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**Oxfam GB Lottery: SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY POLICY**

**Introduction**

Oxfam GB operates a Society Lottery for the general public resident in the United Kingdom (this excludes the Isle of Man, Channel Islands and BFPO addresses based on Gambling Act 2005 regulations). All proceeds from the lottery go to Oxfam.

The Society is committed to ensuring that the lottery is operated in a secure, fair and socially responsible way and to endorse responsible gambling amongst its members.

The Gambling Commission regulates gambling in the public interest. The regulatory framework introduced by the Gambling Act 2005 is based on three licensing objectives:

1. Preventing gambling from being a source of crime and disorder, being associated with crime and disorder, or being used to support crime.

2. Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way.

3. Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

This document sets out the Societies policies and approach to ensuring we approach any gambling activities in a socially responsible way. All staff and volunteers involved in managing or promoting the lottery are required to read the social responsibility policy upon appointment and every twelve months thereafter.

1. **Preventing gambling from being a source of crime and disorder**

When an individual joins the lottery OXFAM GB will:

* Take steps to ensure that the individual is aged 18 or over
* Ensure we do not suspect money laundering in any way, in line with the Proceeds of Crime Act
* Retain the right to cancel any membership should we suspect criminal activity.
* Minimise the risk of crime through our policies and procedures relating to cash handling.
* Limit the maximum number of entries to 10 per draw.
* Record any incidents for future reference.

1. **Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way.**

OXFAM GB will ensure that:

Players have access to clear information on matters such as the rules of the lottery, the prizes that are available and the chances of winning.

* The rules are fair.
* Any advertising and promotional material is clear and not misleading. The results are made public.
* A complaints procedure is in place including an independent arbitration service.

1. **Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.**

OXFAM GB will use our best endeavours to address the following issues:

* Underage Gambling. The Oxfam Lottery is only open to individuals over the age of 18. We reserve the right to ask for proof of age from any customer, and customers’ accounts may be suspended until satisfactory proof of age is provided. If for whatever reason, upon winning any individual is unable to prove upon request that they are 18 or over then any winnings will be forfeited. Oxfam will only market the lottery to those aged 18 or over and will ensure that all promotional appeals are designed so as to minimise potential appeal to children.
* Gambling Limits. Oxfam has set a 10 ticket limit on the number of entries into a lottery that can be purchased by an individual in one draw.
* Self Exclusion. On request, we will close any player’s lottery membership(s) for a minimum period of six months during which time the membership(s) cannot be reinstated. During this period we will also try to ensure that the individual does not try and open a new membership.
* All attempted breaches of underage gambling and self-exclusions will be recorded.
* Access to Player History. We will provide any player with a full history of their lottery membership, including complete payment and winnings history upon request.
* Provide Information on Gambling Support Organisations. We will provide contact details or links on any lottery websites or via other appropriate media to Gamble Aware and other relevant / appropriate organisations. We also provide financial support to the Responsible Gambling Trust, which raises funds to support research, education and treatment of problem gambling.
* Self Help and Awareness Information. We will provide self help and awareness information on any lottery websites or other appropriate media together with links to or contact details of Gamble Aware and other relevant / appropriate organisations.
* Staff Training. All relevant staff receive awareness training on problem gambling issues.  Our commitment to our potential and existing members means we actively encourage responsible gambling.

**Responsible Gambling**

Whilst the majority of people do gamble within their means, for some gambling can become a problem. It may help you to keep control to remember the following:

* Gambling should be entertaining and not seen as a way of making money
* Avoid chasing losses
* Only gamble what you can afford to lose
* Keep track of the time and amount you spend gambling
* If you want to have a break from gambling you can use our self-exclusion option by emailing us at oxfam@sterlinglotteries.co.uk with your name, address and membership number(s). We will then close your membership(s) for a minimum period of 6 months, during which time it will not be possible for the account(s) to be re- opened for any reason.

If you need to talk to someone about problem gambling then contact Gamble Aware.

Gamble Aware is a registered charity that provides confidential telephone support and counselling to anyone who is affected by problem gambling. Gamble Aware can be contacted on 0808 8020 133 (Freephone)

**Problem Gambling**

If you are concerned that gambling may have taken over your (or someone else's life) then the following questions may help you find out:

* Do you stay away from work, college or school to gamble?
* Do you gamble to escape from a boring or unhappy life?
* When gambling and you run out of money, do you feel lost and in despair and need to gamble again as soon as possible?
* Do you gamble until your last penny is gone, even the fare home or the cost of a cup of tea?
* Have you ever lied to cover up the amount of money or time you have spent gambling?
* Have others ever criticised your gambling?
* Have you lost interest in your family, friends or hobbies?
* After losing, do you feel you must try and win back your losses as soon as possible?
* Do arguments, frustrations or disappointments make you want to gamble?
* Do you feel depressed or even suicidal because of your gambling?

The more you answer 'yes' to these questions, the more likely you are to have a serious gambling problem. To speak to someone about this contact the Gamble Aware confidential helpline on 0808 8020 133 or visit their website www.gambleaware.co.uk for further information.