

# **Top 10 Contest**

Reward business generating activities in 10 top areas.

## **Contest Description**

Agents compete to earn the most points by working on their business in ten top areas such as goal setting, growth strategies, marketing, and systems. By rewarding behaviors rather than sales results, the playing field is level for new and experienced agents.

# Objectives

- Create and reset good habits that lead to higher production.
  - Experienced agents fine tune their foundation.
  - New agents develop routines based on best practices.
- Create a collaborative and social learning environment.
- Enhance office culture.

# **Evidence of Success**

Measure your contest's success in the following areas. Be sure to share relevant results with your agents.

- KPI (key performance indicator) tracking YOY (year over year)
- Enhancement of each agent's business tools portfolio
- Agent participation level
- Agent satisfaction based on post-contest feedback

## **Contest Instructions**

#### **STEP 1:** Contest Logistics & Promo Flyer

- Review Spark & Logic's <u>Best Practices for Great Contests</u>.
- Determine the dates for your contest. TIP: 4 to 6 weeks is optimum long enough to gain points, short enough to maintain interest.
- Identify the prizes you will give away. Typically, a contest will have 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes. These
  do not need to be extravagant. Possible prize ideas: gift card, car wash tokens, gift certificate to a local
  restaurant, cash, branded apparel, marketing materials, credit against the agent's office invoice, RVC
  (Resort Vacation Certificates), gas card, spa day/round of golf/leisure activity, lottery tickets, preferred
  parking space at the office, owner/manager hosted dinner party.
- Customize the promotional flyer. Save your flyer as a PDF before emailing to maintain proper formatting.

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#### **STEP 2:** Office Decorations

Your contest enthusiasm is contagious. Start by creating a fun environment. You can find inexpensive items to enhance your decor at a dollar store, <u>www.orientaltrading.com</u>, or a party decorating store.

Decoration suggestions:

- Use anything referring to "Top 10" Top 10 Songs, Top 10 Movies, Top 10 Universities
- Use the number "10" 10 balloons, 10 streamers, 10 beach balls, 10 flags, 10 palm trees, etc.
- Top 10 Places to see in your state, county, or city
- David Letterman's Top 10
- Sports bowling has 10 pins, there are 10 positions in slow-pitch softball, 10 players on a basketball court (5 per team)
- Number 10 cardboard stand-up
- The first 10 agents to come to the meeting get a top hat
- Tape a piece of paper with the #10 to the bottom of one chair that person gets \$10

#### **STEP 3:** Contest Scoreboard

Prepare a contest scoreboard. This is where you will track and post the weekly results. You can do this on an Excel spreadsheet, dry erase board, poster board, etc. Make sure to post this information where all agents can see the weekly standings. Keep your scoreboard simple:

- Agent name
- Points this week
- Overall points

By displaying weekly points as well as overall points, more agents can share in the limelight.

#### **STEP 4:** Promote Your Contest

- Post/share the promotional flyer so that all agents are aware of the upcoming contest. TIP: We recommend sharing two weeks before the start of the contest. Post the flyer in the office breakroom or near agent mailboxes and send via email.
- Share the flyer during at least one sales meeting before the start of the contest.
- Identify the start date and how everyone will receive their <u>Activity Tracker</u> sheets. Read through the Activity Tracker so you are prepared to answer contest questions.

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#### **STEP 5:** Agent Sign-Up

Post the <u>Agent Sign-Up Sheet</u> in your office. Provide an opportunity for agents who are not regularly in the office to sign-up (i.e., email the manager or use a Google Form).

#### **STEP 6:** Start Your Contest

Start the contest at a Sales Meeting.

- Decorate the room and play upbeat music before the start of the meeting.
- Hand out the <u>Activity Tracker</u> sheets to the agents. They will need one for each week you are running the contest. If the contest runs for six weeks, each agent receives six Activity Tracker sheets.
- Ask the agents to date each Activity Tracker sheet (see "week #" in the upper right corner).
- Go through the activities and answer any questions.

Discuss the basic rules.

- The contest uses the honor system.
- Designate the day of the week the Activity Tracker sheets need to be turned in. TIP: Choose a due date of 1 or 2 days before the weekly meeting so that you have time to total up points and post on the scoreboard. Use the same day every week.
  - Example: Sales meetings are on Tuesdays. All weekly Activity Trackers must be turned in Monday by noon.
  - ° TIP: Delegate the task of adding up points and updating the scoreboard to a staff member.

#### **STEP 7:** Sales Meeting Updates

- Decorate the room
- Have contest scoreboard ready
- Congratulate agents on accomplishments
- Recognize weekly top point-earners, as well as overall top point-earners

#### STEP 8: Contest Wrap Up

In the last week of the contest, keep the scoreboard secret until the big reveal. Make a show of awarding prizes. Be sure to take a photo of the winners as well as the entire group. Share pictures and videos on social media, your company's intranet website, company newsletter, breakroom bulletin board, etc.

#### **STEP 9:** Evaluate Your Contest

Take some time with your management team to evaluate what went well and how you can improve your next contest. Also consider obtaining agent feedback through surveys and informal discussions.

NOTE: The action items on the Activity Tracker list also make great workshop topics!