Request to Conduct of Raffle Using Alternative Method of Selecting Winners

"Car/Vehicle through the Ice" Raffle - DENIED
May 21, 2012, Board Meeting

Proposed conduct of the game
The basic concept of this event would involve the placement of a vehicle on a frozen body of water. The winning entry would be based on the time/date that the vehicle breaks through the ice and drops into the water. Each participant would submit an entry that indicates the date and time the vehicle would “enter the water”. The holder of the entry with the closest prediction for when the vehicle drops into the water wins the prize.

Denied
The alternative raffle request is recommended for denial for the following reasons:

• For this event to be considered a raffle there would need to be a random (chance) drawing. Based on the fact that each entry in the contest would need to be evaluated or judged, there is no random selection to determine the winner. Therefore this event would not be considered a raffle under the authority of the Gambling Control Board.

Other considerations
• DNR and Pollution Control Agency - While this would not be considered a raffle, the allowance of such an event would have additional regulatory concerns from other Minnesota state regulatory agencies including the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

This event would involve “the deposit of solid waste” into a protected resource of Minnesota.

Given this categorization of the activity, event organizers should be mindful of local and state regulations that prohibit this type of activity and should consult with appropriate authorities.

• Illegal bet - Consultation was also sought with the Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety.

The Board was informed that the Department of Public Safety’s position is that such an event/contest would be considered an illegal bet under Minnesota Statutes, Section 609.755 and/or 609.76, because the contest involves the sale of “chance guesses” and also has the elements of consideration and prize.