

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

---

Legislative Document

No. 892

H.P. 677

House of Representatives, February 28, 2007

### An Act To Authorize Nonprofit Organizations To Conduct Tournament Games

---

Reference to the Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*

MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND

Clerk

Presented by Representative PATRICK of Rumford.  
Cosponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford and  
Representatives: BLANCHARD of Old Town, BROWNE of Vassalboro, CROCKETT of  
Augusta, HOGAN of Old Orchard Beach, MOORE of Standish, PINKHAM of Lexington  
Township, THERIAULT of Madawaska, Senator: STRIMLING of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §333-A** is enacted to read:

3 **§333-A. Tournament games**

4 The Chief of the State Police may issue a license to conduct tournament games as  
5 provided in this section to an organization eligible to conduct beano games under chapter  
6 13-A and games of chance under this chapter. For purposes of this section, "tournament  
7 game" means a game of chance played using a deck of cards with rules similar to poker  
8 or other card games. The Chief of the State Police may not issue a tournament game  
9 license to an organization more than once per month.

10 **1. Municipal approval.** An organization that intends to apply for a tournament  
11 game license must first receive approval by the local governing authority where the  
12 games are to be conducted. Proof of municipal approval must be provided to the Chief of  
13 the State Police upon application for a tournament game license.

14 **2. License application.** An organization must submit a license application to the  
15 Chief of the State Police on a form provided by the Chief of the State Police. The license  
16 application must specify one or more charitable organizations that the proceeds of the  
17 tournament are intended to benefit. For the purposes of this section, "charitable  
18 organization" means any person or entity, including any person or entity in a foreign  
19 state, that is or purports to be organized or operated for any charitable purpose or that  
20 solicits, accepts or obtains contributions from the public for any charitable, educational,  
21 humane or patriotic purpose.

22 **3. License.** The license fee for a tournament game license is \$5 per tournament  
23 player.

24 **4. Tournament.** The organization licensed to conduct a tournament game under this  
25 section shall display the rules of the game and the license issued to conduct the  
26 tournament. The maximum number of players allowed is 100. Winners are determined  
27 by a process of elimination. The use of currency is prohibited as part of tournament play.  
28 The maximum entry fee to play in the tournament is \$100, except the organization may  
29 add \$5 to the entry fee to defray the cost of the license application. Only one entry fee is  
30 permitted per person. A tournament must be completed within 48 hours. Other games of  
31 chance are prohibited, except for lucky seven or similar sealed tickets.

32 **5. Proceeds.** Seventy-five percent of the entry fees under subsection 4 must be paid  
33 as prizes to the winners of the tournament. Of the money remaining after the payment of  
34 prizes, 75% must be distributed to the charitable organization or organizations listed on  
35 the license application pursuant to this section.

36 **6. Cost of administration; surplus.** The Chief of the State Police may retain, from  
37 license fees collected in accordance with subsection 3, only an amount necessary to  
38 defray the costs of administering this section. All fees collected in excess of the amount  
39 necessary to defray the costs of administration must be allocated as follows:

