



DEPARTMENT OF LAW  
OFFICE OF THE  
**Attorney General**  
STATE CAPITOL  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

(R75-548)

BRUCE E. BABBITT  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 19, 1976

76-57

Mr. Neal G. Trasente, Director  
Arizona Department of Revenue  
West Wing, State Capitol  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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Dear Mr. Trasente:

Sometime ago you requested an opinion on the following question:

May a blind individual, or any other individual, bring his or her own bingo cards to bingo games held pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 5-401 et seq. and use them to the exclusion of cards provided by the bingo licensee?

While it may seem somewhat harsh in this instance, the provisions of A.R.S. §§ 5-406(D) and 5-406(0) prevent the use of bingo cards other than as supplied by the bingo licensee. A.R.S. § 5-406(D) provides, in part, that

. . . [n]o such game or games of bingo shall be conducted with any equipment except such as shall be owned by the licensee.

A.R.S. § 5-401(3) defines "equipment" as including

. . . the cards or sheets bearing numbers or other designations to be covered. . . .

Finally, A.R.S. § 5-406(0) provides, in part, that

. . . [t]he card or sheets of the players shall be part of a deck, group or series of cards, no two of which shall be alike, and which deck, group or series shall not be so prepared or arranged as to prefer any card.

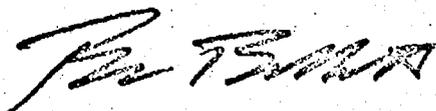


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The potential for abuse would be great if players, sighted, blind or even feigning blindness, were permitted to bring and use their own cards. As you recall, an example of this occurred earlier this year in Mammoth, Arizona, where two players "doctored" their card and attempted to print the winning numbers on blank spaces as the game progressed. Moreover, while the chances are slim, there is always the possibility of perfect duplicate "bingos" where a "private" card is being used instead of a card from a series of cards, ". . . no two of which shall be alike. . ."

Please advise if you require more information.

Sincerely,



BRUCE E. BABBITT  
Attorney General

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