



Play Smart

THE GO-TO SOURCE FOR FACTS, TOOLS AND ADVICE ABOUT GAMBLING FOR ALL LEVELS OF PLAYERS.



AT PLAYSMART, WE LOVE ANSWERING QUESTIONS ABOUT BINGO AND OTHER GAMES PLAYED AT CHARITABLE BINGO & GAMING CENTRES.

We want you to know how to play and be familiar with randomness, odds and other concepts that help you play smart.

To learn more about your favourite game, take a break from playing or get support should you need it, visit our on-site PlaySmart centres, [PlaySmart.ca](http://PlaySmart.ca) or call the Virtual PlaySmart Centre at 1-833-888-2306.

PlaySmart Centres are managed by the Responsible Gambling Council - an independent non-profit organization dedicated to problem gambling prevention.

Scan the QR code to learn more about how Charitable Bingo & Gaming works and what keeps it fun.



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Play Smart CENTRE



# CHARITABLE BINGO & GAMING

KNOW MORE, PLAY SMARTER

## KNOW MORE, PLAY SMARTER

### WHAT IS CHARITABLE BINGO & GAMING?

From traditional Session Bingo to electronic games, Charitable Bingo & Gaming Centres provide a fun way to spend time with friends while giving back to Ontario's communities.



**WHEN YOU PLAY,  
LOCAL CHARITIES WIN –**  
WITH OVER \$500 MILLION CONTRIBUTED SINCE 2005!

# TYPES OF GAMES

## SESSION BINGO

Everyone loves the chance to yell “Bingo!” It’s part of what makes bingo sessions so much fun. But before getting caught up in the excitement, get to know how sessions are played and how the odds of winning work.

### HOW DO YOU PLAY

Bingo sessions are games of chance where the goal is to fill various patterns on paper or electronic cards. You can choose to play Paper Bingo, Electronic Bingo or both! The games are played live and based on random numbers announced by a live caller. When a player matches the selected pattern, they yell “Bingo!” Bingo sessions are played at specific times. To help you choose where to play, each Charitable Bingo & Gaming Centre lists its schedule and programs on their website. Ask for a beginner package when you arrive to help ease you into the game.

### WHAT ARE THE ODDS OF WINNING?

All bingo cards have the same odds of winning. But unlike games that have fixed odds, the odds of a bingo session change depending on how many cards are in play, and the number of balls drawn during a session.

## PLAY ON DEMAND (POD) GAMES

Play On Demand (POD) Games are electronic games played on the same device as Electronic Bingo. They’re a fun and easy way to play your games, your way, any time.

POD games have a range of prizes and different odds of winning. To know the prizes you are playing for, see the RULES on the game screen or ask a Customer Service Representative.

## TAP ‘N PLAY CABINET AND SIDE GAMES

TAP ‘N PLAY games are fast-paced individual play games that offer instant wins that you can play any time on a cabinet or eBingo terminal.

The object of the game is to hit a winning combination of symbols which will be presented on the game screen.

All results are based on a bingo or break open game outcome, depending which game you play. Entertainment display is an animation of the bingo or break open game results and for amusement only.

TAP ‘N PLAY games are simple to play: just load up your cabinet with cash or a voucher or purchase electronic credits at the point of sale counter for the eBingo terminal, select your wager amount, and then tap to see if you win.

There is a variety of games to choose from. For more information see the RULES button on the game screen or ask a Customer Service Representative.

## QUESTIONS? WE’VE GOT ANSWERS.

### CAN THE BINGO CALLER CONTROL WHICH NUMBER IS NEXT?

Many players think the caller can control which number is next. In fact, a blower machine moves the bingo balls randomly with air until one is blown out, making the next number completely uncontrollable and unpredictable – that’s why it’s so exciting!

### DO CERTAIN BINGO CARDS HAVE BETTER ODDS OF WINNING THAN OTHERS?

All cards have the same odds of winning, no matter which numbers appear on them. That’s because all numbers have an equal chance of being called. Every single card has the exact same chance of winning. Bingo isn’t about choosing the “right” card, it’s about having fun!

### CAN I USE LUCKY CHARMS? WILL THEY HELP ME WIN?

Lucky charms are a fun way to personalize your play area. Some players bring small figurines, toys and trinkets to improve their play experience – but they won’t change the odds of winning!

### ARE MY ODDS OF WINNING BETTER AT SOME CHARITABLE BINGO & GAMING CENTRES?

The odds vary depending on the game; for bingo, they depend on the number of people and cards in play, and the number of balls drawn. This means that the odds can be better or worse for every session, regardless of the location. For POD and TAP ‘N PLAY games, odds change depending on the game you’re playing. In other words, choose your location based on convenience and fun!

### DOES PLAYING MULTIPLE BINGO CARDS GIVE YOU A BIG EDGE?

Each card provides an additional chance of winning, but it increases the cost of play at a greater rate than it improves the odds. Several factors, such as the number of balls called, the pattern in play, and the number of players also affect the odds, so it’s best to only play as many cards as you can keep up with!

### WILL I EVENTUALLY WIN IF I JUST KEEP PLAYING TAP ‘N PLAY?

While TAP ‘N PLAY games features a chance for instant wins, it’s impossible to know when the next win is going to happen. Based on the odds, it’s never a smart play to “wait it out” or try to win back money spent, because you’re likely to lose even more money over time. Playing TAP ‘N PLAY games is meant for entertainment!

## GAMBLING CONCEPTS 101

### PLAY BINGO, SMARTER.

Whether you’re dabbing paper cards or playing Electronic Bingo, get the PlaySmart edge by knowing these key concepts on how all bingo games work.

### RANDOMNESS – BINGO IS UNPREDICTABLE

Games of chance – like bingo – have random outcomes, meaning they can’t be predicted. Bingo balls are randomly selected by blower machines at each Charitable Bingo & Gaming Centre – there is no way to predict winning numbers. So enjoy the fun – randomness and all!

### INDEPENDENCE OF EVENTS – BINGO IS IN THE MOMENT

This means that what happened in the past doesn’t determine what will happen in the future. Each session is a unique event, and the next one is a new start. Winning or losing in the current session doesn’t determine whether you will win or lose in the next (and that’s part of the excitement!).

### THE ROLE OF SKILL – BINGO IS A GAME OF CHANCE

Some games have an element of skill where your knowledge can help you make educated assumptions about the outcomes. Bingo games however, are completely random and your dabbing skills won’t help you win. The fun and excitement of playing comes from pure chance!

### PLAYING SMART, MADE EASY

We’ve developed some great PlaySmart Tools and Resources to make understanding and playing games as simple as dabbing a bingo card.

- **PLAYSMART.CA**  
The PlaySmart website is home to videos, quizzes, and other resources that make it easy to understand games, concepts, and your style of play.
- **PLAYSMART CENTRES**  
The go-to place for facts, tools and advice about gambling. Located at every slots, casino and Charitable Bingo & Gaming Centre location in Ontario.