

Directive 1 of 2021

Non-Profit Games During Political Events Ruling

In exercise of the power conferred by article 7(2) of the Gaming Act, 2018 (Cap. 583 of the Laws of Malta) and the Second Schedule of the Gaming Authorisations Regulations (S.L.583.05), the Malta Gaming Authority is hereby issuing the following ruling in relation to the offering of non-profit games during political events.

Part I – Short Title and Definitions

1. The short title of this ruling is the Non-Profit Games During Political Events Ruling 2021.
2. This ruling shall be deemed to have come into force on the date of its publication.
3. (1) In this ruling, save as provided in sub-article (2) of this article, all words and phrases shall have the same meaning as prescribed in the Gaming Definitions Regulations (S.L. 538.04).

(2) In this ruling unless the context otherwise requires:

“Candidate” means any person who is:

- (a) contesting for a general election in accordance with the General Elections Act (Cap. 354 of the Laws of Malta);
- (b) contesting for a European Parliament election in accordance with the European Parliament Elections Act (Cap. 467 of the Laws of Malta);
- (c) contesting for a local council election in accordance with the Local Government Act (Cap. 363 of the Laws of Malta).

“Political event” shall mean any event organised by a candidate in connection with a general election, European Parliament election and/or local council election within a period of six (6) months prior to the date on which the respective term of the electoral cycle is set to expire.

Provided that the Authority may, by means of a notice, revise the time period during which the provisions of this ruling are applicable.

Part II – Organisation of Non-Profit Games during Political Events

4. (1) Any candidate that wishes to organise a non-profit game during a political event shall be exempted from obtaining a low risk games permit, provided that the non-profit game satisfies all of the following requirements:
 - (a) The duration of the non-profit game cannot exceed six (6) hours;
 - (b) The non-profit game may consist solely of lottery and bingo-type games;

Provided that in case of doubt, the Authority shall have sole discretion to determine the nature of the game.

- (c) The value of the stake to participate in the game does not exceed five Euro (€5) per player;
- (d) The value of the prize does not exceed one hundred and fifty Euro (€150);
- (e) Measures are taken to ensure that no minors participate in the non-profit game or are otherwise exposed to it;
- (f) Ninety per cent (90%) of the net proceeds of the non-profit game shall be used for charitable, sporting, religious, philanthropic, cultural, educational, social or civic purposes.

Provided that the term “net proceeds” shall have the same meaning as prescribed in the Gaming Authorisations and Compliance Directive (Directive 3 of 2018).

(2) The Authority reserves the right to request any information and/or documentation from any person that is involved in the organisation of the non-profit game.