

# Spring 2022

## Foróige Volunteer led Clubs

### Joining members to your club

- Open • Active • Safe

# Joining members to your club

Leaders must be in control of the number of members joining the club. This takes planning, agreement, and openness with parents. Whatever number of members the club normally had pre-pandemic, this year may be different. Some will have members returning from previous years, some will not. Even though social distancing rules are gone, we still want everyone to feel safe and comfortable.

## Requirements

### Minimum number for club type:

- 8 for Foróige Clubs
- 6 for Junior Clubs
- 3 for Interest Clubs

### Maximum number for club type:

30 for all clubs.

Members join by parents completing the URL link for permission in Salesforce.

### A club of 30 members or less allows for:

- Much easier club meetings
- Less pressure on leaders
- A relaxed atmosphere for members
- An easier job for the young people's committee
- Better participation by the club members
- Easier to organise club programmes
- More excitement when going to events with other clubs
- Better club conversation

## 4 Steps in recruiting members

**Step 1: Find out how many members can you have**

**Step 2: Consider past members**

**Step 3: Consider new members**

**Step 4: Communicate the reopening plan**

### Step 1: Find out how many members can you have

Establish the number of members the club can have based on premises size, the number of leaders you have and Foróige guidance. and while complying with premises, public health and Foróige guidance.

## Step 2: Consider past members

If you are likely to have more members than 30 members, then the group of leaders must discuss and decide how to prioritise. You may wish to consider former members first.

Before advertising for new members, check how many past members want to return. If this number is more than the maximum you can now have, you will need to decide a means of choosing who gets in.

You could consider:

- Longest serving members get first chance.
- Decide to take past members in one or two school years only.
- Priority to children of leaders in the agreed years or age range.
- First come first served (Permission and fees received).
- Come up with another fair way of doing this locally.

**If your club has not met for a long time:**

**Even if you have not reached your maximum number, it may be advisable to re-establish the club with past members. You can reset the club rules and culture including elect and train a committee before opening to new members some weeks later.**

## Step 3: Consider new members

If you still have space, here are some ideas for recruiting a limited number of new members:

- Children of leaders and siblings of current members.
- Pupils from a particular year in school.
- Only young people who live in the community in which the club is based.
- Local or regional social media campaign.
- First come first served, others go on the waiting list.

*Remember:*

Salesforce will set up a waiting list for you.

If there isn't a place now there may be in a couple of months.

## Step 4: Communicate the reopening plan

Communicate the membership plan to parents before reopening, so that the club is seen to be fair and transparent in its plans.

- Consider holding an online parents meeting for this.