

How To: Keep Meetings Interesting and Fun

Meetings are an essential part of Key Club- they keep us informed, engaged, and enthusiastic servant leaders, but sometimes it can be hard to keep meetings as effective and entertaining as we would like. We've all been there, but in this How-To Guide, we hope to give you some new ideas on how to make your club's meetings something for members to look forward to, rather than just get over with.



Icebreakers

Icebreakers are a great way to get every meeting started. Quick 5-10 minute sessions of fun and team building can help any club come together as a family. Icebreakers are a great way to meet new people who share the same mindset as one does. With Icebreakers you can meet people with different cultures as you, different backgrounds, and a different way of thinking that might help in the long run.

Icebreaker Examples

- Lost on a Deserted Island (A get-to-know-you exercise): A team building activity that also helps people share a little bit about themselves. Given the scenario that everyone is lost and stranded on a deserted island, each person describes the one object that they would bring and why. (Tip: Have them choose things that aren't their electronics, makes them think harder.)
- Two Truths and a Lie: Give each member a piece of paper and a pencil, they write down two truths about themselves and a lie. The goal is to try to guess the lie.
- Rock Paper Scissors Tournament: Have members begin playing rock paper scissors with people around them. Whenever they lose to someone they become the hype man of whoever they lost to and cheer them on. This goes on until there are only two players left, each with huge hype teams cheering them on.



Incentives

By providing incentives at your Key Club meeting, you are making your meeting more appealing to prospective members, and it makes meetings more fun overall!

If your club wants a large turnout, provide food as an incentive. Pizza, ice cream, snacks, these all work extremely well and are proven to attract huge crowds. You can use this as an opportunity to gain some new members!



Host a small raffle as a reward just for coming, and advertise it to your entire school! The prize can vary from something as simple as 5 homework passes, all the way to your club giving a member a discount for a large event.

Some incentives can be wholly academic, by partnering with a teacher in your school and giving extra credit to those who attend an entire meeting, or by giving out passes for quizzes in a certain class!



Incentives that work in one school may not work for another, so choose the best strategy for your school!



Social Events

Service is by far the most important aspect of Key Club, but every superhero needs to take a night off sometimes. Why not do it with the rest of your club? Social events outside of service projects are a great way to boost morale, connect with your fellow members, and make some great memories. You can even incorporate small service projects into them! Here are a few party ideas:

- **Costume Party:** Why wait till Halloween? Have your club members show up in the wackiest costumes they can come up with, and a contest to see who can come up with the best one! Additionally, run a costume drive: see who can bring in the most clothing for the Boys and Girls Home Country Store. Winners get to ring the Key Club bell at the start of the next club meeting.
- **Kiwanis Club Potluck:** Reconnect with your local Kiwanis Club by hosting a banquet at the hut! Dress to the nines, or have a good ol' fashioned pig pickin—whatever you choose, bring a friend and some canned food for your local soup kitchen or homeless shelter. Don't let the meals stop after coffee and dessert!
- **Movie Day:** Dying to see *Kubo and the Two Strings*? How about a *High School Musical* movie marathon? Why not kick it in your PJs and have a movie night at your school? Send out ticket-themed invites, bring popcorn, and let a donation to the ELIMINATE Project be the admission!
- **Skating for Service:** Do you like early-2000s Britney Spears and Dayglo orange? How about funnel cakes and disco balls? Get thee to a roller rink! Invite your club and school to skate around—or try to keep their balance—for a few hours. Have them all bring toiletries for your local rape crisis shelter.
- **Game Night:** Wanna show your local K-Kids or Builders Club how the high schoolers roll? Invite them over to play a few rounds of Chutes and Ladders! Set up all the lame games you played as a kid and find out just how competitive Uno! can get. Bring snacks and have a craft station, where they can make dog toys for the local shelter or cards for the elderly.



Ask Your Club: Do your members want to break out the banjos and have a hoedown? Do the officers want to play in a Powderpuff Game? How about a Gatsby-style party? Whatever y'all come up with, be sure to bring your love for service as a plus one. This year, get social!

