



*Office of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan*

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 30<sup>th</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 12<sup>th</sup> SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF ISABELA HELD AT BRGY. AGUINALDO, CORDON, ISABELA ON FEBRUARY 16, 2026.

PRESENT:

FRANCIS FAUSTINO A. DY	Vice Governor & Presiding Officer
JOSE T. PANGANIBAN, JR.	Member (3rd District) & Floor Leader Pro Tempore
EVYN JAY C. DIAZ	Member (1st District)
EMMANUEL JOSELITO B. AÑES	Member (1st District)
ED CHRISTIAN S. GO	Member (2nd District)
ANGELICA L. REYES	Member (2nd District)
CLIFFORD R. RASPADO	Member (4th District)
ABEGAIL V. SABLE	Member (4th District)
JONATHAN JOSE C. CALDERON	Member (5th District)
MANUEL FAUSTINO U. DY	Member (5th District)
MARCO PAOLO A. MERIS	Member (6th District)
AMADOR A. GAFFUD, JR.	Member (6th District)
ANTONIO S. HUI	Member, PCL Federation President
MARIA KATRINA JESSICA G. DY	Member, LnB Federation President
CATHERINE JOY L. LEGASPI	Member, SK Federation President

ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS:

RAMON JUAN N. REYES, JR.	Member (3rd District)
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**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-07-01**  
 Series of 2026

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Province of Isabela has long been a center of sporting activities, including cockfighting, horse racing, boxing, bingo and basketball, which attract significant participation and betting from residents and visitors. However, the absence of a centralized provincial body to regulate these activities has resulted in challenges, including unregulated betting, the proliferation of illegal gambling and illegal bookie joints, and lost revenue opportunities for the province.

This proposed ordinance seeks to establish a comprehensive regulatory Code for cockfighting, horse-racing, professional boxing, bingo and the creation of the Isabela Games and Amusement Regulatory Board (IGARB) to oversee, regulate, and supervise professional sports and amusement games within the province. The Board will be vested with quasi-judicial, enforcement, and licensing powers to ensure honest and orderly conduct of games, protect the betting public, and provide the province with a stable source of revenue.

Moreover, the ordinance shall introduce specific regulations on boxing, cockfighting, bingo and horse racing — including mandatory licensing of officials, accreditation of associations, imposition of fight and assessment fees, and regulated live broadcast and betting — in alignment with modern regulatory trends in other provinces and cities.

**Nagkaisa para sa Isabela**



**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE ISABELA GAMES AND AMUSEMENT REGULATORY CODE AND CREATING THE ISABELA GAMES AND AMUSEMENT REGULATORY BOARD (IGARB), DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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The establishment of IGARB will not only strengthen oversight but will also generate funds for youth sports development, anti-illegal gambling operations, and public welfare programs in the Province of Isabela.

Hence, the approval of this Ordinance is earnestly sought.

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**Sponsor: HON. JOSE "BENTOT" T. PANGANIBAN JR.**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Chairperson, Committee on Games and Amusement

**WHEREAS**, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, provides that every local government unit shall exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, and those essential to the promotion of the general welfare;

**WHEREAS**, Section 468 (a) (1) (vi) of the same Code authorizes the Sangguniang Panlalawigan to approve ordinances that protect the welfare and safety of inhabitants, regulate activities and businesses, and generate revenues;

**WHEREAS**, professional sports and amusement games within the Province of Isabela such as boxing, horse-racing, cockfighting, jai-alai, basketball, and similar play-for-pay competitions require oversight to ensure fairness, protect the betting public, prevent illegal gambling, and promote revenue generation for public welfare;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to create a provincial regulatory board that will exercise comprehensive powers over professional sports and amusement activities, including law enforcement, licensing, permit issuance, supervision of betting operations, and conduct of anti-illegal gambling campaigns;

**NOW THEREFORE**, on motion of Honorable Jose "Bentot" T. Panganiban, Jr., duly seconded by all members present, be it ordained by the 12<sup>th</sup> Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Isabela, in its regular session duly assembled:

**ARTICLE I. SHORT TITLE and DECLARATION OF POLICY**

**Section 1. Title.**

This Ordinance shall be known as the **"Isabela Games and Amusement Regulatory Board (IGARB) Ordinance of 2026."**

**Section 2. Declaration of Policy.**

It is hereby declared the policy of the Province of Isabela to regulate and supervise professional sports, gaming, and amusement activities to:

- a) Combat and prevent illegal bookie joints and organized illegal gambling;
- b) Ensure the honest and orderly conduct of professional competitions;

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- c) Protect the betting public and participants; and
- d) Generate provincial revenues for youth and sports development programs.

**ARTICLE II. CREATION OF THE ISABELA GAMES AND AMUSEMENT REGULATORY BOARD (IGARB)**

**Section 1. Creation.**

There is hereby created an "Isabela Games and Amusement Regulatory Board (IGARB)", hereinafter referred to as the "Board", which shall function as an attached office of the Office of the Provincial Governor with operational autonomy.

**Section 2. Composition.**

The Board shall be composed of:

Chairperson – who must be a resident of Isabela, of legal age, and appointed by the Provincial Governor with the concurrence of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan;

Vice-Chairperson – Chairperson of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Committee on Games and Amusement;

Two (2) Regular Members – must be residents of Isabela, one with legal expertise and one with sports/games management background, and to be appointed by the Provincial Governor;

Ex-Officio Members - Provincial Legal Officer, Provincial Treasurer, and one (1) member from the Law Enforcement Sector, to be designated by the Provincial Peace and Order Council (PPOC) from among the Philippine National Police (PNP) or other duly constituted law enforcement agencies operating within the Province.

The term of office of the Chairperson and two (2) regular members shall be for three (3) years, renewable unless otherwise terminated.

There shall be no compensation package for all the officers and members of the Board, except for per diem allowances, which shall be determined in accordance with existing laws and regulations.

**ARTICLE III. MANDATE AND POWERS**

The IGARB shall regulate and supervise all professional sports and amusement games in the Province of Isabela, specifically: boxing, horse-racing, cockfighting, jai-alai, basketball, and similar professional play-for-pay competitions. Its powers include:

- a. Administrative and Law Enforcement

Enforce national laws and provincial ordinances on professional sports; coordinate with PNP, NBI, and other agencies on anti-illegal gambling campaigns and activities.

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The IGARB is authorized to order the preventive suspension, closure, or padlocking of establishments operating in violation of this Ordinance, without prejudice to the filing of appropriate administrative, civil, or criminal charges.

b. Licensing and Accreditation

Issue annual licenses to promoters, athletes, referees, judges, pit managers, bet takers, gaffers, and other game officials.

Accredit associations of game-fowl breeders, cockpit owners/operators, and professional sports leagues.

c. Permitting

Issue permits for the holding of professional contests and competitions upon compliance and payment of fees.

d. Rule-Making

Formulate rules, guidelines, and policies for the conduct of professional games.

e. Quasi-Judicial Authority

In the exercise of its regulatory function as a quasi-judicial body with the following authorities:

- Administrative Investigations: To, motu proprio, or upon complaint, conduct investigation into any violation of the Isabela Games and Amusement Regulatory Code.
- Adjudication: To hear and decide cases involving the suspension or revocation of licenses, and imposition of administrative fines.
- Compulsory processes: To summon parties and witnesses through the issuance of Subpoena Ad Testificandum and to require the production of documents, books, or records through Subpoena Duces Tecum.

f. Financial Examination

To safeguard the provincial share of revenues and ensure the integrity of betting operations, the IGARB through its Chairperson or authorized Commissioned Auditors, shall have the following specific powers:

- Access to financial records
- Verification of Betting Logs
- Inventory of Admission
- Spot Audits

g. Regulatory

Issue permits and accreditation to associations, companies, and operators in the conduct of provincial-wide sports betting activities through the introduction of advance technological means of broadcasting, streaming and on-line/offline betting within the Province of Isabela.

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**h. Betting Supervision**

Oversee betting aspects of horseracing and cockfighting; compute proceeds and ensure accurate distribution of shares.

**i. Anti-Illegal Gambling Operations**

Conduct surveillance and operations against illegal gambling; confiscate paraphernalia; file appropriate cases.

**ARTICLE IV. ISABELA BOXING REGULATION****Section 1. Scope and Purpose**

This Code shall apply to all professional boxing events, promotions, and related activities conducted within the Province of Isabela, including but not limited to the issuance of permits, licensing of participants, enforcement of safety standards, and compliance with national regulations set forth by the Games and Amusements Board (GAB).

The purpose of this Code is to regulate and oversee the conduct of professional boxing events and promotions within the Province of Isabela in harmony with the mandates of the Games and Amusements Board (GAB), thereby ensuring public safety, fair competition, and the welfare of boxers, officials, promoters, and other stakeholders involved in the sport.

**Section 2. Legal Basis**

This Code is enacted pursuant to the regulatory authority vested in the Games and Amusements Board (GAB) under Executive Order No. 120, series of 1948, which created the Board to supervise and regulate professional boxing and wrestling in the Philippines; Executive Order No. 392, series of 1951, which strengthened GAB's mandate and expanded its supervisory powers over professional sports and amusement activities; and Presidential Decree No. 871, which further defined the scope of GAB's functions and provided comprehensive guidelines for the conduct of professional boxing, including licensing, safety, and revenue-sharing mechanisms. In addition, this Code draws from relevant GAB Resolutions and Circulars that prescribe specific rules on match conduct, medical protocols, licensing procedures, and the responsibilities of promoters, officials, and participants to ensure uniformity and compliance with national standards within the Province of Isabela.

**Section 3. Definition Of Terms**

1. Board – refers to the Isabela Games and Amusement Regulatory Board Office, acting in coordination with GAB.
2. Promoter – a person or entity organizing a boxing event for profit.
3. Boxer – a licensed professional boxer registered with GAB.
4. Manager – licensed individual representing a boxer in contractual dealings.
5. Referee/Judge – licensed official supervising or scoring bouts.

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6. Permit – written authority from the provincial board, endorsed by GAB, to hold a boxing event.

#### **Section 4. Regulatory Framework**

All boxing activities shall be coordinated, endorsed and supervised by the Games and Amusements Board, with the IGARB providing local oversight (permits, crowd control, taxation).

#### **Section 5. Permits to Promote**

No boxing event shall be staged without a Provincial Permit issued after submission of GAB event clearance, venue safety inspection, compliance with insurance and bond requirements.

#### **Section 6. Licensing**

All promoters, boxers, trainers, managers, referees, judges, physicians, timekeepers, and matchmakers must hold valid GAB licenses. Provincial Government, through the IGARB shall maintain a registry of active licensees for monitoring.

#### **Section 7. Safety and Medical Protocols**

1. Pre-Bout Medical Clearance
  - a. Mandatory medical tests (ECG, CT scan, Hepatitis B, drug test).
  - b. Weigh-in to be supervised by GAB/Provincial sports medical officer.
2. On-Site Safety
  - a. Ringside physician and ambulance required.
  - b. Medical equipment (oxygen, stretcher) must be available at venue.
3. Rest Periods and Suspensions
  - a. 45 days' rest after regular bouts; 60 days for stoppage; 90 days after knockouts.
  - b. Mandatory post-bout medical check-up.

#### **Section 8. Conduct of Events**

1. Bout Regulations
  - a. Rounds: 4–12 rounds (3 minutes for men; 2 minutes for women).
  - b. Glove sizes: 8 oz up to welterweight; 10 oz for higher classes.
  - c. Three knockdown rule applies unless waived for title fights.
2. Contract Registration
  - a. All contracts (boxer-manager, promoter-boxer) must be registered with GAB and filed with the IGARB at least 10 days before event.
3. Purse Handling
  - a. At least 2/3 of boxer's purse must be deposited with Provincial Treasurer prior to event.

- b. Payment released post-bout upon certification of compliance.

### **Section 9. Taxation, Revenue Sharing and Allocation**

Event permit fees, amusement taxes, and other local charges shall be collected as prescribed in the Provincial Revenue Code. Portion of provincial revenues may be earmarked for Sports development programs, medical welfare funds for athletes, and Anti-doping and safety initiatives.

### **Section 10. Enforcement, Violations and Penalties**

A fine shall be imposed in case of staging boxing events without permits, employing unlicensed participants, failure to comply with medical and safety protocols and for any violations of this Isabela Boxing Regulation Code and suspension or revocation of permits and endorsement to GAB for further sanctions.

### **Section 11. Grievance Mechanism**

Aggrieved parties may file written complaints with the IGARB. The Board shall investigate and, if warranted, refer to GAB for adjudication.

### **Section 12. Implementing Rules and Regulations**

Within fifteen (15) days of from the effectivity of this Code, the IGARB in coordination with GAB, shall draft the Implementing Rules and Regulations covering licensing workflows, medical clearance templates, contract registration forms, and safety checklists, and other necessary process in the implementation of this Code.

## **ARTICLE V. ISABELA PROVINCIAL COCKFIGHTING REGULATION**

### **Section 1. Purpose**

This Code seeks to establish uniform regulations governing cockfighting operations within the Province of Isabela. It aims to harmonize policies across municipalities and cities by standardizing betting systems, income-sharing mechanisms, and operational protocols. Furthermore, this Code regulates the conduct of live broadcasting or streaming of cockfighting events in the Province of Isabela, ensuring that such transmissions are limited to authorized venues and confined strictly within cockpit arenas, thereby safeguarding the integrity and legality of the activity.

### **Section 2. Scope**

This code applies to all cockfighting events and cockpit operations conducted within the territorial jurisdiction of the Province of Isabela, including national, regional, provincial, and municipal derbies, and special events authorized under PD 449 and RA 7160.

**Section 3. Definition of Terms**

- c. Cockpit – means a pit or ring for cockfighting, enclosed or fenced premises with gates of entry and exit, licensed in accordance with law for the holding of “sabong” where actual battles of gamecocks take place.
- d. Cockfighting (“*Sabong*”) - shall embrace and mean the commonly known game or term “cockfighting”, derby, *pintakasi* or *tupada* or its equivalent terms in different Philippine localities.
- e. Gamecock - refers to domesticated fowls, either imported or locally bred, as well as a native fighting cocks indigenous to the country, especially breed, trained and conditioned for actual cockfighting or for propagating or breeding purposes for eventual use in cockfighting.
- f. Derby – means a competition of two or more gamecocks per cocker, which requires a pot money, properly and officially matched by matchmaker with minimum bet per cock fixed by the management and the prize is guaranteed, but in the event of two or more winners, the price shall be equally apportioned.
- g. International Derby - means a cockfight promotion with foreign entries.
- h. National Derby - means a cockfight promotion with national participants.
- i. Regional/Local Derby - means a cockfight promotion with participants from a particular region.
- j. Regular Cockfight – shall mean cockfight held on Sundays and or legal holidays in a licensed cockpit.
- k. Special cockfight – shall mean cockfight held on days other than Sundays and or legal holidays, and for special purposes, either in a licensed cockpit or in open spaces provided, there is constructed and enclosed premises where cockfighting may take place.
- l. Special Permit – means a permit issued by the Municipal Mayor and or Provincial Governor through their respective Sangguniang Bayan/Panlalawigan to hold cockfighting events as provided by law.
- m. Pit Manager – a person who is professionally, regularly and habitually manages the cockpit and cockfights.
- n. Handler – a person who personally takes physical control inside the arena of the pitted gamecock and who actually releases the same for actual fight and combat in a cockfight.
- o. Bet Manager – a person who takes care of bets from the owner of both gamecocks and those of others betters before the commencement of the cockfights and thereafter distributes winning bets to the winners after

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deducting certain commissions prescribe by the management of the cockpit arena.

- p. Gaffer – a person administering the art of arming fighting cocks with gaff on their legs.
- q. Referee – A person who watches or oversee the proper gaffing of fighting cocks, determine the physical condition of fighting cocks while the game is in progress and decides and makes known to his decision by word or gesture, the result of the cockfight and whose announcement is final.
- r. Bet Taker – a person who participates in cockfights who uses money or others thigs of value, bets to other bettors or a bet taker or promoter and wins or loses his bet depending upon the result of the cockfight as announced by the referee.
- s. Breeder – a person engages in game-fowl breeding for personal and or commercial purposes for future cockfighting.
- t. Special Permit – is a right or privilege affected with public interest that is conferred upon private person, corporation, associations under such terms and condition as the government and its political subdivision may impose in the interest of public welfare, security and safety.
- u. Cockpit Operator’s Permit – a document granted to a person, whether natural, juridical, allowing to operate and maintain a cockpit.
- v. Promoter - a person licensed by the Provincial Government, through the IGARB, as such who is engaged in the convening, meeting, holding and the celebration of specially programmed and arranged cockfighting like local and international derbies or competitions, special mains or matched set to or encounter, *pintakasi*, and ordinary fights or hack fights.

#### **Section 4. Rules and Regulations**

##### **1. Authority of Cities and Municipalities**

The City or Municipal Government, through its respective Sangguniang Panlungsod or Sangguniang Bayan, shall have exclusive authority to issue permits for the establishment, operation, and conduct of cockfighting within its territorial jurisdiction pursuant to Sections 447(a)(3)(v) and 458(a)(4)(v) of RA 7160.

##### **2. Provincial Regulatory Authority**

The Provincial Government, through the recommendation of the Isabela Games and Amusements Regulatory Board (IGARB), shall exercise supervisory, coordinating, and regulatory authority over cockfighting activities affecting more than one local government unit, consistent with Section 468(a)(4)(v) of RA 7160.

- a. The Provincial Government through the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, pursuant to Sec. 468(a)(4)(v) of RA 7160, and upon recommendation

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of the IGARB shall accredit a reputable technology service provider for a period of five (5) years, renewable upon expiration, unless sooner revoke, in the conduct of the provincial-wide broadcasting and streaming through a Live Video Broadcast platform of cockfighting events among accredited cockpit arenas from one cockpit to other authorized member-cockpits, and the establishment of fully encrypted and restricted betting application system within the premises of participating cockpit arena.

- b. Since video streaming and the introduction of betting software are new technologies not covered by PD 449, the IGARB shall regulate such operations to prevent illegal gambling and confine betting to authorized location inside the premises of the cockpit arena only.
- c. The service provider may introduce an inside cockpit Point-of-Sale (POS) and Kiosk Machine application system to be used and distributed to all authorized cockpit arenas in the Province of Isabela which shall form part of a digitization of bet-taking and payment platform system within authorized member cockpit arenas.
- d. The IGARB shall prescribe standards and guidelines especially on matters that involve revenue sharing, provincial oversight and inter-LGU cockfighting events and activities.
- e. Prohibition on Off-Cockpit Betting Station (OCBS)

The live broadcasting, livestreaming, or transmission of cockfighting events from the cockpit hosting live events to any remote location not authorized under this code is hereby strictly prohibited, regardless of ownership, affiliation, or accreditation.

- f. Betting Requirement and Recognition of Betting application Software

Betting in cockfighting events shall be allowed only within the premises of duly licensed cockpit arenas and during authorized cockfighting activities. Betting may be conducted manually or through betting application software, provided that such software is first recognized and accredited by the Isabela Games and Amusements Regulatory Board (IGARB), operates on a secure and closed system, and is accessible only to bettors physically present inside the cockpit. Any electronic betting system shall be used solely to record and settle bets placed within the cockpit and shall not permit remote or off-site betting.

### **Section 5. Registration and Accreditation**

All cockpit operators, game fowl breeders, breeder associations, and cockfighting officials operating within the province shall secure registration and accreditation from IGARB as a condition for lawful participation.

## **Section 6. Licensing and Registration of Cockfighting Officials**

The following cockfighting officials are required to register with the IGARB.

- a. Promoters (Host)
- b. Pit Managers
- c. Referees (Sentenciador)
- d. Bet Manager (Kasador)
- e. Bet Takers (Kristo)
- f. Gaffers (Mananari)

## **Section 7. Betting Commission and Bettor Protection**

- a. Commission Cap - No cockpit operator, promoter, bet manager, or bet taker shall charge betting commissions exceeding fifteen percent (15%) of total winnings per fight as may be prescribed by IGARB.
- b. Mandatory Disclosure - All cockpits shall conspicuously post approved commission rates and a notice that only fifteen percent (15%) commission on betting is recognized under this Code.
- c. Betting Dispute Resolution - Each cockpit shall maintain a betting dispute desk and logbook and coordinate immediately with IGARB for unresolved disputes.

## **Section 8. Prohibited Acts**

1. No person less than eighteen (18) years of age shall be allowed in the premises of the cockpit during cockfight. Furthermore, any person less than 18 years of age shall not be allowed to place bet in any offline/online betting.
2. Charging excessive, undisclosed, or multiple betting commissions;
3. Conducting or facilitating online cockfighting or electronic betting outside of the cockpit premises;
4. Streaming or transmitting cockfighting events to other remote locations not authorize under this code;
5. Using any electronic or software-based system to deny, alter, or manipulate betting outcomes.
6. Offline betting shall be confined within the premises of the cockpit arena authorized under this code.
7. The establishment, operation, or maintenance of facilities, equipment, software, or systems enabling unauthorized online cockfighting, remote betting, or electronic wagering within the Province is hereby prohibited and shall be subject to administrative and criminal penalties, including closure of facilities and revocation of permits.

**Section 9. Penal Provision**

- a. **Administrative Sanctions.** — Any person, natural or juridical, who violates any provision of this Code, or any rule or regulation promulgated pursuant thereto, shall, upon conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction, be punished by a fine of not less than One Thousand Pesos (₱1,000.00) but not more than Five Thousand Pesos (₱5,000.00), or imprisonment of not less than thirty (30) days but not more than one (1) year, or both such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court, in accordance with Section 468(a)(1)(iii) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991 and as may be determined by the Isabela Games and Amusements Regulatory Board (IGARB).
- b. **Specific Violations Involving Betting and Technology.** — Any violation involving illegal off-site betting, unrecognized or unaccredited betting application software, manipulation of betting records, unauthorized livestreaming, or operation of off-cockpit betting stations shall be considered a grave offense, punishable by:
- Immediate suspension of operations pending investigation; and
  - Revocation of permit or accreditation upon finding of liability, without prejudice to the filing of appropriate criminal or civil actions under existing laws.
- c. **Liability of Corporate Entities.** — Where the violator is a juridical entity, partnership, or corporation, the penalties shall be imposed upon the entity, without prejudice to the personal administrative liability of its responsible officers.
- d. **Non-Exclusivity of Penalties.** — The penalties imposed under this Code shall be without prejudice to the application of penalties under Presidential Decree No. 449, the Revised Penal Code, special laws, or other applicable national issuances.
- e. **Enforcement and Closure Authority.** — The IGARB, in coordination with concerned Local Government Units, the Philippine National Police, and other law enforcement agencies, is hereby authorized to order the suspension or closure of cockpit operations for violations of this Code, subject to due process.

**Section 10. Enforcement Authority Clause**

Law enforcement officers are authorized to effect warrantless arrest of any person caught in flagrante delicto committing violations under this Ordinance, and to seize, secure, and inventory paraphernalia, equipment, proceeds, and other evidence used in the commission of the offense, subject to existing laws, rules, and procedures.”

**Section 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations**

Within fifteen (15) days of from the effectivity of this Code, the IGARB shall draft the Implementing Rules and Regulations covering licensing workflows, revenue sharing, contract registration forms, and other necessary process in the implementation of this Code.

## **ARTICLE VI. ISABELA PROVINCIAL HORSE RACING REGULATION**

### **Section 1. Title**

This Title shall be known as the "Isabela Horse Racing Regulation".

### **Section 2. Declaration of Policy**

It is the policy of the Province of Isabela to:

- a. Promote safe, fair, and transparent conduct of professional horse racing;
- b. Ensure the welfare of participants and the integrity of betting operations;
- c. Align provincial regulations with the mandates and supervision of the Games and Amusements Board (GAB) and the Philippine Racing Commission (Philracom).

### **Section 3. Scope and Application**

This Code applies to all professional horse racing events, betting operations, and related activities held within the Province of Isabela, whether at race tracks, off-track betting (OTB) stations, or online within provincial jurisdiction.

### **Section 4. Legal Basis**

This Code is enacted pursuant to Republic Act No. 309 (Horse Racing Betting Supervision Law), Presidential Decree No. 420 (Creation of Philracom), Republic Acts 7953, 7978, 8407, and 8446 (Betting and revenue allocation laws), and Games and Amusements Board regulations on horse racing and betting.

### **Section 5. Definition of Terms**

1. Board – refers to the Isabela Games and Amusement Regulatory Board (IGARB).
2. GAB – Games and Amusements Board;
3. Philracom – Philippine Racing Commission.
4. Race Operator – any licensed club or entity conducting horse racing.
5. Off-Track Betting (OTB) – authorized betting stations located outside the racetrack.
6. Breakage – fractions below ten centavos eliminated in dividend computation.

### **Section 6. Regulatory Framework**

All horse racing events in the Province of Isabela must be coordinated, licensed and supervised by GAB (betting aspect) and Philracom (race aspect). The Provincial Government of Isabela, through the IGARB, shall provide local oversight functions, including but not limited to: issuance of permits, venue inspection, and enforcement of provincial tax ordinances.

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**Section 7. Provincial Permits**

A Provincial Permit is required for any horse race or horse race betting station operation within the Province of Isabela. The following requirements are necessary in the conduct of said activity.

1. GAB license or franchise approval;
2. Venue safety and security clearance;
3. Proof of insurance and bond posting.

**Section 8. Licensing and Accreditation**

Only individuals and entities with valid GAB licenses may participate as: Race operators, betting operators, jockeys, trainers, starters, judges, weighers, and racing officials. The IGARB shall maintain a list of accredited licensees for monitoring purposes.

**Section 9. Betting and Fund Allocation****a. Authorized Betting Operations**

Only operators licensed by GAB and accredited by the IGARB may conduct betting on horse races within province of Isabela.

- b. Unauthorized betting is strictly prohibited and penalized under this Code.

**Section 10. Revenue Distribution**

Gross betting receipts shall follow national law allocation:

- 82% to winning ticket-holders (dividends)
- 8.5% commission to operator
- 8.5% stakes/prizes and jockey bonuses
- 1% government share (GAB/Philracom/Jockeys and Trainers Fund)

**Section 11. Breakage Funds**

Breakage shall be distributed as follows:

- 50% Philracom (prizes, breeding, capital improvements)
- 25% local hospitals in race vicinity
- 25% drug rehabilitation programs

**Section 12. Safety, Security and Fair Play**

1. Racetracks and OTB stations must meet minimum safety standards (fire, crowd control, medical stations).
2. Adequate first aid and emergency response facilities must be available during events.

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**Section 13. Race Integrity and Auditing**

1. GAB and provincial auditors shall oversee betting operations, tote system monitoring, and dividend computation.
2. Public announcements must be made for program changes, cancellations, or official results.

**Section 14. Taxation and Local Revenues**

Provincial Amusement Taxes. The province may levy amusement tax and permit fees on horse racing events and OTB stations pursuant to the Local Government Code and Provincial Revenue Code.

**Section 15. Revenue Use**

A portion of revenues shall be earmarked for youth and sports development programs, medical welfare funds for racing participants, local disaster response and public health initiatives.

**Section 16. Penalties and Enforcement**

1. Prohibited Acts
  - a. Staging races or betting operations without GAB/IGARB permits.
  - b. Employment of unlicensed personnel (jockeys, starters, operators).
  - c. Tampering with betting results, dividend computation, or tote systems.
2. Staging events without permits, employing unlicensed participants, failure to comply with medical and safety protocols.

A fine shall be imposed for violations of this Code, suspension or revocation of permits and endorsement to GAB for further sanctions.

**Section 17. Grievance and Appeals**

Complaints shall be filed with the Isabela Games and Amusements Regulatory Board and endorsed to GAB when national jurisdiction is required. Any appeal from the decision of the IGARB may be lodged to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan or GAB Appeals Committee.

**Section 18. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)**

The Isabela Games and Amusement Regulatory Board, within 15 days from the approval of this Ordinance, shall draft Implementing Rules and Regulations, in coordination with GAB and Philracom, covering permit application workflow, auditing procedures, safety and medical protocols, and standardized reporting templates.

## **ARTICLE VII. BINGO SA BARANGAY REGULATION**

### **Section 1. Legal Definition Clause. “Barangay Bingo Gaming Operation”**

“Barangay Bingo Gaming Operation” refers to a small-scale, locally authorized bingo gaming activity conducted within the territorial jurisdiction of a barangay, whether in a barangay hall, covered court, gymnasium, multipurpose hall, or other duly authorized public or private venue, where participants purchase bingo cards or equivalent digital or printed representations for the purpose of winning cash or non-cash prizes based on randomly drawn numbers or symbols.

This includes:

- a. Traditional bingo games conducted manually or electronically;
- b. Community bingo organized by the barangay government, accredited civic organizations, cooperatives, or duly licensed private operators;
- c. Fundraising bingo activities conducted for charitable, social, or community development purposes; and
- d. Bingo operations conducted regularly or intermittently with appropriate permits and licenses.

### **Section 2. Regulatory Framework of Barangay Bingo Gaming Operations**

#### **1. Authority to Operate**

Barangay Bingo Gaming Operations shall be allowed only upon securing the following:

- a. Provincial Gaming Regulatory Permit issued by the Province through IGARB;
- b. Municipal or City Mayor’s Permit; and
- c. Barangay Resolution authorizing the conduct of bingo operations.

#### **2. Eligible Operators**

The following may operate Barangay Bingo:

- Barangay Government Units;
- Registered Cooperatives;
- Accredited Civic or Non-Profit Organizations;
- Private entities authorized under this Ordinance.

#### **3. Authorized Venues. Bingo operations shall only be conducted in:**

- a. Barangay Hall
- b. Covered Court or Gymnasium
- c. Multipurpose Hall
- d. IGARB-approved Bingo Venue

#### **4. Prohibited Venues:**

- Schools (except authorized fundraising events)
- Churches and religious premises

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- Within 100 meters of schools (unless exempted)
  - Residential dwellings
5. Prize Limits. Unless otherwise authorized by IGARB:
- Maximum Prize per Game: PHP 10,000
  - Maximum Aggregate Daily Prize Pool: PHP 50,000
  - Higher limits require Provincial approval
6. Operating Hours. Authorized Operating Hours:  
10:00 AM to 5:00 PM only. Extension requires IGARB approval.
7. Minimum Player Age. No person below eighteen (18) years old shall be allowed to participate.
8. Anti-Illegal Gambling Protection. All Barangay Bingo operations shall be subject to inspection by:
- IGARB Enforcement Unit
  - Philippine National Police

**Section 3. Rules and Regulations**

- a. Licensing and Permit Requirements. Applicants shall submit:
- IGARB Application Form
  - Barangay Resolution
  - Mayor's Permit
  - DTI/SEC/CDA Registration
  - Venue Authority Documentation
  - List of Equipment
  - List of Personnel
  - Proof of Financial Capability
- b. Equipment Regulation. Allowed equipment: All equipment must be registered with IGARB.
- Bingo cards
  - Bingo balls and machines
  - Electronic bingo systems (if authorized)
  - Display boards
- c. Financial Reporting Requirements. Operators must submit:
- Monthly Reports including:
- Gross Receipts
  - Total Prize Payout
  - Net Revenue
  - Government Share
  - Barangay Share

**Section 4. Compliance Checklist. (To be used by IGARB and Barangay Officials)****A. Pre-operations Requirements**

- ✓ Provincial IGARB Permit
- ✓ Mayor's Permit
- ✓ Barangay Resolution
- ✓ Approved Venue
- ✓ Equipment Registration
- ✓ Personnel Identification
- ✓ Inspection Clearance
- ✓ Payment of Regulatory Fees

**B. Operational Requirements**

- ✓ Display of Permits
- ✓ No minors allowed
- ✓ Operate only within approved hours
- ✓ Use only approved equipment
- ✓ Maintain financial records
- ✓ Follow prize limits
- ✓ Allow inspections

**C. Post – operational Requirements**

- ✓ Submit Monthly Financial Reports
- ✓ Remit LGU shares
- ✓ Renew permits annually
- ✓ Maintain compliance with all laws

**Section 5. Enforcement and Penalties**

Enforcement and Penalties shall govern the penal provision of this code under Article VIII.

**ARTICLE VIII. PENAL PROVISION**

Any person, natural or juridical, who violates any provision of this Code, or any rule or regulation promulgated pursuant thereto, shall, upon conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction, be punished by a fine of not less than One Thousand Pesos (₱1,000.00) but not more than Five Thousand Pesos (₱5,000.00), or imprisonment of not less than thirty (30) days but not more than one (1) year, or both such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court, in accordance with Section 468(a)(1)(iii) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

**1. Licensing and Operational Violations**

- a. Operating without IGARB Accreditation
- b. Use of Unlicensed Officials (not registered or license by IGARB to officiate an event
- c. Use of expired permits

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2. Fiscal Tax Violations
  - a. Under-declaration of Receipts
  - b. Double Bookkeeping
  - c. Non Remittance
3. Integrity and "Fair Play" Violation
  - a. Match-fixing of "Game Shaving"
  - b. Use of Prohibited Substances
  - c. Tampered Equipment
4. Safety and Public Welfare Violation
  - a. Presence of minor
  - b. Medical Negligence
  - c. Overcrowding
5. Obstruction of Administrative Authority
  - a. Refusal of entry of IGARB Auditors
  - b. Defying Subpoenas
  - c. Destruction of Evidence

**ARTICLE VIX. ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT CLAUSE**

The IGARB and other authorized regulatory officers may request and secure the assistance of the Philippine National Police and other law enforcement agencies during inspections, enforcement operations, and regulatory actions to ensure lawful implementation and maintenance of peace and order.

**ARTICLE X. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**

Should any of these provisions found to be invalid by any Court and competent authority, such judgement shall not impair or affect the remaining provision of the Ordinance.

**ARTICLE XI. REPEALING CLAUSE**

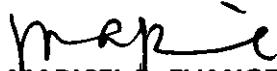
All Ordinance pertaining to boxing, cockfighting, and horse racing are hereby repealed and modified accordingly.

**ARTICLE XII. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE**


This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was duly enacted by the 12<sup>th</sup> Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Isabela during its 30<sup>th</sup> Regular Session on February 16, 2026.

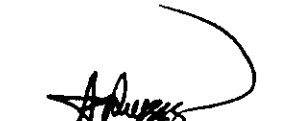
  
**ATTY. MARICEL B. EVANGELISTA, CPA**  
Acting Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan


**ENACTED:**

  
**EVYN JAY C. DIAZ**  
Member (1<sup>st</sup> District)


  
**EMMANUEL JOSELITO B. ANES**  
Member (1<sup>st</sup> District)


  
**ED CHRISTIAN S. GO**  
Member (2<sup>nd</sup> District)


  
**ANGELICA L. REYES**  
Member (2<sup>nd</sup> District)

  
**JOSE T. PANGANIBAN, JR.**  
Member (3<sup>rd</sup> District)


**RAMON JUAN N. REYES, JR. (O.B.)**  
Member (3<sup>rd</sup> District)

  
**CLIFFORD R. RASPADO**  
Member (4<sup>th</sup> District)

  
**ABIGAIL V. SABLE**  
Member (4<sup>th</sup> District)

  
**MANUEL FAUSTINO U. DY**  
Member (5<sup>th</sup> District)


  
**JONATHAN JOSE C. CALDERON**  
Member (5<sup>th</sup> District)

  
**MARCO PAOLO A. MERIS**  
Member (6<sup>th</sup> District)

  
**AMADOR A. GAFFUD, JR.**  
Member (6<sup>th</sup> District)

  
**ANTONIO S. HUI**  
Member, PCL Federation President

  
**MARIA KATRINA JESSICA G. DY**  
Member, LnB Federation President

  
**CATHERINE JOY L. LEGASPI**  
Member, SK Federation President

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**FRANCIS FAUSTINO A. DY**  
Vice Governor

**APPROVED:**



**RODOLFO T. ALBANO, III**  
Governor