COMING OF AGE

At varying ages, a Nebraska citizen may participate in the “World of Alcoholic Beverages” in different ways.

- **Upon Reaching 16**
  1. An employee may stock, sack and carry out alcoholic liquor from licensed establishments, although she/he must be accompanied by a person over 21 years of age. (Can be the purchaser) (§53-168.06)
  2. An employee may remove liquor containers as a waiter, waitress or busboy of a restaurant, hotel, etc. (§53-168.06)

- **Upon Reaching 19**
  1. An employee may serve and sell alcoholic liquor (§53-168.06)

- **Upon Reaching 21**
  1. Other than stated above, an individual may not buy, sell, dispense or have in possession or physical control any alcoholic liquor in Nebraska (except his/her permanent place of residence.) (§53-180.02)
  2. Licensees must not permit possession or consumption by a minor on licensed premise.
  3. ANY employee may be charged criminally for selling or serving to a minor. Even those who are under 21 may be charged criminally.

THERE ARE TIMES......

No alcohol may be sold, delivered or dispensed, between 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. (unless further restricted by local ordinance.) (§53-179)

All drinks and drink containers must be removed from patrons by 1:15 a.m. (15 minutes after the closing hour.) No alcohol may be consumed on licensed property between 1:15 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. by anyone, including the owner and employees. (§53-179)

SUNDAY SALES

Alcoholic sales are prohibited unless permitted by local ordinance.

Local ordinances may permit:
(check with your local city or county clerk for ordinances)

- Beer to be sold “on” or “off” sale after 6:00 a.m. Sundays
- Spirits to be sold “on” sale after 12:00 noon on Sundays.

HAVE YOU ASKED FOR PROPER IDENTIFICATION?

- Purchasers must be 21 years of age. (§53-180.02)
- When asking for identification, only the following pieces are acceptable by law:
  - Drivers License (any state), Nebraska I.D. card (similar to License)
  - Military I.D. Card, Visa (passport) & Alien Registration Card.
  - Other forms of identification (School I.D, credit cards, Business I.D., etc.) may be used as a supplemental identification.

- A record of purchasers, who are asked for identification, may be recorded in a booklet, information should include name and address of purchasers, date of purchase, description of identification used and signature of purchaser.

Liquor Commission provides booklets free of charge (§53-180.06)

- “It’s such a bother!” Yes, it is an extra effort; but as a licensee, you’re doing your part towards minimizing the possibility of the alcoholic beverages falling into the wrong hands and its your beverage license that you’re protecting.

- Nebraska Laws require a sign (20” x 14”) warning minors and adults of penalties for purchasing alcohol for minors. Signs are available at the Liquor Commission free of charge. (§53-180.04)

ADVERTISING / PROMOTIONS

- Signs (R6-001)
  - Must Not:
    - Contain false or misleading statements
    - Be obscene, indecent, obnoxious or offensive
    - Portray children or reference to children

- Discount Coupons
  - May be offered and redeemed by retailer

- Rebates
  - Must be redeemed only by the manufacturer
  - A promotion must not require a customer invest money for a chance to win a prize (gambling)

Outdoor Areas

R2-012.07; 012.08

Beer Gardens- Must be contained by a permanent fence or wall preventing uncontrolled access and passing of beverages back and forth.

Sidewalk Cafes- Used for meal service, contained by permanent fence, wall, railing, rope or chain.

Must be properly supervised.

Areas used for both alcohol and smoking must comply with the NLCC and Department of Health for Smoking area requirements.
Now I’ve Got a License…

Some things a licensee must do to protect his/her license.

- Your current liquor license must be framed and hung in plain view (§53-148)
- Premises must be maintained in sanitary conditions (§53-101.05)
- For any alcohol sales over 20 gallons to one person, the seller must have the name, address, and telephone number of the purchaser recorded. (8.88 cases of 12 oz cans equals 20 gallons)**
- No sales of credit may be made except for: (1) clubs holding class C license if approved through their by-laws (2) Hotels or Restaurants for their guests. National credit cards may be used. (§53-183)
- Containers of beer larger than 5 gallons require a keg sticker, may be purchased from Liquor Commission (§53-167.02)

Some things a licensee must not do to protect his/her license.

- Do not sell alcohol to minors, or mentally incompetent persons (§53-183)
- Do not sell alcohol to visibly intoxicated person.(**)
- Some indicators of intoxication are:
  - Problems walking, stumbling, bumping into furniture;
  - Strong odor of alcoholic beverages;
  - Bloodshot or glassy eyes;
  - Slurred speech;
  - Fighting, vomiting or other unusual behavior
- Do not sell an unlimited quantity of alcohol drinks at a specific price. Do not sell two or more alcoholic drinks “Two-Fers” for one price (**)
- It is illegal to refill any empty liquor containers (even with the same brand) (§53-184)
- Do not permit open containers of alcohol to be carried from license premises (§53-123.04)
- Do not sell alcoholic liquor for re-sale. (§53-175)

For Continued Good Business
Remember …

- Your license needs to be renewed yearly, renewal is not automatic (§53-135)
  - Class C licenses expire October 31
  - Non Class C licenses expire April 30
- Corporations must have approved managers (§53-125)
- Liquor may be stored only on licensed premises (§53-129)**
- Do not allow another person to operate on your license (§53-149)
- Do not permit unlawful acts on premise, (gambling, disturbances, prostitution, etc.)(**)
- Licensees must permit any Law Enforcement Officer to inspect or enter the premises at any time and shall not delay entry (§53-134)**
- A liquor license is a privilege issued and controlled by the State of Nebraska, Liquor Control Commission.
- Current copies of the Liquor Control Act and rules and regulations of the Commission may be purchased from the Liquor Control Commission.
- The Liquor Control Commission must be notified of any changes in ownership, corporate structure, merger, manager, mailing address, phone numbers and trade name.

These guidelines for liquor establishment have been excerpted from the Nebraska Liquor Control Act and Rules in effect November 2008. If you have any questions concerning the sale of alcohol, you may contact the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission (402) 471-2571, FAX (402) 471-2814 or the Nebraska State Patrol (402) 471-8494. You may also visit us online at http://www.lcc.ne.gov

** Rules & Regulations of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission