



TONAWANDA, NY

The Host's **Playbook.**

How to run a stag, bachelorette, jack & jill, baby shower, or fundraiser that actually works for your guest of honor.

For organizers

Everything you need before you plan.

manorlanes.com

150 Grand Island Blvd

The one thing nobody tells first-time organizers.

If you remember only one thing from this guide, make it this.

The ticket price is not the fundraiser. Tickets cover food and the venue. The real money for your guest of honor comes from raffles, baskets, 50/50s, and side games.

Most first-time event organizers assume pricing tickets low will sell more and raise more money. In practice, the opposite happens. The venue cost stays the same no matter what you charge — so every dollar above break-even goes **directly** to your guest of honor. And the crowd a \$50 ticket attracts tends to spend 2–3× more on raffles than a \$35 ticket crowd. At 50 guests, your ticket price has to work harder — with only half the revenue pool, the same venue cost eats a much bigger share.

The real math: 50 guests, same venue, same food.

At \$35 a ticket

What most first-time organizers default to.

Ticket revenue	\$1,750
Venue + food cost	-\$1,750
Margin from tickets	\$0
Raffles + side games	\$1,400
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Total to guest of honor	\$1,400

At \$50 a ticket

Same guests. Same food. Different outcome.

Ticket revenue	\$2,500
Venue + food cost	-\$1,750
Margin from tickets	\$750
Raffles + side games	\$1,900
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Total to guest of honor	\$2,650

Same venue. Same food. \$1,250 more for your guest of honor. That \$15 ticket difference doesn't vanish into overhead — it lands directly in their end-of-night envelope.

What actually raises money at your event.

These are the numbers we see at Manor Lanes events, with crowds of 40–60 guests.

Basket / Chinese auction

10–20 themed baskets · guests buy tickets and drop in cups

\$500 – \$1,500

50/50 raffle

Multiple pulls through the night build excitement

\$200 – \$500

Gun raffle

WNY tradition — pre-sell tickets before the event

\$400 – \$1,500

Bottle pull

Guests pay \$20 to pull a mystery bottle from the rack

\$150 – \$300

Queen of Hearts / Joker Poker

Game-board specialty raffles run throughout the event

\$150 – \$600

Straw / Joker pull

\$5 a pick, winner takes the pot

\$75 – \$250

A well-run 50-guest event nets the guest of honor \$2,000–\$4,000. A poorly-planned one nets under \$1,000 because the organizer priced tickets cheap and didn't set up enough side games.

The insight: treat tickets as admission to the money-making machine, not the machine itself. Price tickets to cover your hard costs with a small cushion. Design the event so guests have five different ways to contribute to the guest of honor.

Capabilities no other venue offers.

You could rent a hall. This is what you get when you pick us.

✔ Digital 50/50 System

Run your 50/50 raffle entirely digitally. Guests scan a QR code to buy entries, the pot total updates live on the AV matrix, and the winner is drawn on screen. No paper mess, no lost tickets.

✔ Shared Google Sheet Planning

We share a live planning sheet. Your baskets, prizes, sponsor logos, and run-of-show — all synced before game day.

✔ Building-Wide AV Matrix

Run your videos, photos, or sponsor logos on every screen in the building — not just one TV in the corner.

✔ Custom BES-X Graphics

Name on the lanes. Custom logos. Personalized score screens. Given 2+ weeks lead time, we create one-off visuals for your event.

✔ Lane Tournament Scoring

Strike pots, high-game prizes, team brackets. Live leaderboards on the screens. Another way to generate excitement (and side revenue).

✔ Cornhole Tournament App

Bracket management, live scoring, winner announcements — on our outdoor sand courts. Nobody else in WNY offers this.

✔ Outdoor Patios + Stadium Sound

Two patios, sand courts with stadium-grade LED lighting for volleyball and cornhole, and a sound system that makes it feel like you're in an outdoor arena. Move the party outside for the last stretch.

✔ Moonlight Bowling

Blacklights, music, full bowling-alley energy. Optional add-on to cap off an event.

Why this matters for your event: a digital 50/50 with QR buy-in typically doubles per-guest participation vs. passing around a paper bucket. Personalized AV creates a "this was made for me" moment your guest of honor won't forget. Tournament side-games open new revenue streams you can't run in a hall.

Package pricing & what's included.

Pick the package that fits your group. All include shoe rental, BES-X scoring, and on-site staff.

Party Packages

10-guest minimum · BES-X & shoes included

The Opening Frame \$22.95 /guest	The Pocket \$25.95 /guest
Kids' birthday parties (ages 4–14).	Teen birthdays & social groups.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1½ hours of BES-X Ultimate bowling • Mad Games on every lane • Personalized birthday graphics • Pizza, soda & free game pass per guest • Bumpers & ramps at no charge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 hours of BES-X Ultimate bowling • Mad Games (Battle on the Lanes, Bowlin' Hood & more) • HD Selfie Grid photo moments • Pizza, wings & soda
10-guest minimum	10-guest minimum

The 10th Frame · Most Popular \$34.95 /guest
Stags, diaper parties, bachelorettes, fundraisers — our signature all-in experience.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 hours of BES-X Ultimate bowling • Manor Madness Moonlight Bowling experience • Pizza, wings, salad & soda
10-guest minimum

Bowling Banquets (Buffet Style)

20-guest minimum · corporate, reunions, group dinners

The Strike Buffet \$23.95 /person	The Spare Buffet \$18.95 /person
Heartier buffet — pick 2 entrées and 2 sides.	Lighter buffet — pick 1 entrée and 2 sides.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose 2 entrées (9 options) • Choose 2 sides (11 options) • Chef salad & unlimited soft drinks • Setup, service & cleanup by Manor Lanes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose 1 entrée (5 options) • Choose 2 sides (6 options) • Chef salad & unlimited soft drinks • Setup, service & cleanup by Manor Lanes
20-guest minimum	20-guest minimum

Bowling add-ons for buffets: +\$15/guest for 3 hrs of bowling with shoes & Moonlight Madness, or + \$12/guest for 2 hrs.

Private events & buyouts.

From semi-private blocks for 40+ to full-venue exclusivity.

The Reserved Block	\$30 /guest
Most flexible — semi-private during normal hours, no buyout needed.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 reserved lanes for 3 hours • The Spare buffet (1 entrée, 2 sides, chef salad & soft drinks) • Soft drinks included · full bar available à la carte • Dedicated event host 	
40-guest minimum	

Private Buyout · Full Privacy	\$1,800 floor or \$48/guest
Exclusive use of the venue on select Sundays — whichever amount is higher.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 hours of full venue exclusivity • All 20+ lanes · full bar · kitchen • The Strike buffet (2 entrées, 2 sides, chef salad & soft drinks) • Patio & cornhole access (seasonal — subject to league dates) • AV matrix for videos & photos • Open-bar packages available separately 	
75-guest minimum · select Sundays	

VIP Lane Package	\$48 /guest
Small premium groups — perfect for bachelorette & bachelor parties.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reserved BES-X lanes for 2½ hours • Custom on-screen graphics for the guest of honor • Pizza & wings • 3 drink tickets per guest (well drinks + domestic drafts) • Call brands, imports & craft drafts available with small upcharge • Themed decor & photo setup 	
15-guest minimum	

Included with every booking: BES-X Ultimate scoring with Mad Games & custom graphics · setup, service & cleanup · dedicated event host · 18% gratuity automatically added to all party, buffet, and private-event bookings.

Ticket math & timeline.

What to charge for tickets, and when to do what.

The math below assumes The 10th Frame package at \$34.95/guest × 50 guests ≈ \$1,750 total — the typical fit for adult fundraising events.

What to charge per ticket.

TICKET PRICE	WHAT IT FUNDS	NET TO GUEST OF HONOR (50 GUESTS)*
\$30	Loses money on tickets alone	\$800 – \$1,100
\$40	Small margin + decent raffle	\$1,500 – \$1,900
\$50	Sweet spot — recommended	\$2,400 – \$2,900
\$60	Premium event, higher per-head raffle spend	\$3,200 – \$3,800

*Assumes The 10th Frame package. Raffle take varies based on number of games offered and prize quality. For groups larger than 50, ticket prices can drop proportionally while maintaining net-to-guest-of-honor.

Planning timeline.

- 8 WEEKS OUT** **Pick your date, pay deposit.**
 Sign your event agreement. We open your shared planning sheet and add you to our scheduling calendar.

- 6 WEEKS OUT** **Start ticket sales + basket outreach.**
 Start collecting basket donations. We give you our sponsor outreach template if you want it.

- 4 WEEKS OUT** **Finalize menu + AV assets.**
 Send us photos, videos, logos, custom graphics requests. We start building your personalized visuals.

- 2 WEEKS OUT** **Final headcount + raffle setup.**
 We finalize your digital raffle system, set up your QR codes, and walk through the run-of-show.

- EVENT DAY** **Arrive 90 minutes early.**
 Set up baskets, brief your team, test the AV. We handle everything else.

What's on us vs. what's on you.

A clean split so nothing slips through the cracks.

Manor Lanes Provides

Venue, lanes, pinsetters, shoes

Kitchen + buffet food service

Bar + bartender staff

Digital raffle system + QR signage

Building-wide AV matrix

Custom BES-X graphics (2+ week lead)

Lane tournament scoring

Cornhole courts + tournament app

Moonlight bowling upgrade

Dedicated event host on the day

You Provide

Guest of honor (obviously)

Your guest list + invitations

Baskets, prizes, auction items

Sponsor contacts (if any)

Theme or motif (we'll match it)

Decorations beyond our house AV

Custom photos/videos for matrix

Raffle prize handoff at event end

Final headcount 2 weeks prior

Day-of point person for setup

Ready to start planning?

Submit your inquiry through the website. We'll send a custom proposal within one business day, not one business week.



Take this with you.

Scan to download the playbook to your phone.

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