

Virtual Bingo Guide

Everyone loves a good bingo night so why not host online bingo fundraiser in the comfort of your own home?

Getting ready for the event

- Decide how to host your event - there are plenty of virtual bingo hosting platforms – have a look into them and see which one works best for you.
- Alternatively you can do it the classic way and send your attendees their bingo cards and call the numbers yourself
- Pick a date - find a date and time that works for you and your attendees.
- Advertise the event - set up a Facebook event and invite your friends and family. By going online, people from anywhere in the world can take part. Ensure that you add information on how you will be hosting the bingo
- Collect a donation from each attendee – once someone has registered to take part, make sure that they pay whatever fee you have set for the event. You can ask them to pay by donating straight onto your Just Giving page. Easy!
- Make sure you understand the rules! In each game there are 3 winners; the first person to complete one horizontal line, two horizontal lines and every number on the bingo sheet.



What you'll need

- A virtual bingo platform - or video calling platform
- MRF t-shirt / decorations for the livestream
- Prizes for the winners
- A computer with webcam and microphone

"It's never too late to see how you can adapt your fundraising plans to be online"

- Mike Cox, Kilimanjaro Trek

Virtual Bingo Guide

On the day

- Schedule reminders in the Facebook event in the lead up to the event to make sure people don't forget to tune in
- Test your camera and audio quality to ensure people will be able to hear you clearly.
- Be sure to wear your MRF t-shirt and decorate behind you – you can always just wear something purple if you don't have anything MRF branded
- When your bingo night is ready to start, start your stream and share the link for people to join in the Facebook event.
- Once the live stream is going, read out numbers that have been produced on a bingo number generator while everyone taking part crosses that number off if it's on one of their sheets.
- Encourage people to either shout bingo or write it in the comments followed by a screenshot of their numbers to make sure they haven't made an error.
- Make sure you do more than one game of bingo!
- We would recommend doing at least 4 games.
- Always repeat the numbers to ensure everyone has heard you

Top tips

- Be enthusiastic! It will make the event much more enjoyable and people will be more willing to take part in the future
- Share the link to your Just Giving page throughout the event as people might be enjoying it so much that they are willing to donate a bit extra!
- Why not make this a weekly occurrence in order to stay connected with your friends as well raising vital funds for MRF.

The important bits

- Always ask for a 'suggested donation' per person (e.g. £2 each) rather than a set price, that way you don't have to pay any VAT!

For more information contact fundraising@meningitis.org



"If you make it fun for yourself then it is fairly easy to hit that final target!"

- Sarah Blanchard, Kilimanjaro Trek