

Form **990-EZ**
 Department of the Treasury
 Internal Revenue Service

Short Form
Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
 Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

▶ **Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.**
 ▶ **Information about Form 990-EZ and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990ez.**

OMB No 1545-1150

2017

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2017 calendar year, or tax year beginning 07-01-2017, and ending 06-30-2018

- B** Check if applicable
- Address change
 - Name change
 - Initial return
 - Final return/terminated
 - Amended return
 - Application pending

C Name of organization
THE CIRCUIT

Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
PO BOX 30295

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
CINCINNATI, OH 45230

D Employer identification number
31-1511754

E Telephone number
(859) 240-3710

F Group Exemption Number ▶

G Accounting Method Cash Accrual Other (specify) ▶ _____

I Website: ▶ WWW.THECIRCUIT.NET

J Tax-exempt status (check only one) - 501(c)(3) 501(c)(6) ◀ (insert no) 4947(a)(1) or 527

H Check if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

K Form of organization Corporation Trust Association Other _____

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ ▶ \$ 182,158

Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances (see the instructions for Part I)
 Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

		Revenue		Expenses		Net Assets	
1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	12,500	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	
2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	108,758	11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	
3	Membership dues and assessments	3	54,300	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	83,818
4	Investment income	4		13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	5,342
5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a		14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	
b	Less cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b		15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	3,357
c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c		16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	77,130
6	Gaming and fundraising events			17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16 ▶	17	169,647
a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a		18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	2,218
b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ 12,500 of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b	6,000	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	51,794
c	Less direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c	10,293	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	0
d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	-4,293	21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 18 through 20	21	54,012
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a					
b	Less cost of goods sold	7b					
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c					
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8	600				
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8 ▶	9	171,865				

Part II Balance Sheets (see the instructions for Part II)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	69,530	22 73,053
23 Land and buildings		23
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	20,355	24 23,950
25 Total assets	89,885	25 97,003
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O).	38,091	26 42,991
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	51,794	27 54,012

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see the instructions for Part III)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose?
 THE CIRCUIT IS A TRADE ASSOCIATION HELPING TO ENHANCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGY RELATED COMPANIES AND INSTITUTIONS

Expenses
 (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations, optional for others)

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title

28 See Additional Data Table		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	28a	
29	29a	
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>		
30	30a	
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>		
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O)		
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	31a	
32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a) 32		152,113

Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees (list each one even if not compensated — see the instructions for Part IV)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV.

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
AJAY SHARMA	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				
ALAN HARTMAN	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				
BRANDON SHONDEL	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				
DAN O'KEEFFE	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				
DENNIS REINERMAN	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				
GAURAV MANTRO	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				
GLENN WARDEN	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				
JASON SKIDMORE	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				
JESSICA ALLEN	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				
JOHN HUTCHINSON	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				
KENDRA RAMIREZ	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				
PAUL CASHEN	0 10	0	0	0
TRUSTEE				

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O		No
34	Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)		No
35a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?		No
35b	If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		
35c	Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		No
36	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N		No
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions ▶ 37a _____ 0		
37b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?		No
38b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved		
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations Enter		
39a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9		
39b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities		
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911 ▶ _____, section 4912 ▶ _____, section 4955 ▶ _____		
40b	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		
40c	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 ▶ _____		
40d	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization ▶ _____		
40e	All organizations At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T		No
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed ▶ _____		
42a	The organization's books are in care of ▶ <u>CHRISTY BERNING</u> Telephone no ▶ <u>(859) 240-3710</u> Located at ▶ <u>5744 KENSINGTON RIDGE DR CINCINNATI, OH</u> ZIP + 4 ▶ <u>45230</u>		
42b	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ▶ _____		No
42c	See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR) At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U S ? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ▶ _____		No
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 - Check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year ▶ 43 _____		
44a	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ		No
44b	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ		No
44c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?		No
44d	If "Yes," to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		
45a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?		No
45b	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions)		

46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I 46 No

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only
All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51. Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II 47
48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E 48
49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? 49a
b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization? 49b

Table with 5 columns: (a) Name and title of each employee, (b) Average hours per week devoted to position, (c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC), (d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation, (e) Estimated amount of other compensation.

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None "

Table with 3 columns: (a) Name and business address of each independent contractor, (b) Type of service, (c) Compensation.

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000.

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? NOTE. All Section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A Yes No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

Sign Here ***** Signature of officer 2018-10-30 Date
BRIAN BERNING PRESIDENT Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer Use Only Print/Type preparer's name KATHLEEN MITTS CPA Preparer's signature Date Check if self-employed PTIN P01085771
Firm's name MCM CPAS & ADVISORS LLP Firm's EIN 27-1235638
Firm's address 201 EAST FIFTH STREET SUITE 2100 CINCINNATI, OH 45202 Phone no (513) 579-1717

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions Yes No

Additional Data

Software ID:

Software Version:

EIN: 31-1511754

Name: THE CIRCUIT

Form 990EZ, Part III - Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.	Expenses (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations; optional for others.)	
<p>28 THE CIRCUIT IS A TRADE ASSOCIATION HELPING TO ENHANCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGY RELATED COMPANIES AND INSTITUTIONS (Grants \$ 0)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . <input type="checkbox"/></p>	28a	152,113

TY 2017 Transfers Personal Benefits Contracts Declaration

Name: THE CIRCUIT

EIN: 31-1511754

Declaration: THE ORGANIZATION DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, RECEIVE ANY FUNDS, DIRECTLY, OR INDIRECTLY, TO PAY PREMIUMS ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT. THE ORGANIZATION, DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, PAY ANY PREMIUMS, DIRECTLY, OR INDIRECTLY, ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.

SCHEDULE G (Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Supplemental Information Regarding Fundraising or Gaming Activities

OMB No 1545-0047

2017

Open to Public Inspection

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 17, 18, or 19, or if the organization entered more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

Information about Schedule G (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization THE CIRCUIT

Employer identification number

31-1511754

Part I Fundraising Activities. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 17. Form 990-EZ filers are not required to complete this part.

- 1 Indicate whether the organization raised funds through any of the following activities. Check all that apply. a Mail solicitations, b Internet and email solicitations, c Phone solicitations, d In-person solicitations, e Solicitation of non-government grants, f Solicitation of government grants, g Special fundraising events. 2a Did the organization have a written or oral agreement with any individual... 2b If "Yes," list the ten highest paid individuals or entities (fundraisers) pursuant to agreements...

Table with 6 columns: (i) Name and address of individual or entity (fundraiser), (ii) Activity, (iii) Did fundraiser have custody or control of contributions?, (iv) Gross receipts from activity, (v) Amount paid to (or retained by) fundraiser listed in col (i), (vi) Amount paid to (or retained by) organization. Includes rows 1-10 and a Total row.

3 List all states in which the organization is registered or licensed to solicit contributions or has been notified it is exempt from registration or licensing

Part II Fundraising Events. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 18, or reported more than \$15,000 of fundraising event contributions and gross income on Form 990-EZ, lines 1 and 6b. List events with gross receipts greater than \$5,000.

Revenue		(a) Event #1	(b) Event #2	(c) Other events	(d)
		FULL THROTTLE FUNDRAISER (event type)	(event type)	(total number)	Total events (add col (a) through col (c))
1	Gross receipts	18,500			18,500
2	Less Contributions	12,500			12,500
3	Gross income (line 1 minus line 2)	6,000			6,000
Direct Expenses	4 Cash prizes	0			
	5 Noncash prizes	68			68
	6 Rent/facility costs	4,000			4,000
	7 Food and beverages	3,539			3,539
	8 Entertainment	250			250
	9 Other direct expenses	2,436			2,436
	10	Direct expense summary Add lines 4 through 9 in column (d) ▶			
11	Net income summary Subtract line 10 from line 3, column (d) ▶				-4,293

Part III Gaming. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 19, or reported more than \$15,000 on Form 990-EZ, line 6a.

Revenue		(a) Bingo	(b) Pull tabs/Instant bingo/progressive bingo	(c) Other gaming	(d) Total gaming (add col (a) through col (c))
		1	Gross revenue		
Direct Expenses	2 Cash prizes				
	3 Noncash prizes				
	4 Rent/facility costs				
	5 Other direct expenses				
	6	Volunteer labor	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____% <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____% <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____% <input type="checkbox"/> No
7	Direct expense summary Add lines 2 through 5 in column (d) ▶				
8	Net gaming income summary Subtract line 7 from line 1, column (d) ▶				

9 Enter the state(s) in which the organization conducts gaming activities _____

a Is the organization licensed to conduct gaming activities in each of these states? Yes No

b If "No," explain _____

10a Were any of the organization's gaming licenses revoked, suspended or terminated during the tax year? Yes No

b If "Yes," explain _____

- 11** Does the organization conduct gaming activities with nonmembers? Yes No
- 12** Is the organization a grantor, beneficiary or trustee of a trust or a member of a partnership or other entity formed to administer charitable gaming? Yes No
- 13** Indicate the percentage of gaming activity conducted in

a	The organization's facility	%
b	An outside facility	%

14 Enter the name and address of the person who prepares the organization's gaming/special events books and records

Name ▶
 Address ▶

15a Does the organization have a contract with a third party from whom the organization receives gaming revenue? Yes No

- b** If "Yes," enter the amount of gaming revenue received by the organization ▶ \$ _____ and the amount of gaming revenue retained by the third party ▶ \$ _____
- c** If "Yes," enter name and address of the third party

Name ▶
 Address ▶

16 Gaming manager information

Name ▶
 Gaming manager compensation ▶ \$
 Description of services provided ▶

Director/officer Employee Independent contractor

17 Mandatory distributions

- a** Is the organization required under state law to make charitable distributions from the gaming proceeds to retain the state gaming license? Yes No
- b** Enter the amount of distributions required under state law distributed to other exempt organizations or spent in the organization's own exempt activities during the tax year ▶ \$ _____

Part IV Supplemental Information. Provide the explanations required by Part I, line 2b, columns (iii) and (v); and Part III, lines 9, 9b, 10b, 15b, 15c, 16, and 17b, as applicable. Also provide any additional information (see instructions).

Return Reference	Explanation
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SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2017**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization
THE CIRCUIT

Employer identification number

31-1511754

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 8 - OTHER REVENUE	DESCRIPTION MISCELLANEOUS INCOME AMOUNT 600

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 16 - OTHER EXPENSES	DESCRIPTION SUPPLIES AMOUNT 498 DESCRIPTION TRAVEL AMOUNT 4,967 DESCRIPTION PROGR AM EXPENSES AMOUNT 65,895 DESCRIPTION BANK SERVICE CHARGES AMOUNT 3,348 DESCRIPTION PAYROLL SERVICE FEES AMOUNT 1,207 DESCRIPTION EDUCATION AND TRAINING COORDINATION A MOUNT 565 DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT EXPENSE AMOUNT 650 TOTAL TO FORM 990-EZ, LINE 16 77 ,130

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990-EZ, PART II, LINE 24 - OTHER ASSETS	DESCRIPTION ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 20,355 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 23,950

990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990-EZ, PART II, LINE 26 - OTHER LIABILITIES	DESCRIPTION ACCOUNTS PAYABLE BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 591 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 248 DESCRIPTION SUPPORT AND REVENUE FOR FUTURE PERIODS BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 36,272 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 42,197 DESCRIPTION CREDIT CARDS BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 1,176 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 157 DESCRIPTION PAYROLL TAX PAYABLE BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 52 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 79 DESCRIPTION ACCRUED LIABILITIES BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 0 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 310