



SOCIAL COMMITTEE

(reviewed October 2011)

In many clubs this committee is often attached to the House Committee and members are taken from this source. However if your club has a good social potential then it is usually worthwhile having a separate committee looking after social events. Usually the Chairman may be either the Captain or Vice Captain or a member of the main board or committee. Members are often co-opted on as this is one case in which you require workers on the committee rather than talkers.

The Ladies' Section will usually have an input in this committee and without their help and contribution it would be difficult to hold mixed functions. The function of this committee is about providing a social programme for the club and this will vary enormously between clubs. Some clubs will have a fixed number of annual events and that will be the limit whereas another club will organise and run events throughout the year with great success.

The Club Captain along with the Ladies' Captain will usually have a say in what events are held during the year. It is important that this committee encourages them and supports their ideas. If the Social is separate from the House Committee it is most important to have some liaison between the two otherwise you could run into all sorts of difficulties. It is also important for the Chairman not to have too many fixed ideas and to try to introduce new members annually so that the club is well represented by all its sections.

The committee members should be encouraged to see what other clubs are doing in the way of social events as this can be a good source of new ideas. It should however be established that golf is the number one item at the club and social events should always come second. Care must always be taken in arranging social events in the golfing season which may affect the staff who can hardly be expected to work to the early hours in the morning and then be up at the crack of dawn for a major golf fixture.

- ✎ The committee should annually arrange a social calendar and publish it well in advance.
- ✎ Make sure that any equipment used is in working order this is particularly important for items like music or microphones.
- ✎ Advertising the event is very important but it is usual to make sure committee members twist a few arms to get members to attend.
- ✎ Make sure you have sufficient persons to organise and run any event.
- ✎ The financial side should be carefully worked out in advance and the committee should have a clear cut policy on this. Some functions may struggle to break even whilst others should make a contribution to the club funds.

- ✎ If licence extensions are required then these should be obtained in advance but the number you can require may be limited by some licensing authorities.
- ✎ If you run golf combined with a social function then you will need to liaise with the appropriate committee.

Social functions can be many but listed below are some of the more popular seen at golf clubs.

- ✎ Annual dinner dance
- ✎ Monthly gourmet evenings
- ✎ Summer ball
- ✎ Christmas draw/Grand National Draw
- ✎ Race nights
- ✎ Barbeques
- ✎ Fireworks Display
- ✎ Golf Quiz/General Knowledge Quiz
- ✎ Cheese and wine parties
- ✎ Christmas dinner/New years Eve Party

These are only a few of the possible events and every club will have its own ideas. It is important to involve the Club Steward and Caterer in arranging functions because without their help and co-operation events will be unlikely to succeed. Often the Club Steward or Manager is invited to join the Committee because this way he/she will be aware of what sort of events the club is looking for and can often make a very positive contribution.

If you get criticism from members try to ascertain whether it is justified or the usual moans. It is important that all members of the Social Committee attend as many of the functions as possible otherwise there is little point in them being on the committee.