



## **How to Host a Board Game Night**

Everyone loves game night! This is a wonderful opportunity for friends, families, and groups to be involved in a safe night of fun and games! You can host this event at your school, a local community center, or someone's home. Have individuals or families lend board games that are appropriate for the age group you are hosting. You need to collect games, determine if you want players broken up into teams or individual participants, and roll the dice for an evening of fun!

### **Fundraising Potential:**

Similar to a poker tournament, you can charge players an entrance fee for each game, or you can charge a flat fee per person for an entire night of game play. Consider setting up a round robin tournament where you eliminate players throughout the evening until a few remain for the top prize!

### **Establish a Time Limit Per Game:**

With a game play time limit, everyone will have the same chance of winning and you can keep a schedule. This is especially helpful if you have a round robin style tournament.

### **Offer Spectator Admission:**

You can set up seating for an audience and offer a paid drink and snack service, a 50/50 raffle, or door prizes for extra donations. If you're hosting this event in a school setting, this is a terrific way to involve parents.

### **Scoreboard:**

With an audience you will need some type of scoring system, as simple as a white board or chalkboard. Just make sure to place it where everyone can see it and where scores can be updated easily. It's best to assign a teacher or parent to serve as emcee to keep the information up-to-date.

### **Set Up Concessions:**

You can increase your profits by selling baked goods, chips, candy, coffee, soda pop, popcorn, hot dogs, and bottled water, etc. This can be as fancy or simple as you want. Consider asking participating parents or your school's PTA to host a bake sale!

### **Eye on the Prize:**

Many game tournament organizers will offer up a portion of the proceeds as the winning prize (50-50 type scenario) or offer up prizes donated from local sponsors. If you're hosting young children, donated toys and special school incentives like extra credit or extended recess are probably best! Older children would appreciate a gift certificate to the movies, an electronics store or clothing store.

**Contact your local Autism Speaks office for autism-related materials to display at your event, such as brochures and Walk Now for Autism Speaks banners.**