Starting a New Senior Club? Here's a Great Place to Begin!

Establishing a new NFMC Senior Club is an exciting opportunity to provide students and teachers with access to the many benefits of the National Federation of Music Clubs. To help you get started, we've gathered several helpful resources and a few tips to make the process easier.

Resources to Help You Get Started

The following are documents to help you establish a new Senior Club:

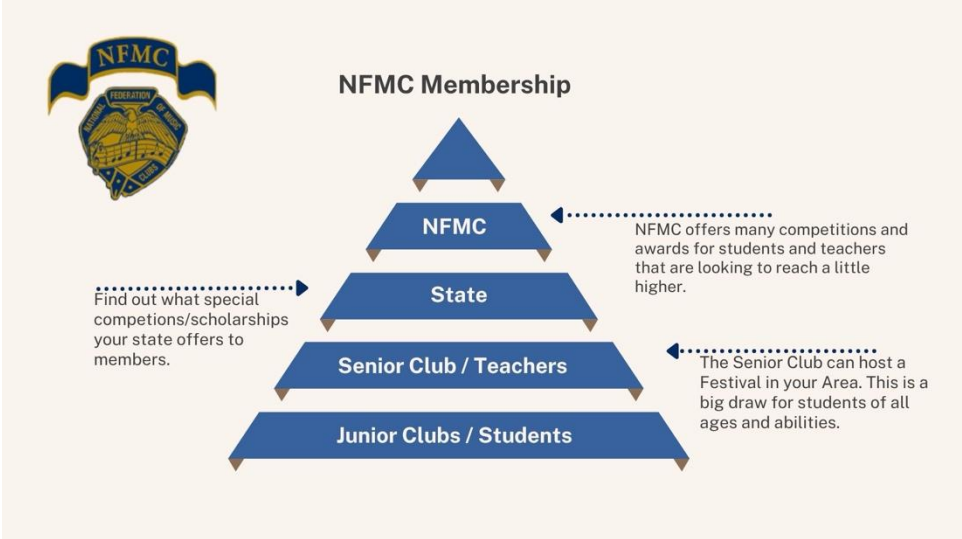
- Setting Up a New Senior Club
- NFMC's Sample Model Bylaws.
  (This includes specific language for the IRS). Consult with your State President for any state requirements.
- Applying for an EIN
- Sample NFMC Group Letter of Authorization (for obtaining 501(c)3 status)

Understanding NFMC Membership

NFMC membership works much like the public school system. Students and teachers belong to a local school, which is part of a school district, which is part of the Department of Education. Likewise, NFMC membership for teachers and students includes **area (Senior and Junior Clubs), state, and national** levels, with each level supporting members in unique ways.

- **Teachers, music enthusiasts and adult students** *(19 years and up)* join a **Senior Club**.
- **Students** *(18 years old and younger*) become members through a **Junior Club**, which is registered by their teacher.

The attached graphic illustrates the three levels of NFMC membership and how each contributes to the member experience.



Understanding Membership Dues

Membership dues are shared among the area, state, and national levels of the Federation. One of NFMC's strengths is offering states and areas the flexibility to establish their portion of dues that best supports their programs. As a result, dues vary across the country.

Example of how to calculate S**enior Club Membership* dues** for your new club:

National:	$ 8.00	
State:	+$	Ask your state leadership for this information.
Area:	+$	Your new Senior Club leadership determines this amount.
Total Sr. Club Dues	=$	For each member/teacher.

** You may consider offering a reduced membership rate for adult students who need NFMC Senior Club membership to participate in Festivals.*

Example of how to calculate **Junior Club Membership dues** for your new club:

National:	$ 22.00	Minimum per club. Fee covers up to 16 students.
	+$	More than 16 students, add $1 each additional student.
State:	+$	Ask state leadership for this information.
	+$	
Area:	+$	Your new Senior Club leadership determines this amount.
	+$	
Total Jr. Club Dues	=$	per club

Membership dues are collected from the bottom up thus allowing the area and state first access to the funds to run their clubs.

What Should Members Know?

While club leaders need to understand how dues are distributed, your members generally only need to know one thing:

"What is the total cost for me and my students to join?"

Many states and Senior Clubs simplify the process by creating their own membership application or registration form that lists the total amount of Senior Club and Junior Club dues.

Additional NFMC Resources

The NFMC website also provides several valuable resources, including:

- Membership Dues Chart
- Senior Club Membership Application
- Liability Insurance (all NFMC members may purchase liability insurance for an event: Festivals, recitals, concerts, etc.)
- In addition to Festivals, NFMC offers many Competitions and Awards for all NFMC student and teacher members.

Reminder: These forms are updated each August, so be sure to download the most current versions each year.

We hope these resources make establishing your new Senior Club a smooth and rewarding experience. Welcome to the NFMC family—we're excited to see your club grow and the musical opportunities it will provide for teachers and students alike!