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Mensa SG SIG Introduction & Rules

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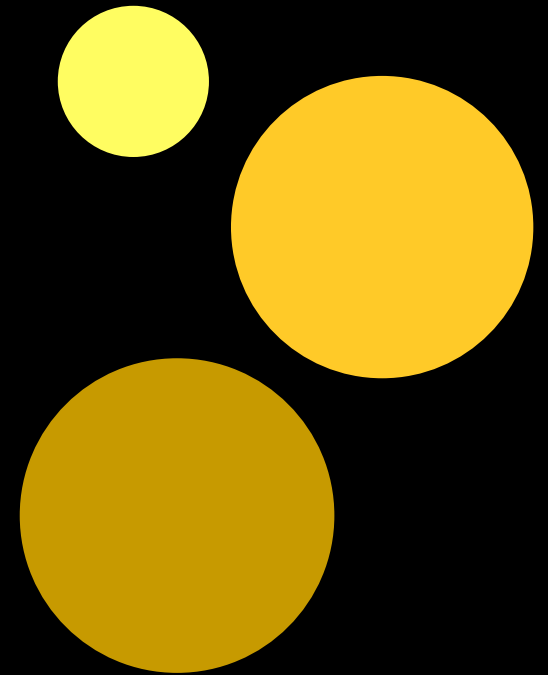
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Mensa Special Interest Groups (SIG)



Mensa Special Interest Groups are organised around **particular topics, shared interests, hobbies or passions**. And Mensans' interests are as diverse as Mensans themselves; **joining SIGs is a great way to meet members**.

[Join a SIG here](#)

Our members have a **diverse range of interests**, from alchemy to movies to sports. We help to bring like-minded people together by creating and following **Special Interest Groups (SIGs) devoted to their passions**.

Current SIGs include **Movie, Arts, Music**, and many more. You can join as many SIGs as you like, and participate in their activities and events!

If you happen to have a particular niche that you *don't* find represented, you're encouraged to **start your own SIG** and connect with your like minded peers! Online, in person, or by snail mail, SIGs are the fabric of the rich tapestry of Mensa.

Mensans are encouraged to participate in the various activities that SIGs organise.

Occasionally, SIGs will also host SIG events, which activities sponsored and co-managed by a member of the MC, and may receive subsidies. These events are open to Mensans and/or guests (where applicable)

Starting a new SIG



1. Members are encouraged to start a SIG where there is a niche that has not been fulfilled.
2. To start a new SIG, please reach out to the National SIG Coordinator (SIG@mensa.org.sg) with the following information:-
 - a. **Proposed SIG Name** (be creative, it should be direct, and not overlap with other SIG interest)
 - b. **Purpose of the SIG** (describe the shared interest that the SIG would be representing)
 - c. **Planned Activities** (what sort of events / activities will the SIG participate in?)
 - d. **Proposed SIG Coordinator – Minimum of one for new SIGs** (Who will manage the activities and members?)
3. The National SIG Coordinator may follow up with a discussion, then seek approval from the MC. The MC reserves the right to reject or revoke registration of any SIG that is created and/or operated for improper purpose.
4. Once approved the New SIG(s) shall:
 - a. maintain a communications channel for the SIG
 - b. be added to the Active SIG List, and
 - c. be entitled to publicity in the Mensa newsletter

Have questions about our SIGs program, or do you want to start your own SIG? Feel free to reach out to SIG@mensa.org.sg for more details.

Running a SIG



Active / Inactive Status

1. SIG Coordinators will be expected to promote the SIG and draw sufficient interest and carry out activities / events in the next 12 months.
2. SIGs that are active within that period will maintain their status as an Active SIG, otherwise will be labeled as inactive until reactivation.
3. Inactive status can be due to:
 - a. lack of activities / events
 - b. lack of interest (<5 active members after 12 months)
 - c. SIG Coordinator no longer active / participating, with no replacement Coordinator
4. SIGs that are inactive may be closed and will no longer be promoted by Mensa Singapore.
5. These inactive SIGs may be reactivated later if there is sufficient interest.

Duties of SIG Coordinators

1. There must be at least one SIG Coordinator in a SIG. Where the SIG Coordinator wishes to step down, they shall inform the National SIG Coordinator of the replacement SIG Coordinator. Where there is no replacement coordinator, the SIG shall be deemed inactive.
2. The SIG Coordinator shall:-
 - a. organise SIG activities
 - b. propose SIG events to the National SIG Coordinator
 - c. provide post-event reports for publicity purposes
 - d. provide a year-end report summarising activities / events held in the calendar year
3. The year-end report shall include the following:-
 - a. Membership Register (list of registered SIG members)
 - b. List of activities / events held in the current calendar year

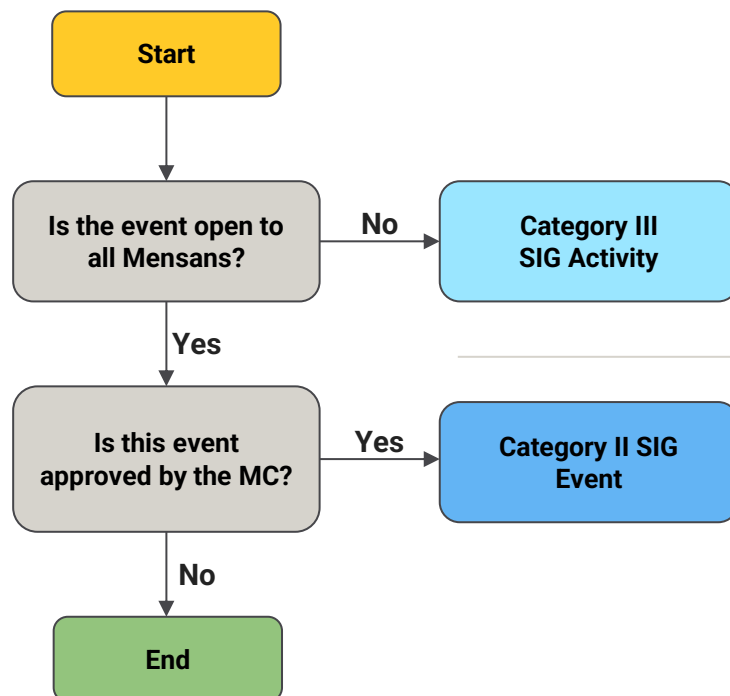
SIG Activities and Events

Event Category	Event Examples	Open to	Organiser	SIG subsidy
I. Annual / Mensa Events <i>Official Annual Events or Mensa Singapore initiatives</i>	1. Year End Party 2. Chinese New Year Lunch 3. National Day Lunch 4. Christmas Lunch 5. Fireside Chats 6. Workshops and networking events	All Mensans	MC Member	Not Applicable
II. SIG Events <i>Events run by SIG, but open for all Mensans</i>	1. Movie Nights 2. Art Exhibition Visits 3. Jamming Sessions	All Mensans	SIG Coordinator (overseen by National SIG Coordinator)*	Subject to approval*
III. Unofficial SIG Activities <i>SIG activities initiated by SIG members</i>	1. Unofficial networking lunches, casual gatherings 2. Interest group Meetups (any) 3. Private board game meetups	SIG members	SIG Coordinator / Members	Not Applicable‡

* MC/ National SIG Coordinator's approval required - while event will be managed by the SIG, the event is open to all Mensa SG members

‡ These are unofficial activities initiated by SIG members, and as such, does not enjoy subsidies.

SIG Event Approval Process



1. The activity shall be open to SIG members only.
2. This is a SIG activity which is not publicised openly.
3. No subsidies available.
4. The name and logo of Mensa shall not be used.

1. **SIG Coordinator** shall **submit a proposal** at least one month in advance to the National SIG Coordinator.
2. All SIGs Events will be reviewed according to the **MC's discretion** based on events suitability and reasonableness of subsidy.
3. After finalising the proposal with the SIG Coordinator, the National SIG Coordinator shall present the proposal to the MC and **obtain MC in-principle approval**.
4. To facilitate MC approval, the proposal must include (but not limited to) event descriptions, target participants, event budget, event timeline, subsidy request (if any).
5. Pre-approved regular SIG events are exempted from monthly approvals and subsidy caps.
6. Where **events are not time-bound**, **events may be re-scheduled** such that it does not clash with existing SIG / Mensa Events and to a month where subsidy is available.
7. In the case where a SIG event is organised to support a cause that is not deemed to be improper, e.g. nature conservation, the SIG Coordinator shall take reasonable steps to ensure that participants understand that Mensa does not have an opinion the issue.
8. The name and logo of Mensa shall not be used without prior approval from the MC.

Mensa Activity Subsidy



At least two
platforms
(Mensa
website, FB,
Discord)

Subsidy
applies only
to Mensa
Singapore
members

Apply for
subsidy

Publicise
Activity

Enjoy the
Activity

Take
Attendance
and Photos

Claim for
subsidy

Email:
support
@mensa.org.s
g

40%-60%
subsidy cap at
\$200 per event
(no F&B)

By bank
transfer in the
following
month

SIG Event Management



Running the Event

1. SIG Coordinators will be expected to conduct the Event, and keep the National SIG Coordinator informed of its preparations.
2. Upon completion of the Event, the SIG Coordinator shall prepare a post-event report detailing:-
 - a. Attendance
 - b. Event Description and Photos
 - c. Event Review and Evaluation
 - d. Breakdown of Cost
 - e. Subsidies Reimbursement Form + Original Receipts

and submit this to the National SIG Coordinator, cc President and Treasurer, for reimbursement.

Reimbursement

1. Member-initiated events under a SIG may be subsidised for up to 60% of their costs, subject to a cap of \$200 per event.
2. Expenses on refreshments, meals and transport shall not be included in calculation of costs, unless exemption was approved by MC.
3. Costs incurred in respect of non-Mensans shall not be reimbursable, unless exemption was approved by MC.
4. The approval and quantum of any subsidy is subject to MC's prior approval. If the actual costs turn out to be different from the approved estimated cost, the MC has the discretion to determine the amount to be reimbursed.
5. Where prepayment is required, this shall be clearly stated in the Proposal.

Note: Mensa Singapore accepts no liability whatsoever for any events/ activities organised by members, whether acting as individuals or as part of a SIG, and advertised in Menews, the website, and/or other official communication channels.

SIG Event Publicity



1. Category I and II events shall be promoted in at least two of the following official announcement channels:
 - a. Mensa Singapore Facebook Group
 - b. Mensa Singapore Discord Group
 - c. Mensa Singapore LinkedIn Group
 - d. Monthly email blasts
 - e. Menews (official newsletter)
 - f. mensa.sg website
 - g. Mensa Hub (Mensa Singapore space)
2. Category II events will need to meet the following publication criteria before being announced in the official channels – complete event details, open to all Mensa members and/or guests, sign-up for registration, approval from MC.
3. Event details should be finalised and communicated to the National SIG Coordinator **at least two weeks** before the month in which the event is planned.
4. To facilitate communication, SIG Coordinators may create unofficial chat groups and add members to it with their consent. Refer to section on “Guidelines on Managing SIG Communications” for guidance on managing such chat groups.
5. SIGs shall not engage third-party organisations for collaboration, publicity and/ or media coverage without the expressed consent of the MC.

Definitions

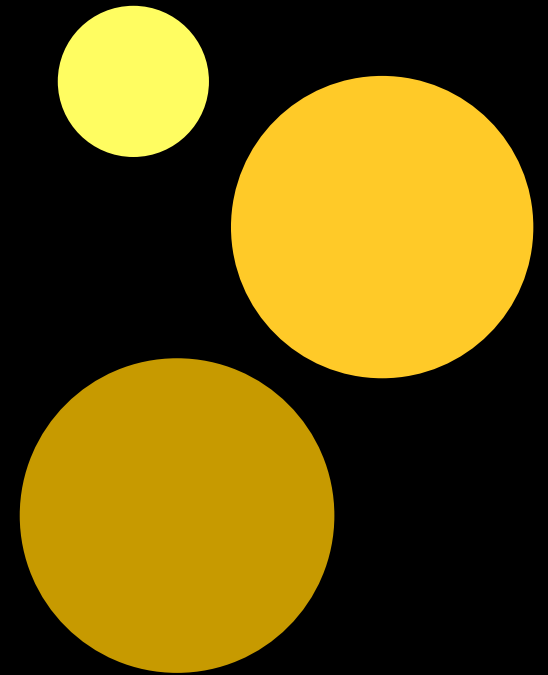


1. "SIG Coordinator" means an Coordinator of a SIG.
2. "National SIG Coordinator" means the appointed officer in Mensa Singapore responsible for oversight of SIG activities.
3. "Improper purpose" includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Pursuit of political, religious, or any other partisan agenda, especially where it may create undesirable or socially unacceptable effects;
 - b. Promotion of commercial product/services, whether for personal gain or otherwise; and
 - c. Any other purpose which violates the wording and/or spirit of the Constitution of Mensa International, Mensa Singapore and/or of the relevant organisation under consideration and/or the laws of Singapore.

The MC shall be the final arbiter on what constitutes Improper Purpose.

1. "MC" means the Management Committee of Mensa Singapore.
2. "SIG Activity" is an unofficial, ad-hoc activity within the SIG's members, including any meetups, gatherings, etc. pertaining to their special interest. These activities may include external events, however SIG members shall not present themselves as representatives of Mensa Singapore when attending such events.

List of Active SIGs



List of Active SIGs



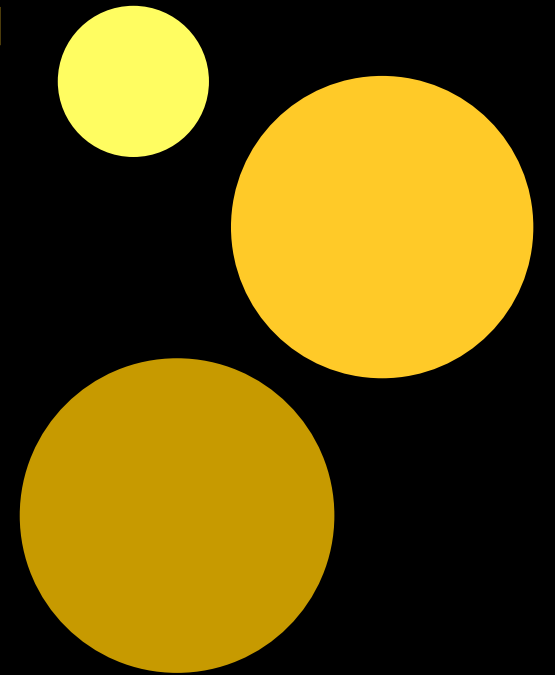
No.	SIG	SIG Coordinators	Activities
1	Movie SIG	Andrew Leo, Jin Sheng	Monthly Movie Nights
2	In Vino Veritas SIG	John Yong	Monthly Drinks
3	Durian SIG	Christopher Tan	Durian Degustation
4	Karaoke SIG	Sabrina Sit, Ray Lim, Jin Sheng, Edward Sim	KTV
5	Puzzle Making and Solving SIG	Ryan Au Eong, Paula Zheng	Meet ups
6	The Women's Network SIG	Renay Pereira	Meet ups
7	Junior Mensa SIG	Jonathan Quek	Meet ups
8	Youth SIG	Zhou Chukun, Aedan Gan	Meet ups
9	Music SIG	Bryne Tan	Jamming sessions, concerts
10	Arts SIG	Zhang Yijie, Jane Bi	Exhibitions, workshops

List of Active SIGs



No.	SIG	SIG Coordinators	Activities
11	Dancing SIG	Wai Jin Sheng	Dance sessions
12	Aerospace SIG	Billy Park	Talks, exhibitions
13	BEACON SIG	Amanda Ng	Sharing sessions
14	Investment SIG	Edward Sim	Sharing sessions
15	Entrepreneur SIG	Wai Jin Sheng	Sharing sessions
16	DARE SIG	Kevin Chung	Uncommon events
17	Model United Nations SIG	Carol Sheng	Sharing sessions
18	Wine SIG	Benjamin Szeto	Wine appreciation
19	Artificial Intelligence SIG	Lee Chin Siang	Sharing sessions

Guidelines on Managing SIG Communications



Guidelines on Managing SIG Communications



1. To facilitate communication, SIG Coordinators may create unofficial chat groups and add members to it with their consent. All chat groups/ channels are unofficial and managed by volunteers. These unofficial channels may not use the name and logo of Mensa. Members may participate in these groups, or create their own, on the understanding that personal data shared in these platforms are not governed by Mensa Singapore's data personal data policy.
2. SIG Coordinators have the responsibility of providing a safe environment for members to interact with each other, ensuring that as many members as possible would feel welcome to participate, without endangering anyone's well-being. Endangering the well-being of others while participating in a Mensa-related activity may be considered an act inimical to Mensa.
3. SIG Coordinators are encouraged to establish ground rules for participating in SIG chat groups. The rules may cover code of conduct and criteria for membership in the chat group (e.g. allowing parents of members, overseas members, expired members to be in the group).
4. Violations of Singapore's laws on harassment, scams, online falsehoods and manipulation, and maintenance of racial and religious harmony are not acceptable.
5. SIG Coordinators should look out for deliberate provocation or offense, exclusionary and discriminative behaviour, hate speech, harassment, violence, value judgements, non-justified accusations, direct or indirect personal insults.
6. SIG Coordinators shall act reasonably in moderating a SIG chat group and have the right to delete comments, threads, or ban people from the group if all other measures fail.
7. SIG Coordinators can delete posts or comments in a SIG chat group if these
 - seriously violate the privacy rights of others,
 - have a content and/or language that is hateful, threatening, inciting or directed against a person, or have the essential purpose of insulting someone,
 - are coarsely vulgar in tone,
 - deliberately obstruct or interfere with a discussion, and/or
 - are posted repeatedly with the same or with a slightly modified content.
8. The SIG Coordinators will have the final say in enforcing the ground rules of a SIG chat group. In exceptional circumstances, SIG Coordinators may escalate issues of a serious nature to the National SIG Coordinator and/or the Management Committee.
9. SIG Coordinators may welcome Mensa Singapore members and parents of Junior Mensa Singapore members to participate in the relevant SIG channels. Junior Mensa Singapore members are members who are under the age of 14. Parents of Junior Mensa Singapore members who are not members themselves are welcome to join events as guests accompanying a Mensa Singapore member in attendance.