

FUNDRAISING TIPS

for Convention

From your Fundraising Committee



SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISING TIPS FOR CONVENTION

Every year, some circles struggle to be financially capable of attending convention. The Annual Squires Convention is the most important event in the Squires calendar year as it gathers circles from every region around the province to celebrate the year that has been, as well as elect the Provincial Board officers who will promote the growth of the Squires program for the following year.

Every circle that attends convention enjoys the experience because of its strong sense of fraternity and the 4 core elements that form a Squires circle; spirituality, membership, service and circle, making it the must-attend event of the year. The Provincial Board encourages every circle to attend the upcoming 55th Annual Squires Convention, and to help you with your fundraising blues we have listed three successful fundraising tips, that if followed through will boost your circle's funds for Convention! Enjoy!

Community Lunch/ Dinner-Dance& Raffle: Prepare an afternoon or evening to put together a Squires Lunch or Dinner for the members of your parish and community. This plan requires group planning and assistance from the Knights Councils around you, as well as parents and all the business contacts you can find. You need to find a hall (either your church or a banquet hall), place an order with a caterer, hire a DJ and put together a decorating committee; this is where you can approach the Knights and parents to see if they have any contacts that will assist you. Additionally, your circle can put together an advertising booklet with ads from businesses that will be distributed on the day of the dance. Organizing this event is tedious, but it's a great way to make a hefty profit, which you can add to by holding a 50/50 raffle at the event. Be sure to include a presentation about the Squires to enrol potential members.

Fundraising Drive: A very traditional fundraiser you can conduct at your local parish. Arrange for an item with a low unit cost that you can sell. Contact your parish priest and arrange for a) A chance to speak at the Altar after mass to promote the Squires and your fundraiser, and b) a table at the back of the church to enrol potential members and sell your item. Examples of fundraising items include roses and chocolate bars. You can repeat this easy-to-do fundraiser at several parishes. For fundraising ideas, visit www.fundtastic.ca

Tournament: The most exciting out of three options; not only does it help you gather funds, it brings together circles from around the area. Contact a school and acquire a permit for their gym, order medals, lunch, make sure you have the required equipment, and there you have it, an instant FUNdraiser! Place an entrance fee for each participant at the tournament, and based on your gym space and expenses, select an amount that will help you earn a profit. You can contact your local Knights council or parents to ask for assistance by sponsoring any of the expensed items.

Squires, being successful at these events requires hard work from each and every member of a dedicated circle. In order to be in great financial shape your circle needs to get into fundraising mode immediately. If you have any comments, questions or success stories, please contact the Ontario Provincial Board. Contacts are listed on www.ontsquires.com

HAPPY FUNDRAISING! - Dareo Alisterosario, Fundraising Committee Chairman