

# Frequently Asked Questions About LYCA

For sixty-six years the Lions of District 4-C4 have been selling raffle tickets with proceeds benefiting youth and community organizations and programs around the Bay Area. Each year, over 100,000 raffle tickets are sold for the chance to win a new car and cash prizes. The **Lions Youth & Community Activities Raffle** helps Lions clubs and the community organizations they support, fundraise over \$100,000 in charitable funds. It is our hope that all of the clubs in our district, and even other Lions districts will participate and share in the success of this program.

## **When is the LYCA Raffle?**

This year's raffle will begin in mid-November and run through March of 2017, and culminates with a raffle drawing in April. Prizes are distributed within the following two weeks. Funds from the sales of raffle tickets are distributed to the Lions clubs no later than the end of May 2017. The clubs are responsible for forwarding funds to their partnering organizations.

## **What is the LYCA Raffle?**

The LYCA Raffle is a raffle licensed with the State of California for nonprofit organizations. Books containing (10) ten raffle tickets are sold for \$1.00 per ticket. The Grand Prize is a new prepaid leased car or \$12,000.00 cash. There are 49 additional cash prizes totaling over \$6,000.00. Appropriate taxes and fees apply.

## **How does the LYCA Raffle work?**

Basically, the raffle is funded by the participating Lions clubs. The LYCA Committee prints and distributes the raffle ticket books and oversees the entire program. Clubs that wish to participate must first purchase four (4) raffle books totaling \$10.00 for each club member. Additional raffle books may be purchased for \$2.00 per book. There are no additional costs. At the end of the raffle-selling period, the clubs collect the distributed books, both sold and unsold, in addition to the proceeds from selling the raffle tickets/books. Each club then pays the District the total of \$9.00 per raffle book sold. In return, the District reissues the funds to each club, the same total of \$9.00 per raffle book sold.

## **Why can't the clubs keep the money from the sales of the raffle tickets?**

In order to comply with the State's requirements, the District's treasury must account for all raffle funds through deposits and disbursements and provide documentation to the State. State law requires proof that 90% of the raffle proceeds is used for charity purposes. Hence, the \$9.00 per raffle book reissued by the District.

## **Why do the clubs need to pay for the raffle tickets?**

Funds are needed to print the raffle tickets, marketing materials and pay for the cash prizes and the car. Printing costs are over \$5,000.00 and nearly \$20,000.00 is needed to pay for the raffle prizes.

## **Do only Lions members sell the raffle tickets?**

No, but only Lions clubs can distribute the ticket books to sell. Lions clubs outside of our district are welcome to participate. Most clubs distribute raffle books to other organizations such as schools, youth groups and churches. Each Lions club sets their own policy with the outside groups, who can receive \$5.00 to \$8.00 per book sold. This allows the school or youth group to fundraise for the equivalent of 50 to 80 cents on the dollar, more than most fundraising programs and at no cost to participate.

## **Is the LYCA Raffle legal?**

Yes. The raffle is licensed annually with the State of California's Department of Justice, under the direction of the Attorney General. Each year, through an application process, the LYCA Committee Chairperson must submit a financial report of the previous year's raffle, proving that the proceeds are for charitable use and that expenses are documented. The main requisite of a legal non-profit raffle is that at least 90% of the total funds received from the sale of raffle tickets is used for the beneficial or charitable purposes of the eligible organization conducting the raffle or for the benefit of another eligible organization.

## **How do I receive more information on the LYCA Raffle?**

Please visit the District website at [www.lions4c4.org/lyca](http://www.lions4c4.org/lyca). The LYCA Committee is available to answer questions, assist and/or meet with your club. Contact Lion Ken Ibarra, LYCA Chair at [lionkenibarra@yahoo.com](mailto:lionkenibarra@yahoo.com) to make arrangements.