

GETTING A NEW ELL CONSTITUTION CLUB STARTED

IN A NUTSHELL, HERE IS HOW THIS WORKS...

1. Your club would meet once per month at the same time and place. Most clubs begin at 7:00 p.m., but whatever works for you is the key. The sessions last anywhere from 1½ to 2½ hours. You could meet on a morning, for example. Just so it's the same time and day of the month every month. For example, the 1st Tuesday or 3rd Monday...whatever.
2. You need a place to meet. The facility needs to understand that their contribution to the cause is to donate their facility for free. They are recognized in the monthly materials.

If possible, the facility needs to be a place where you can make and serve coffee and, although not absolutely required, it would be best if the facility had a TV and VCR and DVD player. If not, someone could bring the equipment or you could dispense with those tools altogether.

3. If possible, the members might take turns bringing something light to eat, such as cookies or cheese and crackers at their own expense for the group.
4. You need a moderator or a team of moderators. All of these folks do this for the sheer joy of doing something important for their country. In other words, their time is donated to the cause.

All of our moderators so far have been lawyers, but that is not required. You need someone to prepare for the meeting by reading the material and then leading a discussion. I need someone to send the monthly material to and to open up the facility and be in charge.

5. Club sizes must be a minimum of 40 up to about 100.

I have about 6,000 hours of my time invested in creating the materials. When you see the material, I think you will agree you can't find this quality anywhere else.

The annual funds necessary needs to average \$150 per member.

It is hard to justify a moderator's time, even though it is donated, unless there are a minimum of 40 students in attendance.

So, repeating, we need a minimum of 40 students with no maximum. And, the annual cost is \$150 per member x the number of members with a minimum of 40 members.

Where do you get the funding?

Most of our sponsors are businesses at \$2,000 per year in return for advertising in the materials.

We accept advertisers at a minimum of \$500 per year of advertising up to the total amount necessary for your club and give advertisers appropriate space in the materials. But, if just one advertiser funds an entire club, they get a full page in every handout.

Here is the suggested method of raising funds.

1. A focus group seeks commitments from potential advertisers.
2. Get the word out in your community that there will be an informational meeting to discuss the possibility of forming a club.
3. At that meeting, make copies of the attached table of contents and case law and provide it to all. Give them 15 minutes to look at the material and then discuss the concept of monthly meetings.
4. Let the group know how much has been committed via advertising.
5. Then, with a show of hands, ask how many are interested in coming out once per month to learn about our constitution and count them.
6. Of course, if that number is less than 40, that is not enough students to form a club.

Next, once you figure the total amount needed for the first year (number of members x \$150), subtract what you have committed through advertising and divide the difference by the number of students.

For example, let's say you have 60 students and \$4,000 in advertising commitments.

Since you need \$9,000 total (60 x \$150) and you have \$4,000 in advertising, the amount needed from individuals is \$5,000, or an average of \$83 per member. The more advertising money that is raised, the less per individual on average is required.

Some may not be able to afford any contribution. That does not mean they cannot attend. It just means that we need to bring in an average of \$150 per member to form a club. Some might be willing to donate > the minimum, etc. So, let the group know what is needed after the advertising commitment and pass around the donation forms to fill in and get back to you with their check payable as indicated on the form.

When sufficient checks are gathered to make a club, let us know, forward the forms and checks to us and we will order binders, customize the material, add the advertisers and we are on our way to a wonderful American experience.

Individuals who donate need to know that their donation is a non-refundable donation to the cause of education. At such a low price, I cannot afford to get into bookkeeping or refunds if someone stops coming, etc.

This is quality education at a very cheap cost.

To cover all of the Constitution, it takes 4 years. Many people come a year, take off a while, and come back for more and some begin well into the program.

If it works for a year, it will likely work for the whole program. That has been my experience.

We at ELL Constitution Clubs are anxious to add a club to this movement!
And, we will make it a big media splash in your community when you are ready to go!

WE WOULD LOVE TO ADD YOUR CLUB'S NAME TO THE ACTIVE LIST SOON!

**THE GOAL HERE IS TO BEGIN A CONSTITUTIONAL RENAISSANCE THAT WILL
SWEEP THE NATION AND EVENTUALLY WIND UP WITH AN ANNUAL
CONVENTION.**

**THERE ARE VARIOUS CONSTITUTION GATHERINGS FORMING AROUND THE
COUNTRY AND THAT IS GREAT, BUT NONE OF THEM DO WHAT ELL DOES.**

**WE EARN OUR FREEDOM...
BY LEARNING ABOUT OUR CONSTITUTION SO THAT WE DON'T...
LOSE OUR FREEDOM!**

ELL - EARN IT, LEARN IT OR LOSE IT!!!!

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