

# Mecca Bingo Campaigns against Bingo Tax

Submitted by: Mecca Bingo

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Mecca Bingo (<http://www.meccabingo.com>) players and employees have united against the Government's proposed increase in bingo tax. Bingo players who play at Mecca's land based bingo halls will be hit with a significant hike in bingo tax which is set to increase from 15% to 22%.

As part of the Rank Group, Mecca Bingo has an online presence at [www.meccabingo.com](http://www.meccabingo.com) and an offline presence with land-based bingo halls across the country. The group recognises that the grossly unfair taxation is putting further pressure on land-based bingo halls which have already been struck by the smoking ban.

The Mecca Bingo campaign has kicked off with Rank CEO, Ian Burke, appearing on the BBC's Politics Show to voice his concerns over the unfair taxation. In addition to pressure being put on the Government by the group itself, the dedicated players and employees of Mecca Bingo have rallied together to campaign against the Government's decision.

Bingo players and employees at Mecca Bingo halls across the UK have demonstrated their anger at the proposed increase through setting up Facebook petition groups, writing to their local press and issuing a Downing Street petition. Over 25,000 bingo players have expressed their anger over the proposed tax increase, demonstrating the wide-spread distaste at the Government's plan.

The bingo tax increase was proposed by Chancellor of the Exchequer, Alastair Darling in the recent 2009 Budget. Where other gaming sectors including casinos and sports betting outlets have taxation firmly pegged at 15%, bingo tax is set to undergo an inexplicable rise up to 22%.

Bingo lovers who want to voice their opinion on the unfair increase in bingo tax can sign the Downing Street Petition at: <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/Bingoplayers/>

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