

National Association of Miniature Enthusiasts

Convention/Houseparty Expectations

Chairing a Convention/Houseparty, whether it is a Regional or our National Convention is a great responsibility. For those who undertake this task, however, the rewards are awesome. Perhaps the ultimate in sharing is being host to hundreds of your fellow NAME members and providing them with memories they will cherish forever. The sincere thanks of those members and the joy of working with your committee are what you can expect in return for many long hours of hard work and planning. Rest assured though that with the experience and expertise available to you from the Board of Trustees, the Board Convention/Houseparty Liaison, the Convention/Houseparty Advisory Committee and your direct advisor, you will have all of the tools necessary for a successful event.

Exactly what makes a Convention/Houseparty a success? There are two major criteria: a profitable event that meets the goals of the established budget and meeting the expectations via classes, sales room, meal functions, etc. that our members so eagerly anticipate. Houseparties are an integral part of NAME's annual financial picture. Dues alone cannot fund NAME and income generated through Houseparties is vital. In this regard, it must be clear that monetary gain for either personal or other external parties is not allowed. As chairman, you will be responsible for a budget of possibly \$185,000 (National) or \$75,000 (Regional). You will be approving expenses that are part of this budget. As you can see, this is a large sum of money and the potential harm to NAME is great. That is why you will have an advisor, Advisory Committee, Convention/Houseparty Liaison and Board of Trustees that will help you. Their experience is at your fingertips.

To insure that you understand and appreciate the responsibilities you will be undertaking is the reason you will be asked to thoroughly read and acknowledge this document. It is to clarify the "chain of command" and to help you be the gracious and innovative host that will give us all another great party.

The NAME Board of Trustees expects the following from the Hosting Chair and Committee:

- 1. To realize this Convention/Houseparty is a NAME fundraiser and to stay within the budget to make a profit for NAME.
- 2. To know and follow the Convention/Houseparty Manual.
- 3. To seek Board approval for any fundraisers.
- 4. To keep any problems that may occur private.
- 5. To be fair and unbiased when making choices for souvenirs, workshops, dealers, etc. and not use the event for personal gain or to promote friends.

- 6. To treat the office staff, Convention/Houseparty Advisor and Board of Trustees with respect.
- 7. To get Board approval for all precedent setting events.
- 8. To follow the chain of command as follows: starting with (1) Committee Chairman; (2) Hosting Chairman; (3) Convention/Houseparty Advisor; (4) Convention/Houseparty Advisory Committee; (5) Convention/Houseparty Liaison; and (6) Board of Trustees (the Board is ultimately in charge).

If a question arises and you don't know whose responsibility it is, ask your advisor:

Is this a creative decision? Yes – then responsibility rests with the Steering Committee. **Is this something that affects only this particular Convention/Houseparty?** Yes – then responsibility rests with the Convention/Houseparty Advisory Committee.

Is this something that could affect all future Houseparties or Conventions? Yes – then the Board needs to review it.

Could this have a negative financial impact on the Organization? Yes – then the Board needs to review it.

9. To send accurate reports to their advisor every month and to file a final report when the Convention/Houseparty is over.

The Convention/Houseparty Committee can expect:

- 1. The Board and Office suggestions to be based on years of experience.
- 2. Your Advisor to update you on any changes to the guidelines or policies.
- 3. That the Board will try to work with you to achieve your goals.
- 4. That the Board will do what is necessary to make sure the guidelines are followed.
- 5. That the office staff will get to your matters as soon as they can, but they also have an entire organization to run in addition to this Convention/Houseparty.

I have read and understand the foregoing expectations. I hereby agree that I will, to the best of my ability, fulfill the expectations set forth above. I fully understand that if I should fail to comply, I can be removed as Hosting Chairman. In addition, any Steering Committee Chairman that does not comply can also be removed from the committee.

Dated: _____

Hosting Chairman

Dated: _____

Convention/Houseparty Liaison