

# Running your Student Group digitally

## About

For some members of your Sports club or Society, your club is an essential part of their lives. It's a great distraction from the stresses of Uni work, it can help people to develop their skills and it's their social life.

With the current government advice to avoid all non-essential contact and travel we appreciate student groups may be looking for ways to keep in contact with their members in an online manner.

We've put together a list of ways that you can interact with your members. Remember you will need to find students who will keep your group going next year, so it's an important time to engage with them and inspire future leaders.

## Start with structure

It's important to let people know when your club will be running activity, work with your committee to come up with some ideas of what you want to do and determine a schedule.

Here are some things to think about:

- Is it best to stick with the regular time slot your meeting usually is?
- Will your activity be drop in and out?
- Morning, afternoon or evening – consider when is most beneficial?

## Here's an example of how you could structure your week:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Update members with plan of week		Group meeting at 7pm		Social film night at 8pm		Committee planning meeting 11am

## Plan your activities

Most groups run a mixture of their regular activity and socialising. Here's a list of ideas and apps that you could use to help run your group.

### Apps:

Zoom - meetings and chat, video webinars and rooms and workspaces.

Google Hangouts – messaging, voice and video calls.

Microsoft Teams - upload documents, have big group chats and video call.

Netflix Party - stream together! Is there a documentary that's related to your student group?

Houseparty - get together and chat, make sure you have rules on who can speak and when, so everyone has the chance to speak up.

Mentimeter – create presentations with real-time feedback. It also includes a quick quiz element so there's no cheating!



### **Ideas for running your student group:**

- Start by asking people what they'd like to do
- Use this time to get their feedback on how the year has gone
- See if you can still run your usual activity
- Create a social media campaign that showcases the best bits of your group
- Encourage your members to nominate your group for a Sports or Societies Award
- If you are an Academic Society, remember you can also nominate yourself for a Student Led Teaching Award
- Organise your own fun online awards for your members - encourage everyone to dress up
- Create a yearbook with your members submitting their photos and memories
- Join up with another student group and run a skills swap - maybe Yoga could learn some dance skills and dance could learn some yoga
- Work on your groups brand, this could be merchandise, a new logo or your SU webpage

### **Ideas for socialising:**

- Film club
- Book club
- Online gaming (including online board gaming)
- Lunch break
- Weekly catch up
- Daily/Weekly/Weekend Challenges
- Quiz night
- Stream music together
- Run an online talent show

### **Ideas for active Societies and Sports clubs:**

- President's challenge – set a weekly fitness challenge for your members and encourage them to share it on their social media, tagging your group. This could be a 5k run, a yoga pose, planking or a TikTok dance routine.
- Create a home workout plan that people can practice and do a live session
- Join in with someone else's workout plan and do it all from home
- Run a theory lesson for your activity
- Organise a group session to rewatch an old sporting event like a world cup or Olympics

We recognise each type of student group will have their own activities they may want to do. The above is not a definitive list. So, if your faith group want to practice a weekly worship, or you're a drama group who would like to work on monologues, the digital world is yours to play with.

### **Keep in touch**

We'd love to hear how you're getting on and share your stories, keep in touch and tag **@GreenwichStudentsUnion** on Instagram and let us know your online success stories.