



Frequently Asked Questions

-What is Bingo and why do we do it – How does it benefit the school, parents, and families?

Your work at BINGO is very important. Funds generated by these games are applied directly to Hillel School's scholarship funds. Empire BINGO was founded as a project of HCDS parents and supporters. The proceeds from the enterprise are dedicated solely to the support of HCDS. The BINGO program has had a profound impact on the school's finances for many years. Without this revenue, our school's families' scholarship needs would not be supported.

-What does a normal shift look like?

A typical shift starts at 5:45pm sharp and runs till approximately 9:45pm. There are various roles that volunteers can serve at BINGO. Everyone's initial position is "floor worker," selling various BINGO tickets called Seal Cards (instant peel and win cards), bonanza cards (first game of the night) or split pots (two different games throughout the night).

Volunteers can work their way up to advanced shifts after a year or two of experience on the floor. Those shifts include two financial roles in the back room doing pay-outs, a "seal card lead" which currently is run by Tim Fox on each Sunday, run cash register, caller (sits up front and calls BINGO #'s) or captain.

Dress is casual and workers should wear very comfortable shoes as they are on their feet most of the night.

-How are my shifts scheduled?

Each worker is assigned to a team (Aleph, Bet, Gimel or Dalet). Once assigned to a team, that is their team for the year. If they cannot work a scheduled shift, it is the workers responsibility to find a substitute, trade with another parent on a different team, and notify their captain of the change.

-What happens if I need to switch my shift or get/send a substitute?

If you cannot work on a specific date, please make your very best effort to SWITCH WITH SOMEONE ON A DIFFERENT TEAM who has the same job, ie: callers must swap other callers, financial with another financial, etc. This is due to experience, and we promote from within. When you're not there, your teammates work that much harder. When your substitute arrives, he/she should let the team captain know that he/she is working for you. If you are unable to

find anyone to swap shifts, please contact your captains soon as possible, as he/she must know when the team will be short workers, and you will be billed for the missed shift. If you cannot find a parent to trade with, you can also try calling the substitutes listed at the bottom of the schedule, they are usually willing to pick up a shift for a nominal fee (more affordable than paying for a missed shift).

All BINGO workers must be registered on our BINGO license. •Any substitutes (other than HCDS parents) must be approved in advance by John August (305-1909) or Keith Newman (490-0497).

-What happens if you miss a shift? Cost and/ how soon you need to make the shift up?

Any missed shift will be charged the “missed shift fee” unless they can work the next “first Sunday of the month” shift. The first Sunday of each month is usually the busiest, so this is the best time to make up a shift. John & Keith should be notified if you are coming to a makeup shift.

-What is the overall time commitment? (One shift, two shifts, etc.....).

We run BINGO every Sunday (including July & August). We do not work on major Jewish holidays. Families can choose to work one shift a month, two shifts (either both the same night, or different Sundays) ...some families opt to do three or four for more savings.

-Details about the tuition reduction for this voluntary service.

\$1,300 off tuition per monthly family shift. Work 2 monthly shifts per family and save \$2,250. Work 3 monthly shifts and save \$3,000.

-Where is the BINGO hall located?

EMPIRE BINGO, 360 Empire Blvd, in Empire Plaza in Irondequoit. Take 590 North to Exit #8 (Empire Blvd./Rte. 404). Turn left (west) on Empire Blvd. Empire Plaza is two blocks ahead on the right-hand side, past 7-11. Enter the plaza just after Guida’s Pizza (but before Dan’s Crafts).

- WORKER RESPONSIBILITIES

- You are expected to arrive at 5:45pm so you are ready to go on the floor to start working before 6:00 pm. If you arrive more than 30 minutes late or leave prior to clean up, you will be credited for only ½ shift. Callers are required to work a 2-hour shift and should arrive at least 45 minutes prior to their calling time.
- We generally finish by 9:45 pm, but please always check with the Captain before you leave.
- Sign-in and out on the attendance roster. Please write clearly and legibly.
- When applicable, please indicate for whom you are substituting, or if you are working a make-up session.