

Manitoba Weightlifting Association

Bingo Policy

Effective July 1, 2008

The Manitoba Weightlifting Association (“MWA”) is allotted bingos from the Manitoba Lotteries Corporation (“MLC”) each year as part of the annual funding through Sport Manitoba. These bingos represent a significant percentage of the overall MWA funding. The funding from the MLC supports team travel, club funding and other MWA programs each year. The MWA currently funds up to 50% of athletes’ out of town travel expenses for MWA confirmed events and through participation in annual MWA bingos, athletes may raise enough funds to offset the remaining travel expenses.

The MWA Bingo Policy will be monitored according to the following rules and regulations:

- The MWA requires seven (7) volunteers and one (1) chairperson to attend each bingo as per MLC requirements. The MLC requires that the chairperson arrive ½ hour prior to start time. Manitoba Lotteries Corporation requires that volunteers be on site and ready to work 15 minutes before their shift starts.
- Bingo volunteers will earn \$60.00 credit per bingo worked and the MWA will keep an up to date account for all competitive members. For officials, coaches and the general membership they will receive their \$60.00 upon completion of the bingo unless they are volunteering for a competitive member.
- The member can use their account for a credit towards weightlifting related expenses such as competition travel expenses, membership fees, user fees, entry fees, clinics/seminars, lifting shoes, lifting suit, medical and treatment cost due to a weightlifting injury, or any other expense payable to the MWA at anytime.

For costs which are directly controlled by the MWA office, such as travel/competition costs and membership fees, an athletes bingo credits can be directly accessed. For items such as equipment, medical treatment and gym memberships a receipt must be submitted to the MWA and the athlete will be re-reimbursed for their expenses.

- The members cannot make use of bingo credits not yet attained, i.e. the member cannot promise to work upcoming bingos to make up used credit not in the member’s account.
- The credit cannot be cashed in. Bingo credits may be transferred to any MWA member in good standing with prior written consent of the transferor to the MWA office. Alternatively, a member may designate another member on the bingo sign-in sheet at the casino to provide another member with the bingo credit. As an example, Joe Smith signs into the bingo as Bob Small to provide Bob with the bingo credit. Bingo participants may also designate the bingo credit to the MWA if he/she wishes to do so.

- MWA Clubs must appoint a Bingo Representative. This person will do their best to encourage, accommodate, and monitor Bingo participation by their club's athletes.
- Coaches will also do their best to encourage and accommodate participation by athletes in the bingos. This may include posting the bingo schedule once it is provided, recruiting athletes for the bingos, or changing training time if necessary.
- The Program Administrator will notify the general membership, to the best of his/her ability, about the upcoming bingo schedule.
- Due to the limited spots available, the MWA will employ the following rules to fill the required seven (7) bingo spots:
 1. All MWA competitive members have first choice to take a spot. If all spots are not filled within ten (10) days of the bingo date the second option is employed.
 2. Other MWA members (non competitive members) can take a bingo spot if spots are still available.
 3. If there are still spots available within five (5) days of the bingo date then a MWA member can have a non-MWA member work a bingo for them or they can bring a non-MWA member to work a bingo with them (e.g. friend or family member).
- The credit *may* be forfeited if the member:
 1. does not renew their membership by September 30th of each year;
 2. is suspended;
 3. causes damage due to their negligence;
 4. owes money to the MWA for any reason;
 5. for reasons the Executive Committee may deem applicable
- Failure to attend a bingo reserved will result in a suspension of the next bingo unless 48 hours notice is given, (i.e. the negligent athlete will not be able to work the next bingo)