



Club Organization and Governance

A ShareClub is not intended to be an entity in itself ; it is a means to facilitate a process. That being the case,

a constitution is not necessary but without one agreement on the mode of operation must evolve or be defined. If mandated to provide member services, it follows that an organizational structure is necessary and be used. Most clubs operate by consensus, which avoids the need to record formal motions and actions thereon which then places the emphasis on “the real program”, the mandate. And that is where it should be.

A simple structure that works is desirable but continuity in planning and engaging the non-executive members in participation is highly desirable too. Therefore, without limiting the workload, by assigning some defined task to a team, a group or a member will create a shared environment. The degree of delegation and structure will vary widely depending on the club numbers but here is one such organizational structure that may be used:

- Club President
- Vice President - Programs
- Treasurer
- Membership Chairperson
- Stock Game Statistician
- Trainer
- Focus Group Coordinator
- Website Coordinator

The first four named positions form the core team to lead the club. While most positions are self-explanatory, the club program will likely involve several with the Vice President or the President leading, depending on your choice. Some clubs combine the role of Treasurer and Membership which works as well. The other positions are likely to evolve as the membership numbers increase.

Like the “house” in curling, the button and the 4 foot circle occupy only about 10% of the total play area yet it represents most of the interest. The analogy being that in all likelihood only 10% of the club members will be highly active in the club. Thus, to provide on-going interest and motivation to others to share in the clubs activity, the remaining 90% are “activated” through or by participation in other ways. Short term assignments fill that role well, and so do small research teams.

A meeting agenda is a must, preferably sent to the members in advance of the meeting date. It sets the tone and schedule since nothing is worse than “idle talk” when a member may have an issue to raise. Meetings have some timeframe, so follow it. The primary emphasis should be on the program that is intended to create the learning and sharing environment.

The primary difference between an investment club and ShareClub is in the way investments are held. In the latter case, each members invests and holds own portfolio. That is simpler,...and there is no finger pointing . Contact me regarding questions on club organization and roles.