

Frequently Asked Questions – Knights of Columbus State Bottle Drive

1. When is the Bottle Drive? The Bottle Drive kicks off on the first weekend of October. Councils can conduct their Bottle Drive any time during the fraternal year. However we ask each of the Districts, through at least one of their Councils, to conduct a Bottle Drive on the first weekend of October. This will be our annual our province wide Bottle Drive, and by each District participating insures that each area in the province will have a location where empties can be dropped off.

2. Do we need to register? Yes, we ask Councils participating in the Bottle Drive to please register as to when they will be conducting their Bottle Drive, thus allowing us to assist them in promoting their event. As for Districts, we ask that they also register as to whether or not they will be conducting a Bottle Drive on the first weekend of October. We will be promoting this event on both social media and through various other channels within each community throughout the province. In addition, we will be inviting supporters of Special Olympics throughout Ontario to turn in their empties at our designated locations. Thus it is very important that we need to know when and where each Bottle Drive will be held so that we can direct people as to where to drop off their empties. Also, if a District is not conducting a Bottle Drive, we will need to know that too so as to not promote the event in that area. Whenever a registration is received, Special Olympics Ontario will create a District/Council Bottle Drive web page to both promote the participation of the Council and District and to provide a province wide running total of the funds raised during the fraternal year..

2b. How do we register? Simply register by calling 1-888-333-5515 extension 237 or online at kocbottledrive@specialolympicsontario.com.

3. Do I need to contact the local Beer Store? Yes you do. The head office of the Beer Store is aware of our Bottle Drive, however they may not have informed the local Beer Stores about this event, as it is up to the store manager to determine how they wish to handle each event. Some stores allow you to put up posters to promote the event, some stores allow you to conduct the event at the store itself, thus allowing you to ask customers if they wish to donate their empties, while other stores ask you to do it at a different location. The Beer Stores also needs to know when your Bottle Drive is so as to provide you with supplies and to arrange to have more staff available so as to handle your returns.

4. How do I promote the Bottle Drive? You can ask parishioners from your Church to drop off their empties before or after Mass. Invite the local schools, especially the ones from your parish, to participate in the Bottle Drive by having the parents drop off their empties. If you live in an apartment, condominium or townhouse complex ask your neighbours and other tenants to save their empties. Invite local establishments, golf courses, etc. to donate their empties to the Bottle Drive for a specific period of time (such as a week or weekend). Promote your event in the parish bulletin, in the local media (public service announcement), on

social media, distribute flyers, etc. Special Olympics Ontario will be more than happy to help you promote your Bottle Drive in your area.

5. Where can I conduct my Bottle Drive? The most popular location to stage your Bottle Drive and have people drop off their returns seems to be at your Church. Other popular locations were at the local schools and businesses and at the Beer Store.

6. How do I conduct the Bottle Drive? On the day of the Bottle Drive set up your designated location, which is where your returns will be brought and sorted. (The Beer Store will instruct you as to how to sort your bottles). Throughout the day, after sorting the empties, take the empties to the Beer Store to cash them in. As people bring in their returns, consider handing them material about the Knights of Columbus and Special Olympics. It is an excellent opportunity to promote both very worthwhile organizations. At the end of the day ensure that the designated location has been cleaned up. (please refer to the K of C Bottle Drive Guide on <http://kofcflagrelay.com/> for more detailed information).

7. How do I report the results of the Bottle Drive? Please report your results using the Ontario State Council Bottle Drive Fundraiser Report Form. A copy is kept on file, while one is sent to the Ontario State Office and another to the District Deputy. Please send a copy to Special Olympics Ontario along with the funds raised.