



INSPECTORS LEADERSHIP RETREAT 2026



Alcohol & Fundraising

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C.M.C. Sections that we must know well!

§809.210. PERMITTED FINANCIAL SUPPORT

§809.220. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT

§809.230. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

§809.400. CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

§809.520. EXPENDITURES

§809.530. PROHIBITED EXPENDITURES

§809.540. REQUIRED EXPENDITURES

§809.550. DISCRETIONARY EXPENDITURES

§809.560. SOCIAL AND FRATERNAL EXPENDITURES

§811.010. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

§811.020. FINANCIAL AID SOLICITATION

§811.030. FRAUDULENT OR ILLEGAL VENTURES

§811.040. GAMBLING

§811.050. BINGO AND BUNCO

I.

**Can a Hall Association
hold a fundraising event?**

A Hall Association cannot hold fundraising event!

CMC 900.010 (B)

A Hall Association can make the space available for free for a Lodge fundraiser, but the Hall Association should not conduct the fundraisers and none of the income or expenses should run through the Hall.

II.

**Can a Masonic Lodge
hold a fundraising event?**

Always consider four key questions:

1. What is the purpose behind the fundraising?
2. How are the funds going to be raised?
3. Will any gift or prize be given?
4. Will alcohol be sold or served?

Lodges may engage in fundraising
for one of two purposes:

Fraternal Support

To support the general operations of the Lodge or its Hall

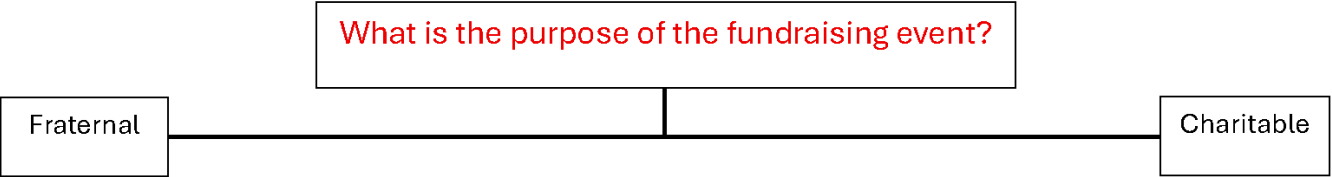
Charitable Support

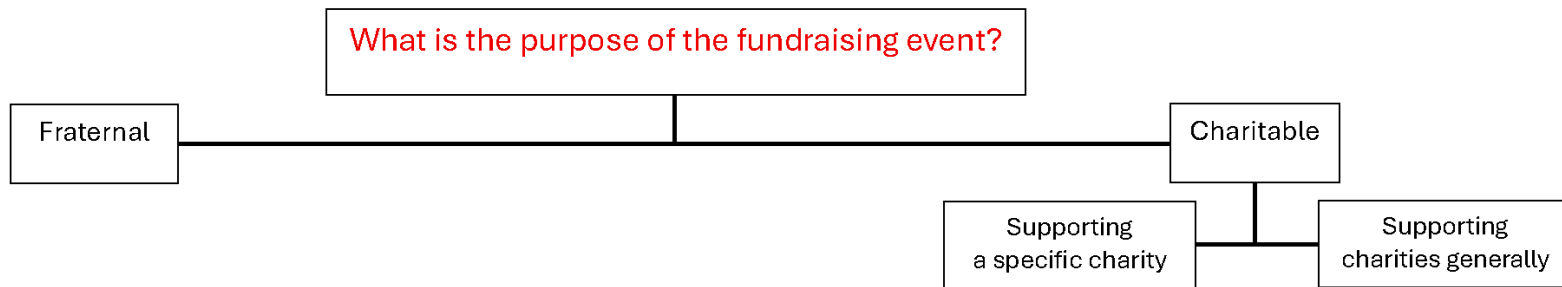
To benefit a charity or the wider community

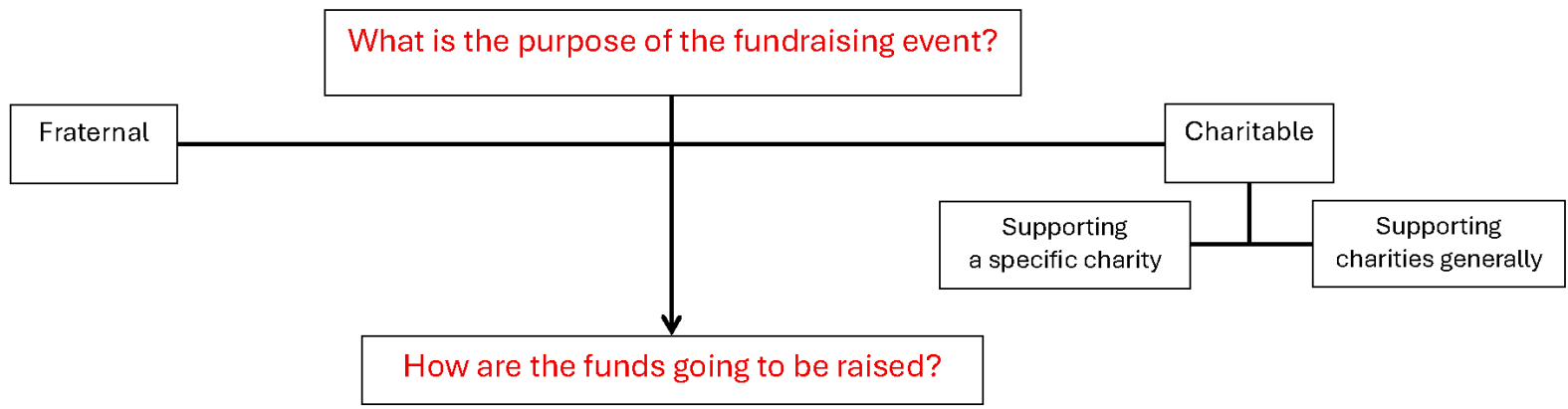
This distinction is very important.

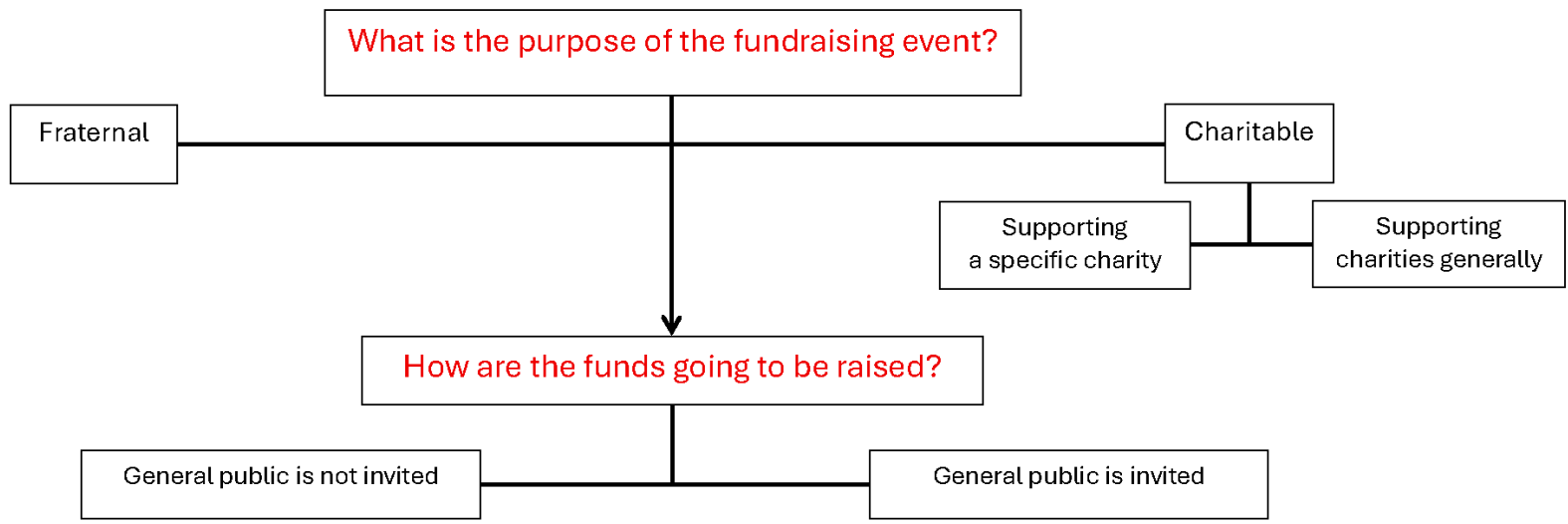
Fraternal support and charitable support events are subject to different rules and restrictions.

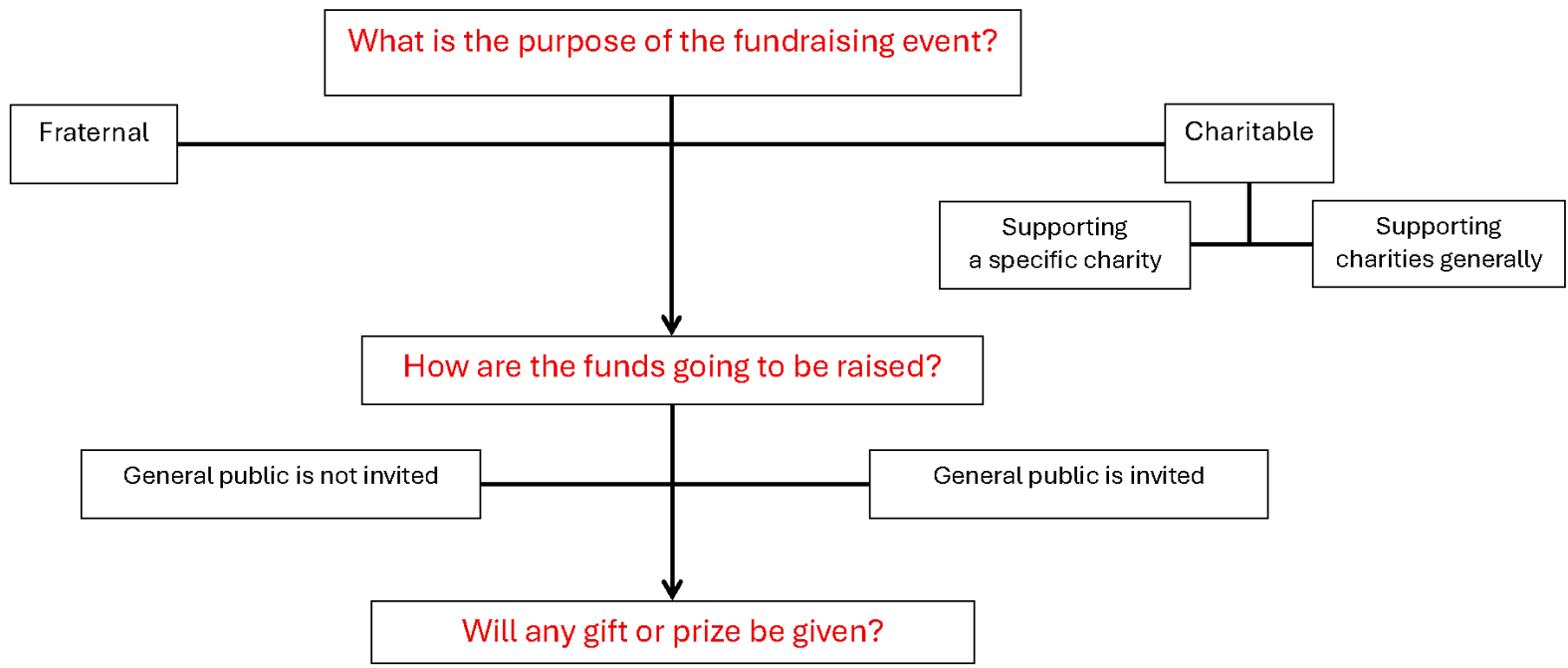
What is the purpose of the fundraising event?

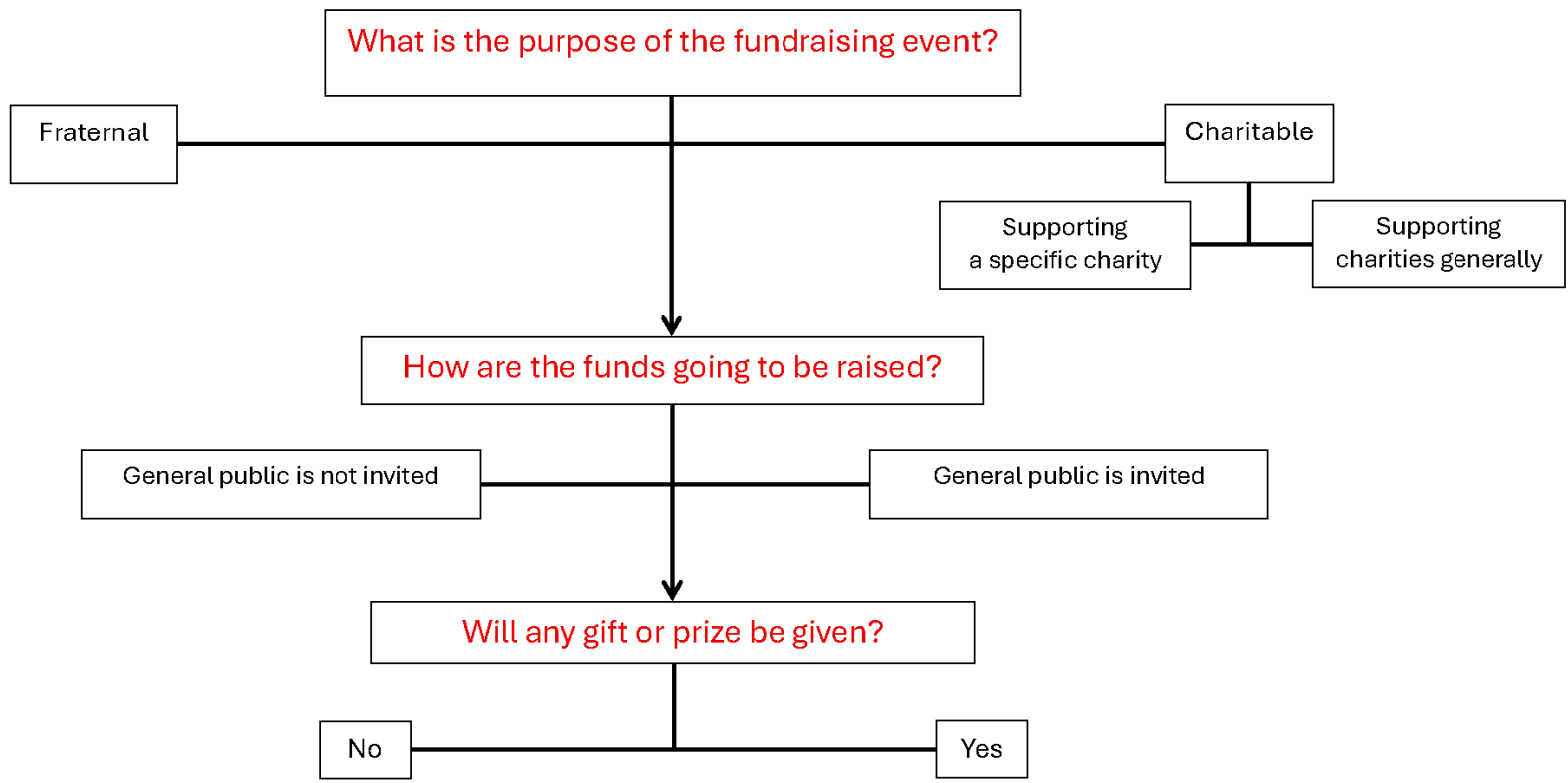


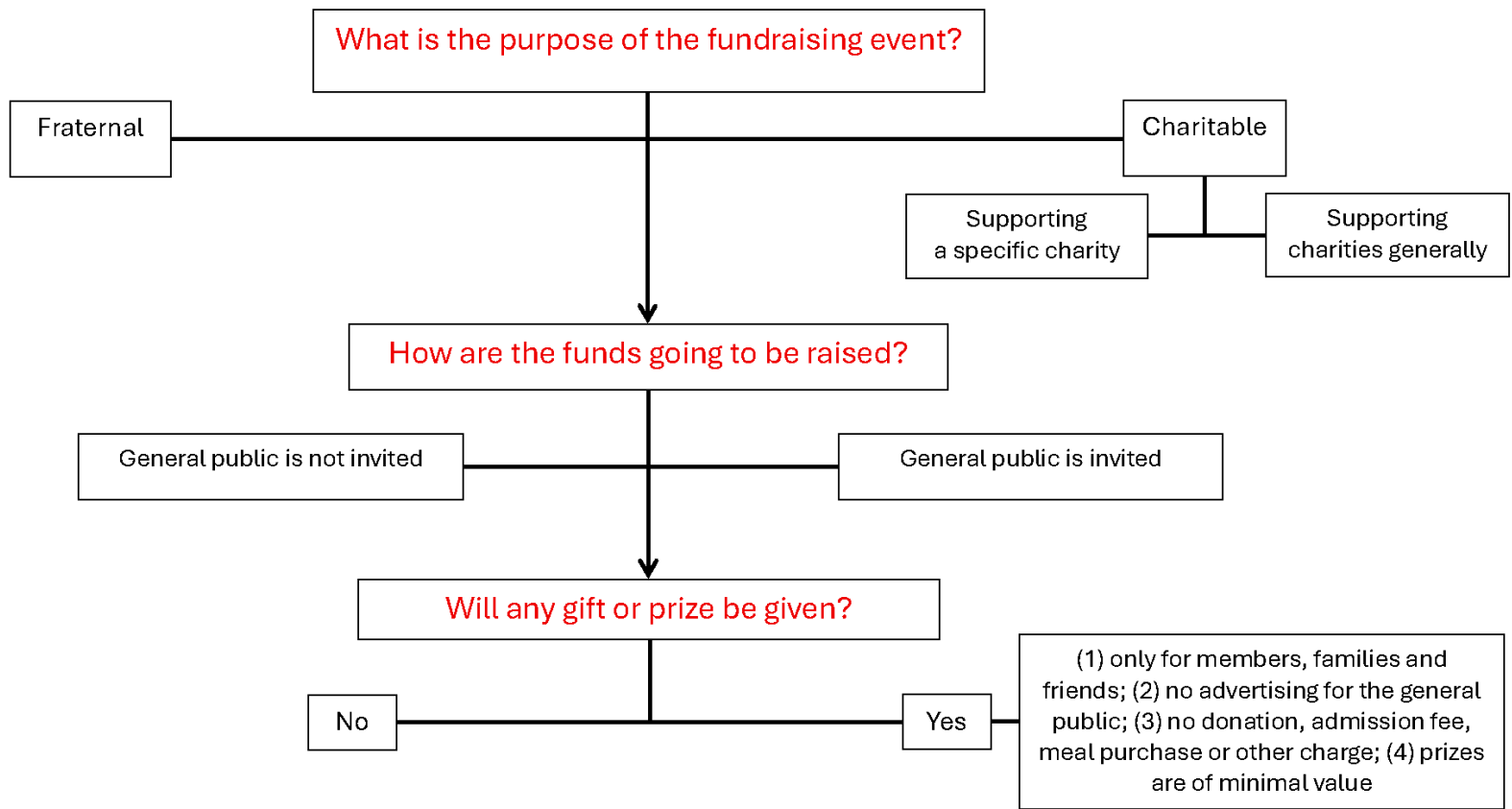


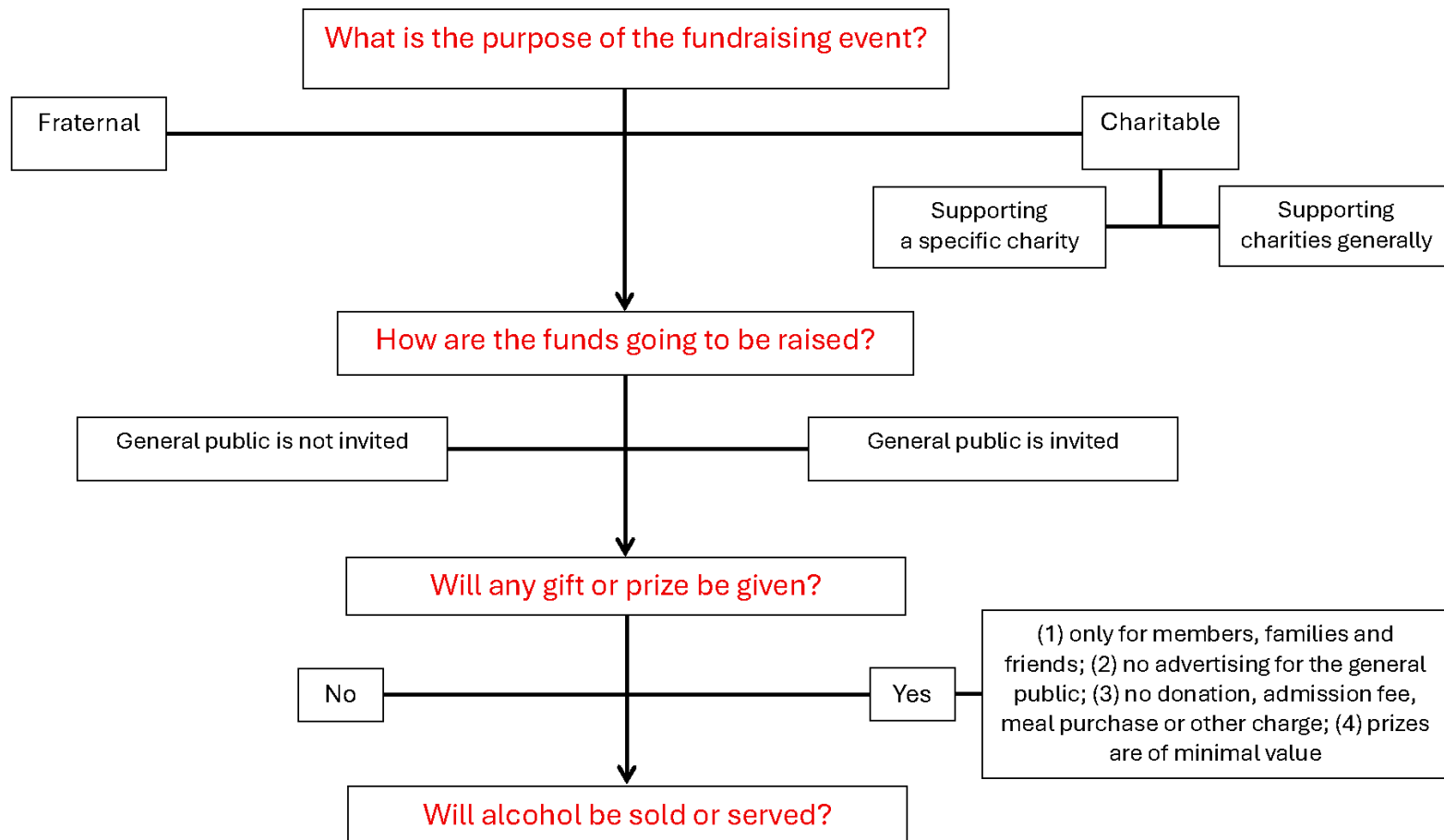


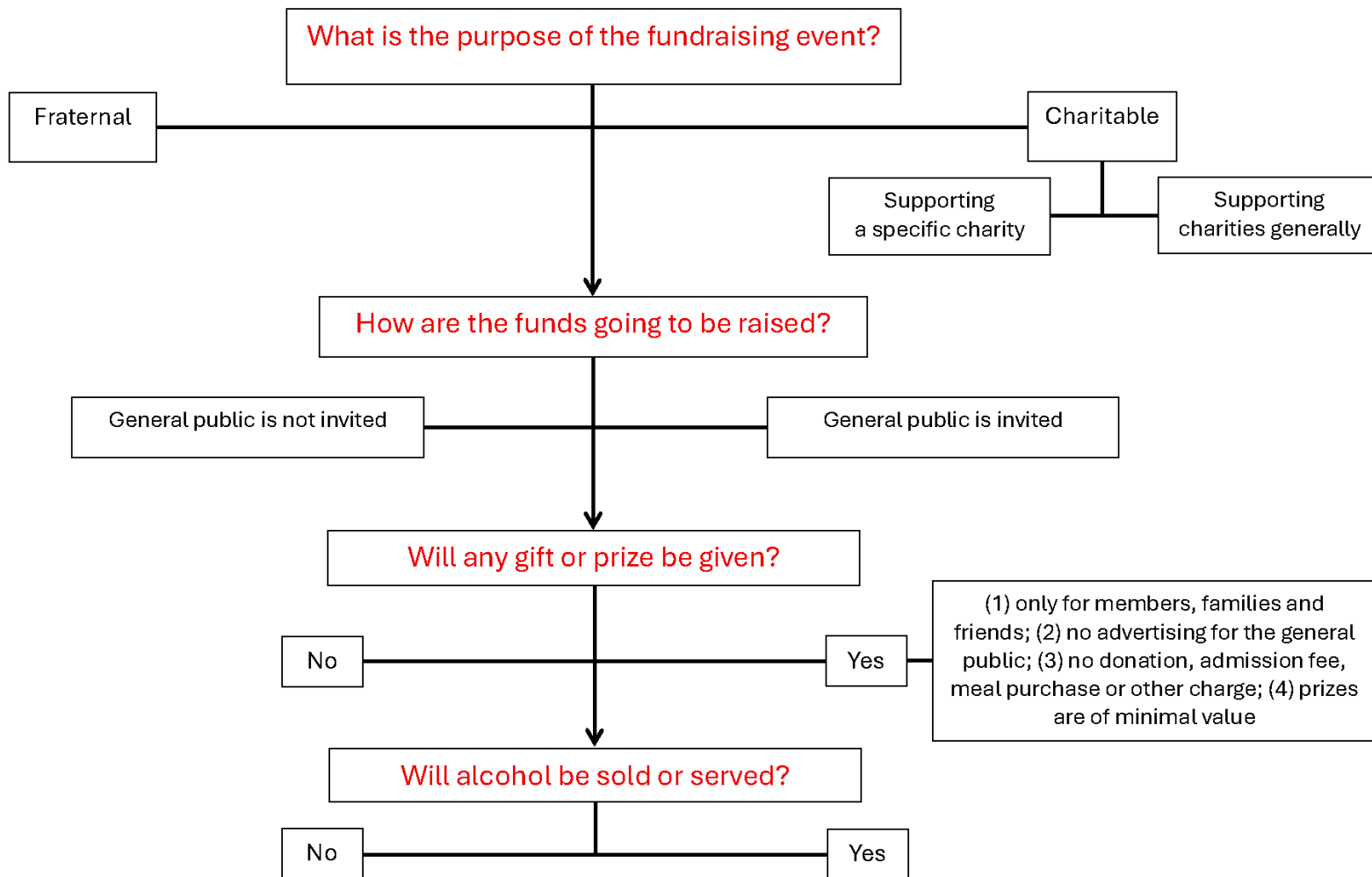


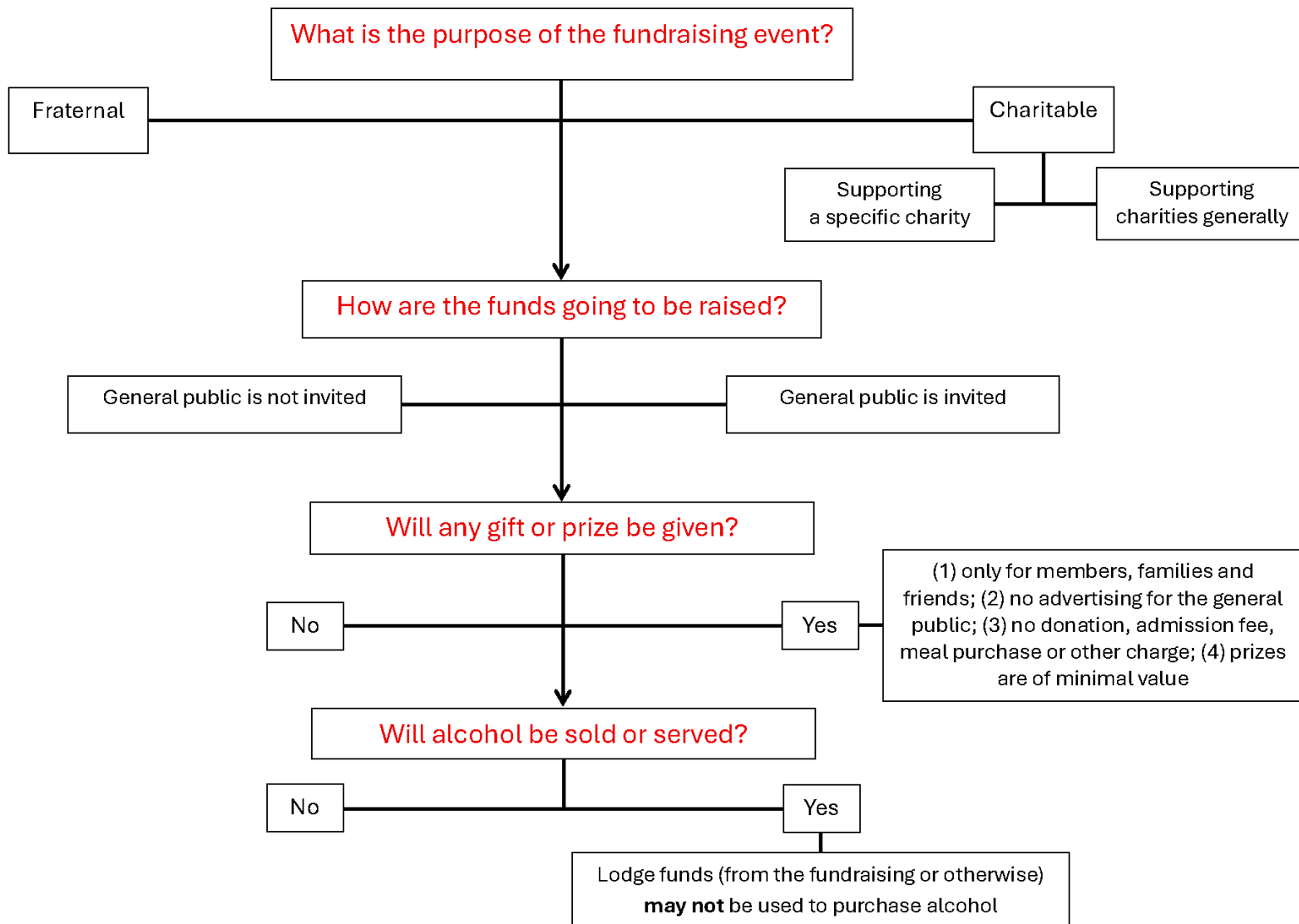


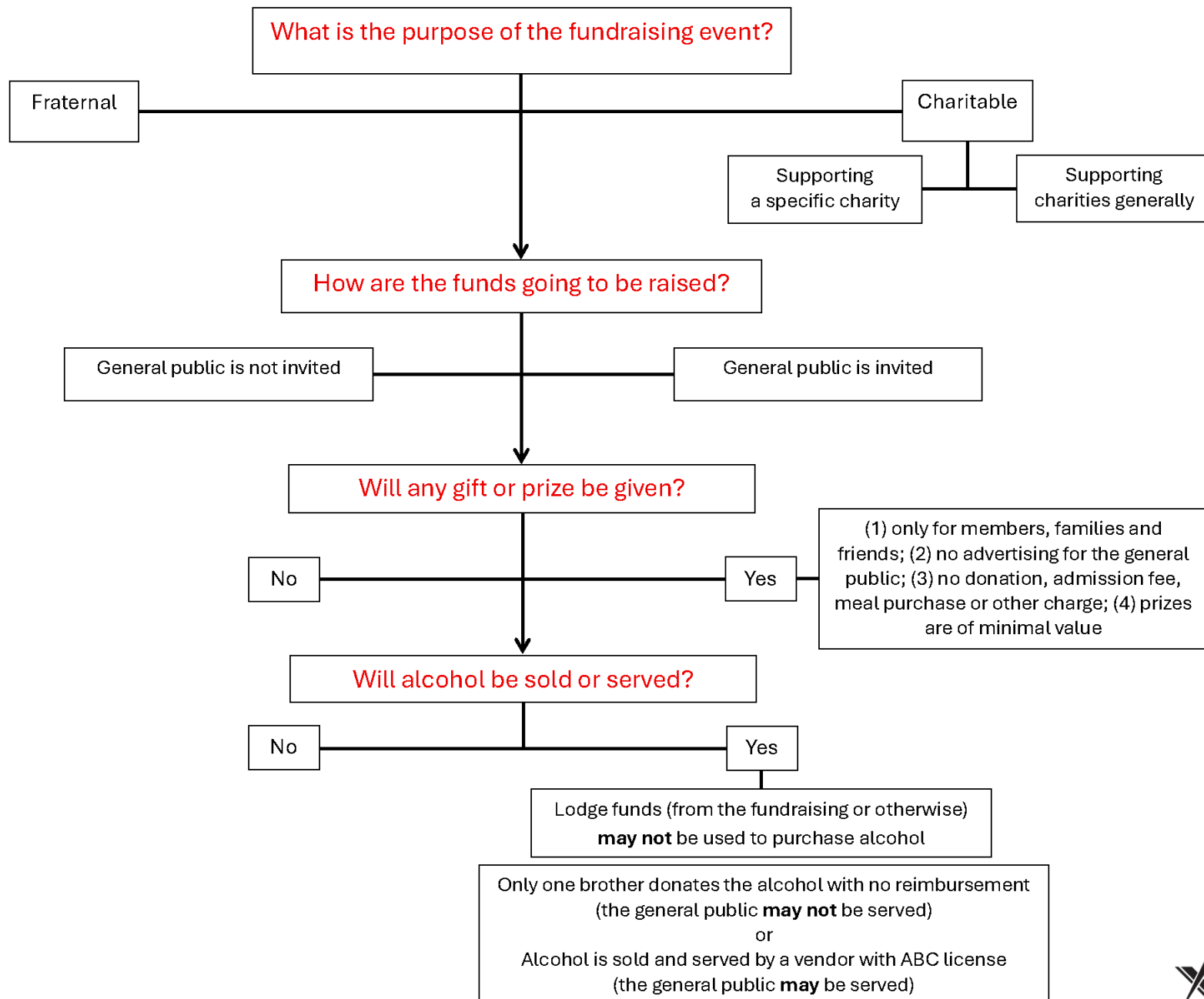












Can Lodges sell tickets for fundraising?

Yes, but the rules are different for fraternal and charitable events.

If the Lodge is selling tickets for a fraternal event (not a charitable event):

The Lodge may sell tickets only to Masons and their families and friends.

The Lodge may not sell tickets to, or solicit, the general public.

When selling tickets, lodges must disclose that profits from the event will be used for the fraternal, rather than charitable, purposes. If such disclosure is not made to ticket buyers, all proceeds from the event must be given to a recognized Masonic charity.

If the Lodge is selling tickets for a charitable event (not a fraternal event):

Lodges may sell tickets to Masons, their families and friends, and the general public, as long as lodges makes sure that:

1. All publicity, tickets, and programs relating to the event clearly identify the charitable purpose and the charities that will receive the funds.
2. The net proceeds from the event are actually distributed to the charities that were named.
3. Other CMC provisions relating to charitable activities are followed.

How can a Lodge raise funds for charity?

A Lodge must raise funds for a specific charity.

Otherwise, the Lodge will have to go through a complex legal process.

Can Lodges serve or sell alcoholic beverages at fundraising events?

Yes, but subject to important limitations and restrictions, including, but not limited to:

Limits on Funding/ Acquiring Alcoholic Beverages for the Event

- No Payment of Lodge Funds for Alcoholic Beverages

- No Use of Event Ticket Proceeds

Limitations on Donation

Limits on Where Alcoholic Beverages are Permitted

Limits on Selling Alcoholic Beverages/ Caterers

Alcoholic beverages may not be sold at Lodge event unless both the serving and the selling is performed by a caterer with an ABC license. Lodges may not operate a cash bar, sell drink tickets or tokens, or charge additional meal fees to cover alcoholic beverages.

If a licensed caterer will be serving and selling alcoholic beverages at a Lodge event, the caterer, not the Lodge, must sell the tickets to the event.

Lodges may not assume the role of an ABC-license caterer by applying for, or operate under, an ABC license.

Limits on Who May be Served

The general public may not be present when alcoholic beverages are served without a license.

When holding a fundraising event:

Do Lodges need to pay income tax?

Do Lodges need to pay sales tax?

Gaming

Is there any way to do gaming activities without registering with the AG or violating the criminal law?

Only if there is no payment of any kind to participate.

For example, a Lodge may sponsor a bingo or bunco game if:

- (1) attendance at the event is limited to Lodge members, their families and friends;
- (2) there are no signs or other advertising visible to the general public referring to the game;
- (3) no donation, admission fee, meal purchase or other charge is accepted or required for the opportunity to participate; and
- (4) prizes are of minimal value.

III.

How to arrange and publicize a Lodge fundraising event?

Ask Your Lodges to go through all these questions as they plan their event and present you with a report citing CMC sections.

1. What is the primary purpose of the event (fraternal or charitable)?
 - a. Is there a plan to support a specific charity? Is it a Masonic charity?
 - b. Is there a plan to financially support the Lodge or the Hall?
 - c. Is there a plan to purchase or do something for the Lodge or the Hall?
2. Where is the location of the event?
3. Who is invited (Masons, their family and friends, the general public)?
4. Is there a charge or is the event free?
5. Will Lodge funds be used at all? If so, to pay for what?
6. Is there a plan to raise funds? What is that plan?
7. How will the funds be raised (tickets, admission fee, donations or otherwise)?
8. What exactly will the admission fee or the ticket cover?
9. How and where will the event be announced or advertised?
10. Will any prize or gift (money or otherwise) be given?
11. What funds will be used to cover such prizes or gifts?
12. Is alcohol going to be sold or served?
13. How will the alcohol be sold or served? Where will the alcohol come from?
14. What are the anticipated expenses? Explain.
15. What is the anticipated income and how will it be handled? Explain.

The Lodge must present you
with a detail written plan.

A flyer means nothing!

FUNDRAISER!
JOIN US!

Help make a difference

FRIDAY 7PM
Community Center



WHAT PEOPLE SEE
A FLYER.



PRIMARY PURPOSE



WHO IS INVITED



IS THERE A PLAN TO RAISE FUNDS



**IS ALCOHOL GOING TO
BE SOLD OR SERVED**



**WILL ANY PRIZE OR
GIFT BE GIVEN OUT**



**SELLING TICKETS OR
CHARGE ADMISSION FEE**

WHAT PEOPLE DON'T SEE
THE PLAN.
THE WORK.
THE IMPACT.



**SUCCESSFUL EVENTS ARE BUILT
BELOW THE SURFACE.**
PLAN DEEP. IMPACT LASTS.

Let see some flyers!

GULF LOVERS LODGE No. 999

invites you to attend a
GULF TOURNAMENT

All proceeds will go to a special new account
which will pay for the Lodge's much needed
new roof

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Bring your family, friends, neighbors,
colleagues . . . even strangers!

IT IS A VERY WORTHY CAUSE!

LIQUOR LODGE No. 998

invites you to attend the
LODGE ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Come celebrate with us!

ONLY FOR MASONS
AND THEIR FAMILY!

We Will Serve You
Free Wine and Beer!

CHARITY LODGE No. 997
invites you to attend a
FUN DINNER DANCE

All proceeds will support a very
special charity that is close to our
heart!

OPEN TO PUBLIC!

Come support our charity!

BIG WINNER LODGE No. 996
invites you to attend the
ANNUAL DINNER

All guests will enter a game
and may win a big prize!

OPEN TO PUBLIC!

Come have fun and party with us!

LANDLORD LODGE No. 995
TEMPLE BOARD
ASSOCIATION

invites you to attend a
FUNDRAISING DINNER

We hope to make money to
buy a new refrigerator!

PLEASE SUPPORT US!





INSPECTORS LEADERSHIP RETREAT 2026