands, a jumbo inflatable movie screen, photographer, or any number of fun extras to your event. We also have items to help you with Prize Distribution, like two different sized raffle drums, color wheels (to spin for prizes), or a Cash Cube (to grab for prize certificates or real money!). Let us know how we can help – we will do as little or as much as you want – whatever it takes to make you look like an event-planning superhero!



**For more info, e-mail your sales rep, or [info9200@funservicesmidwest.com](mailto:info9200@funservicesmidwest.com)  
or simply call us at 913-441-9200 or toll free at 1-800-477-9119**