

# Fundraising Ideas for Forensics Teams

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## Team Fees and Hosting Tournaments:

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	PROFIT
Host a forensics tournament	This is a huge undertaking, but there are so many great coaches around the state who will help you.	We host a tournament at Beechwood and typically make over \$1000 per year.
Trophy sponsorship for forensics tournament	We ask for donations to cover all of our tournament trophies. Other school clubs, teachers, and individuals will sponsor a trophy, and we thank them at our tournament during the award ceremony.	We break even on trophies, which can be the most expensive start-up cost of a tournament.
Team dues	Each team member pays \$75 team dues to start the season.	\$75 / student \$2250 total last year
		Break even.

<b>Kids pay for their own hotel fees</b>	Kids must pay for their portion of the hotel room for each over-night trip.	
<b>Kids pay for their own tournament entry fees</b>	Some schools have kids pay each week to cover their tournament entry fees.	Break even.

## Sponsorships & Donations:

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>PROFIT</b>	<b>CONTACT INFO.</b>
<b>Silent auctions</b>	Solicit donations from businesses of cool items, baskets of gifts, etc. The best silent auctions happen in conjunction with another event, such as a football game, play production, Christmas celebration, etc.	Pure profit. All donations.	
<b>Go Fund Me account</b>	Before heading to NSDA and CFL Nationals this past season, I started a Go Fund Me account asking for donations from alumni and supporters.	We received \$750 in donations.	<a href="http://www.gofundme.com">www.gofundme.com</a>
<b>Edco account</b>	Edco is similar to Go Fund Me, but it has grants available for hitting certain benchmarks. Rowan County HS Forensics Team used this last year to help get them to the national tournaments.	Teams only have to pay 4.9% of their total donations to the website for the service.	<a href="https://weare.ed.co/">https://weare.ed.co/</a>

<b>Kroger Card Community Rewards Program</b>	Parents and community members link their Kroger Rewards Card to your team account, and the team will receive a donation from Kroger.	2% - 4% of your purchase amount	<a href="https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow">https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow</a>  Frequently Asked Questions: <a href="https://www.kroger.com/asset/vn_fb6265f287c548dd75d9e881fd79f8a8/deltafaq">https://www.kroger.com/asset/vn_fb6265f287c548dd75d9e881fd79f8a8/deltafaq</a>
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## Plant Sales:

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	PROFIT	CONTACT INFO.
<b>Poinsettia sale</b>	Team members take pre-orders for poinsettias. This has been our longest-running and easiest fundraiser by far.	\$2 - \$7 per plant  Last year we made over \$700.	Pemberton Greenhouses, Lexington, KY  (859) 254-6552  <a href="mailto:pembertons@pembertonsgreenhouses.com">pembertons@pembertonsgreenhouses.com</a>
<b>Mum sale</b>	Team members take pre-orders for mums. I haven't found a supplier yet, but I'm looking into this for next fall.		

<b>Hanging basket sale</b>	Team members take pre-orders for hanging baskets. I hope to have a supplier ready for this spring.		
<b>Spring mulch sale</b>	Our band pre-sells bags of mulch and actually delivers the mulch to the customers' homes. This is very profitable, but it takes an army of parents with trucks to pull it off, not to mention a long, sweaty, dirty delivery day.		


## Concessions & Restaurant Nights:

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	PROFIT	CONTACT INFO.
<b>Reds games - selling concessions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12-game commitment is required.</li> <li>• 6 – 10 volunteers needed each game</li> <li>• Volunteers must be 16 years old.</li> </ul>	Your team will receive commission from the sales or a minimum guarantee, whichever is higher.	(513) 765-7585 <a href="https://www.delawarenorth.com/cincinnati-sportservice/fundraising">https://www.delawarenorth.com/cincinnati-sportservice/fundraising</a>

<b>Cincinnati Cyclones games - selling concessions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 – 10 volunteers needed each game.</li> <li>• Volunteers must be 16 years old.</li> </ul>	Your team receives a percentage of net sales from the stand that they are operating.	<a href="http://www.aramark.com/Landing-Pages/npo-fund-raising/get-involved">http://www.aramark.com/Landing-Pages/npo-fund-raising/get-involved</a>
<b>Restaurant percentage nights</b>	<p>Contact local restaurants sometimes allow “kick-back” nights giving school groups a percentage of the profits for one evening’s sales. These are restaurants that work with our school: Fazoli’s, Skyline Chili, Applebee’s, Chipotle, Moe’s, Panera, Orange Leaf Yogurt, and City Barbeque.</p> <p>It involves very low effort on the part of the team, but doesn’t profit very much.</p>	Varies – typically 5% of sales for the evening. Our team partnered with Skyline one year and made about \$150.	

## Selling Stuff:

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	PROFIT	CONTACT INFO.

<p>Foam tiger paws (or foam spirit finger)</p>		<p>We sell these for \$5.00 during football season. It took about four weeks to sell all 50 paws that we purchased.</p>	<p>\$2.50/paw</p> <p>We purchased 50 paws, sold them all, and made \$125 profit last year.</p>	<p>Anderson's School Spirit catalog</p> <p>1-800-848-0258</p> <p><a href="http://www.andersonspirit.com">www.andersonspirit.com</a></p>
<p>Snappy Tomato Pizza fundraising cards</p>	<p>Snappy Tomato Pizza provides you with cards to sell for \$10 each. Snappy charges \$2.00 per card sold during the fundraiser. There is no charge for cards returned after fundraiser has ended.</p> <p>Cards contain 8 coupons for 'Buy any large 1-topping pizza at regular menu price, receive a medium 1-topping pizza free'.</p>	<p>\$8 profit per \$10 card sold.</p>	<p>My local sales rep is Andy Ritter:</p> <p>andy.ritter@snappytomato.com</p>	
<p>Pumpkin or apple pie sale</p>	<p>One year, we took pre-orders for \$10 homemade pumpkin or apple pies available for pick-up the last day of school before Thanksgiving Break. Our team members or their parents baked the pies.</p>	<p>\$10 per pie</p> <p>We sold 15 pies for a profit of \$150.</p>		
<p>More pie sales ideas</p>	<p>If you don't want to bake the pies yourself, then Bumblebee Fundraising out of Nicholasville sells great pies that can be sold right before Thanksgiving as well.</p>		<p><a href="http://www.mrbumblebee.com/hometown-bakery-premium-pies.html">http://www.mrbumblebee.com/hometown-bakery-premium-pies.html</a></p> <p>Bumblebee Fundraising LLC</p> <p>(859) 885-1339</p>	

<p><b>City Saver books</b></p>	<p>These are coupon books for businesses in and around Louisville. North Oldham HS Forensics Team currently sells these.</p>		<p><a href="http://louisville.citysaver.com/">http://louisville.citysaver.com/</a> Request information by emailing: <a href="mailto:info@citysaver.com">info@citysaver.com</a></p>
<p><b>Bake sales</b></p>	<p>An oldie but goodie. It's best to hold these in conjunction with some other type of event: open house, parent-teacher conference day, sports events, festivals, etc.</p>	<p>Pure profit, since all items are donated by team members.</p>	
<p><b>Doughnut sales</b></p>	<p>Krispy Kreme is the way to go with this fundraiser; they provide you with all of the order forms and advertisements for the entire fundraiser. Kids take pre-orders and collect money as they go; the doughnuts are delivered to you on a designated day; then the customers pick them up on that designed day.</p> <p>At Highlands HS, the junior class sells Krispy Kremes at every home football game. Apparently, it's pretty lucrative.</p>	<p>50% - 60% profit, according to website.</p>	<p>1-800-4-KRISPY <a href="http://www.krispykreme.com/Fundraising/How-It-Works">http://www.krispykreme.com/Fundraising/How-It-Works</a></p>
<p><b>Bingo pull tabs</b></p>	<p>Pull tabs are charitable gaming fundraising tickets. These pull tab tickets are sold to players at bingo games, civic clubs, and VFW and Legion halls much like instant lottery tickets. The object of the game is to open the perforated windows on the back of the ticket and match the symbols inside the ticket to the winning combinations on the front of the</p>	<p>Rowan County Forensics Team does this twice a year at their local bingo hall; I have no idea how much it profits.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.specialtypulltabs.com/popp/">http://www.specialtypulltabs.com/popp/</a> <a href="mailto:sales@specialtypulltabs.com">sales@specialtypulltabs.com</a></p>

	ticket. The winning pull tab ticket is turned in for a monetary prize.		
<b>Fresh citrus and strawberries</b>	North Oldham Forensics Team takes pre-orders for citrus and strawberries each year. I hear folks rave about the quality of the fruit.		Florida Fruit Association, Inc. (800)-613-7848 <a href="http://www.fundraisingfruit.com">www.fundraisingfruit.com</a>
<b>Data Match</b>	I used to do this fundraiser when I taught at Campbell County HS. Kids fill out a survey, results are compiled, matches are made, and then kids pay \$3 - \$5 to get their results.	Cost is .40 for each survey, so anything you charge above that is profit.	<a href="http://www.data-match.com/">http://www.data-match.com/</a> 800.545.1110
<b>Salsa sale</b>	For this sale, you take pre-orders, so you don't have to pay for anything that doesn't sell. A dance studio sells these in my area, and people go crazy for this brand.  Start by contacting <a href="mailto:MIKE@JOSEMADRIDSALSA.COM">MIKE@JOSEMADRIDSALSA.COM</a>	50% profits.	Jose Madrid Salsa 614-208-9982 <a href="http://josemadridsalsa.mybigcommerce.com/fundraising/">http://josemadridsalsa.mybigcommerce.com/fundraising/</a>
<b>Gourmet lollipops</b>	We used to sell these before food sales were frowned upon in our school. They pretty much sold themselves. So easy!	Sell them for .50 which makes 50% profit.	Wow Fundraising Company 888-203-7168  <a href="http://wowfundraising.com/product/yummy-lix-gourmet-lollipops">http://wowfundraising.com/product/yummy-lix-gourmet-lollipops</a>

<b>Raffle tickets</b>	Lots of teams and clubs raffle items such as iPads, Bose headphones, etc. The raffles usually take place at ½ time at sporting events.	Keep selling raffle tickets until you will make 50% profit for the item raffled.	
<b>Pampered Chef</b>	Catalog sales of fancy cookware and whatnot.		<a href="https://www.pamperedchef.com/">https://www.pamperedchef.com/</a>
<b>Mr. Softee ice cream truck</b>	Schedule a Mr. Softee truck to come to a special event for a few hours, have your forensics kids work to make the ice cream cones, and enjoy the profits.	Approximately 50% for everything sold during your event.	<a href="http://mistersofteekentucky.com/fundraising.html">http://mistersofteekentucky.com/fundraising.html</a>
<b>Cookie dough</b>	I absolutely detest catalog sales fundraisers. However, this is the only “brochure sales item” that I will buy from other clubs, especially if it’s Otis Spunkmeyer cookies. Mmmmmmm.....		<a href="http://www.otisfundraisingideas.com/page/fundraising-otis">http://www.otisfundraisingideas.com/page/fundraising-otis</a>

## Events:

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	PROFIT	CONTACT INFO.
<b>Summer drama camp</b>	My forensics students and I teach a three-day drama camp (two hours per day) for elementary students during the summer.	\$50 / person We had 12 participants this	If you would like a copy of my curriculum / daily lessons for this, please email me!

		summer, so we made \$600.	<a href="mailto:molly.seifert@beechwood.kyschools.us">molly.seifert@beechwood.kyschools.us</a>
<b>Record then sell DVD's of school performances</b>	We borrow a professional digital video camera and record all of the elementary and high school performances: Kindergarten Thanksgiving pageant, 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade musical, annual high school musical, chorus concerts, etc. We burn the video on DVD's and sell/take donations from parents for \$10.	After the cost of each DVD, it's approximately \$9.50 profit.  For example, we made sold 47 copies of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade musical for a profit of \$446.	Staples.com for blank DVD's (\$19.99 / 100 pack)  <a href="http://www.staples.com/recordable+DVD/directory_recordable%2520DVD?akamai-feo=off">http://www.staples.com/recordable+DVD/directory_recordable%2520DVD?akamai-feo=off</a>
<b>Faculty talent show</b>	We're trying this for the first time this year, but Highlands H.S. did it for years, and apparently it was very lucrative. Our forensics team kids will run lights and sound and serve as the emcee. I've already confirmed six faculty performers!	\$5 per audience member	
<b>Male beauty pageant a.k.a. "The Man Show"</b>	Rosemary Cundiff-Brown does this each year at North Oldham High School. It is a male beauty pageant complete with formal wear, on-stage question, and talent portions. Kids pay an entrance fee to see the pageant, and also collect money in jars to help determine the winner.		Contact Rosemary Cundiff-Brown from North Oldham HS for details.  <a href="mailto:rosemary@monarch-photography.com">rosemary@monarch-photography.com</a>
<b>Trivia night</b>	Assumption Forensics Team has used this fundraiser in the past.		Contact Woody Zorn from Assumption HS for

			more information about it. Woody.Zorn@AHSRockets.org
<b>Yard sale</b>	Solicit items to sell from community members and parents, but be sure to have a truck available to haul away all unsold items to Goodwill or St. Vincent de Paul afterward. We also sell “booth space” for \$20 for anyone who wants to join our yard sale on the school’s front lawn.	We typically make about \$500 per year.	
<b>Zumba class</b>	Boone County HS did this a few years back; I went, and it was fun. I’m not sure how much money they made, though.	Charge \$5 - \$10 sliding scale per person.  Pay the instructor his/her hourly fee.	
<b>Coffee house performance nights</b>	Have forensics students perform for the public while providing coffee and light refreshments. Many teams do this before “big” tournaments like KHSSL state or NSDA nationals.	Charge \$5 per person.  Low start-up costs with coffee, cookies, cups, etc.	
<b>Elementary or middle school dance</b>	If you can get your forensics team members to create a clean play-list, then you can skip the cost of a DJ for this event. You will just need adult chaperones, decorations, sound equipment, and refreshments.	Every year I say I’m going to do this, but I never muster up the energy. Young children exhaust me.	

<b>Ice cream social</b>	Charge elementary or middle school kids \$5 to come to an ice cream social on a Friday after school. Provide them with “sundae-making materials” as well as a few other fun activities. It typically lasts one hour total.	Our Odyssey of the Mind team tried this and made \$250 the first time out.	
<b>Pumpkin painting / carving contest</b>	Kids pay \$5 to enter the contest. They bring their already carved or painted pumpkins to school on a designated Friday. Then, all of the pumpkins are displayed that night at a home football game for all to see. Ribbons are awarded. We only did this for one year, but we had 50 entries, and lots of kids held “pumpkin carving parties” at their houses.	\$5 per pumpkin We made \$250 one year.	
<b>\$1.00 to turn off annoying music during lunch</b>	Assumption HS Speech team hosts a fundraiser where they play annoying music during lunch, like Hansen’s, “Mmmm bop.” Kids pay \$1.00 to pause the music for one minute.		
<b>Rose and Prose</b>	For Valentine’s Day, Ryle’s Forensics Team sells roses for a few dollars. They are delivered by forensics team members who recite some famous love poetry as the roses are delivered.		Contact Ryle coach Rachel Page if you want a copy of the poetry snippets that she uses: <a href="mailto:Rachel.page@boone.kyschools.us">Rachel.page@boone.kyschools.us</a>

<p><b>Family Portraits</b></p>	<p>Do you have a parent who is a photographer? If so, sell family photo sessions. Our marching band has a parent who is a professional photographer, donates his time, and then gives all profit to the band. The family gets a CD with all of the photos on them which they have to print themselves.</p>	<p>Our band currently charges \$50 per family. That's a great deal!</p>	
<p><b>Wear a hat to school day</b></p>	<p>Kids purchase a sticker that reads, "I support the forensics team" for \$2.00. If they are wearing this sticker, then they can wear their hat to school that day. The stickers are nothing but mailing labels that have been printed with the message above.</p>	<p>\$100 - \$150</p>	
<p><b>Golf scramble</b></p>	<p>I honestly have no clue how this works, but Katy Cecil from LaRue Co HS suggested this.</p>		
<p><b>Dinner theatre</b></p>	<p>At Beechwood, this is a fundraiser for our drama department, but some forensics teams at other schools host nice, sit-down dinners during one of the school play productions. Forensics kids help cook and serve.</p>	<p>Beechwood's dinner theater is catered. Meal is \$50/plate. Profit is \$30/plate.</p> <p>Other schools serve a home-cooked meal and charge \$20/plate.</p>	
<p><b>5K Run / Walk</b></p>	<p>Our PTSA organizes a 5K run / walk each year. They charge \$30 registration fee. The start-up cost is minimal: tshirts, water coolers and cups, a few medals.</p>	<p>After t-shirt and water, it comes down to about \$20 profit per runner.</p>	

<b>Variation on a 5K Run / Walk: A 5K roller skating race</b>	I've never done this, but it was suggested to me in lieu of a 5K run.		
<b>Dodge ball tournament?</b>	This seems really fun!		<a href="http://www.heart.org/idc/groups/heart-public/@wcm/@mwa/documents/downloadable/ucm_443610.pdf">http://www.heart.org/idc/groups/heart-public/@wcm/@mwa/documents/downloadable/ucm_443610.pdf</a>
<b>Student talent show</b>	The traditional high school talent show generally gets a good turn-out. Hold auditions, charge \$5 entry fee, have forensics kids emcee the event.	\$5 per audience member	
<b>Fish fry</b>	Our marching band undertakes this huge operation throughout Lent. They take pre-orders, and then customers "drive through" our parking lot to pick up the freshly fried fish between 5:00 – 7:00 each Friday evening.		
<b>Car wash</b>	The old standard.		

<b>Chili cook-off</b>	This works well in conjunction with other events like Homecoming, football games, parent-teacher conferences, etc. You can have volunteers make the chili (and cornbread and other fixin's) and then charge the "tasters" \$5.	Pure profit. We did this one year and made about \$200.	
<b>Duct tape an administrator to the wall</b>	Sell strips of duct tape for a dollar. Kids get to add the piece of duct tape to an administrator to adhere him/her to a wall.		
<b>Host a wine and canvas night</b>	Helen Williams from Hazard said that her group hosted a fundraiser at her local wine and canvas place and made quite a bit.		

## Services:

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>PROFIT</b>
<b>Gift-wrapping service</b>	Gift-wrapping service. Teachers or parents drop off gifts on a designated Friday afternoon, and we have them wrapped and ready to be picked up on Monday morning.  Several forensics teams do this at their local malls.	Our prices are \$3 for small gifts, \$5 for large gifts.
<b>Parent night out</b>	This fun, "babysitting" service is hosted by our NHS on a few Friday nights per year from 6:00 – 10:00. They plan fun activities for kids in grades K – 5 and charge \$15 / kid.	