

**Aberdeenshire Licensing Boards
Central Aberdeenshire Divisional Licensing Board
Supplementary Statement of Licensing Policy
Members' Clubs
30th November 2007 – 29th November 2010**

Members' Clubs

Members Clubs are currently authorised to supply alcoholic liquor by a certificate of registration granted by the Sheriff. With some exceptions, members' clubs will be regulated under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005. To authorise the sale of alcohol on the premises, a premises licence will be necessary.

Regulations specifying what Clubs are to be exempt or partially exempt from the provisions of the Act have not been issued at the time of drafting therefore the Board may require to review this Supplementary Policy Statement in the future.

Members' Clubs are non-profit making with a constitution and limited access to members of the public. Each club, in submitting an application for a premises licence shall also submit a copy of its current constitution.

The Board expects clubs to reflect certain operational requirements in their constitution and may impose conditions on a premises licence to that effect on the following matters whereby:

- the business and affairs of the club shall be under the management of a committee or governing body who shall be elected for not less than one year by a general body of members;
- the committee or governing body shall hold periodic elections and meetings;
- correct accounts and books shall be kept showing the financial affairs and intromissions of the club;
- no member of the committee or governing body, and no manager or staff employed in the club, shall have any personal interest in the sale of alcoholic liquor in the premises or in the profits arising therefrom;
- there shall be a definable subscription payable in advance by members of the club;
- no persons shall be allowed to become honorary or temporary members of the club or be relieved of the payment of the regular entrance fee or subscription, except those possessing certain qualifications defined in the constitution;
- a maximum of 3 visitors per member shall be permitted in the club premises provided they are signed into the club by that member into a book kept for that purpose by the club

The above list is not exhaustive.

The foregoing conditions will not apply when the Board is satisfied that it is not appropriate to impose such conditions.

Clubs must keep their constitutions updated and, when revised, submit a copy of the revised constitution to the Clerk to the Board.

Clubs must also ensure their constitution, accounts and entry book are available for inspection by the LSO and the Police at all reasonable times.