

D ✓  
Am by 8/55  
R h 28-55  
AF by 8/54

CHAPTER 32. No. 12.

REGISTRATION OF CLUBS.

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF CLUBS,  
AND THE CONTROL OF THE SALE OF INTOXICATING  
LIQUOR THEREIN.

Ordinances.  
Ch. 32, No. 12  
-1940.  
No. 40-1942.  
,, 23-1945.  
,, 10-1947.

[1st July, 1934.]

Commence-  
ment.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Registration of  
Clubs Ordinance.

Short title.

2. In this Ordinance—

Interpre-  
tation.

“ club ” means any community or society consisting  
of not less than twenty-five members who assemble  
or meet together in pursuit of a common object;

“ intoxicating liquor ” means spirits, wine, beer,  
porter, cider, perry and any fermented, distilled or  
spirituous liquor which cannot, according to any  
Ordinance for the time being in force relating to the  
sale of intoxicating liquor, be legally sold unless duly  
authorised by a licence granted thereunder;

“ members’ club ” means a club, all the property,  
funds and assets of which belong jointly to the members  
thereof, whether such are vested in trustees for the  
members or otherwise, and includes a club  
registered as a company to which a licence has been  
granted in accordance with the provisions of section 20  
of the Companies Ordinance;

“ proprietary club ” means any club other than a  
members’ club;

“ secretary ” in relation to a club, includes any officer  
of a club or other person performing the duties of a

secretary and, in the case of a proprietary club where there is no secretary, the proprietor of the club;

“unregistered club” means any club which requires to be registered under this Ordinance, but which is not so registered or which has been struck off a register of clubs.

Obligation to register clubs.

3. (1) The secretary of every club which occupies a house or part of a house which is habitually used for the purposes of a club and in which any intoxicating liquor is supplied to members or their guests, or any other premises which are habitually so used and in which any intoxicating liquor is so supplied, shall cause the club to be registered in manner provided in this Ordinance.

(2) The registration of a club under this Ordinance shall not constitute the club premises licensed premises, nor authorise any sale of intoxicating liquor therein which would otherwise be illegal.

Registers of members' and proprietary clubs.

4. (1) The Clerk of the Peace of every Magisterial district shall keep separate registers of all registered members' clubs and proprietary clubs within the district but shall not enter a club thereon without an order from the Magistrate in whose district such club is situated.

(2) The registers shall contain the following particulars,—

- (a) the name and objects of the club;
- (b) the address of the club;
- (c) brief details of the terms of occupancy of the club premises;
- (d) the name of the secretary and in addition, in the case of a proprietary club, the name of the proprietor;
- (e) the number of members.

(3) The Clerk of the Peace shall keep the registers of clubs corrected up to date in accordance with the returns furnished by the secretaries as required by this Ordinance, and the registers shall at all reasonable hours be open to the inspection of a subordinate police officer, or to an officer of Excise.

5. (1) The secretary of every club shall not later than the 15th of January in every year, and in the case of a new club, prior to the opening of the said club and not later than the 15th of January in each succeeding year, make application to the Magistrate of the district in which the club is situated for an order to the Clerk of the Peace to enter the club on the appropriate register. Mode of application for registration.

(2) In support of such application, the secretary shall produce to the Magistrate a return signed by the secretary giving the particulars mentioned in subsection (2) of the last preceding section, and shall attach thereto—

(a) a copy of the existing rules of the club;

(b) a list of the General Committee and Wine Committee (if any);

(c) except in the case of a new club, a certified copy of an audited balance sheet and revenue account for the preceding financial year of the club;

(d) a statement signed by him that there is kept upon the club premises—

(i) a register of the names and addresses of the club members, and a record of the latest payment of their subscriptions; and

(ii) a register of the names and addresses of visitors and guests.

(3) The secretary shall give evidence, to the satisfaction of the Magistrate, in verification of the matters mentioned in the last preceding subsection

6. The secretary of every club shall, before making application to the Magistrate for an order to the Clerk of the Peace to enter the club on the register, give twenty-one days' notice to the officer of Police in charge of the division in which the club is situate of his intention to apply, and shall furnish to him a copy of the return aforesaid, and such officer or some other officer of Police authorised by him shall—

Notice to Police and their powers and duties. Ord.40-1942. s. 2.

(a) verify the particulars contained in the return;

(b) make enquiries to enable him to inform the Magistrate to whom application is made, upon the

matters to be considered by him under the next succeeding section;

(c) attend at the hearing of the application; and

(d) be entitled to object to the making of an order for registration of the club either generally or on any of the grounds of complaint set out in subsection (1) of section 13.

Magistrate  
to consider  
application.

7. The Magistrate to whom application is made shall duly consider the return furnished by the secretary and his evidence in verification thereof, and the evidence called by the Police, and shall determine whether the Clerk of the Peace shall, upon payment of the prescribed fee, enter the club in the appropriate register of clubs and direct the Clerk accordingly.

When  
Magistrate  
may refuse  
order to  
register.

8. (1) The Magistrate to whom application is made may, in his discretion, refuse to order the Clerk to enter any club in a register if, in his opinion,—

(a) the return furnished as aforesaid is incomplete;  
or

(b) the evidence given by the secretary as to the objects of the club or its system of management, or as to the character of the club premises is unsatisfactory;  
or

(c) there is satisfactory proof of any of the grounds of complaint set out in subsection (1) of section 13; or

(d) any other good cause is shown.

(2) The Magistrate to whom application is made in respect of a members' club if he is not satisfied that such club is a *bonâ fide* members' club may permit of the registration of such club as a proprietary club upon the same application and upon payment of the prescribed fee.

Notice to  
Comptroller  
of regis-  
tration.

9. The Clerk of the Peace shall, within three days of the entry of a club in a register, send or cause to be sent to the Comptroller of Customs and Excise notice that the said club has been entered in such register by him in conformity with the provisions of this Ordinance.

10. A Magistrate to whom application is made by the secretary may authorise the removal of a registered club to premises other than those specified in the register, and if the application is granted and upon payment of the prescribed fee, shall order the Clerk of the Peace to alter the register accordingly. Twenty-one days' notice of any such intended application shall be given to the officer of Police in charge of the division in which the proposed new premises of the club are situate and such officer or some other officer of Police authorised by him shall be entitled to object to such removal at the hearing of the application.

Transfer of club to other premises.  
Ord.40-1942, s. 3.

11. (1) If any intoxicating liquor is supplied or sold to any member or guest on the premises of an unregistered club the person supplying or selling the liquor and every person authorising the supply or sale of the liquor shall be liable to imprisonment for three months, or to a fine of four hundred and eighty dollars or to both such imprisonment and fine.

Penalty in respect of intoxicating liquor in unregistered club.

(2) If any intoxicating liquor is kept for supply or sale on the premises of an unregistered club, every officer and member of the club shall be liable to a fine of one hundred and twenty dollars, unless he proves to the satisfaction of the court that the liquor was so kept without his knowledge or consent.

12. (1) If any intoxicating liquor is sold on the premises of a registered club without a licence in force authorising such sale or contrary to the terms of any licence granted in respect of such premises the secretary of the club, or in the case of a proprietary club the proprietor, shall be liable to a fine of four hundred and eighty dollars unless he shall prove to the satisfaction of the court that all reasonable precautions have been taken to prevent any such illegal sale.

Penalty in respect of unauthorised sale of intoxicating liquor.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section the supply of intoxicating liquor on the premises of a proprietary club to a member thereof shall not be deemed to be a sale of such liquor by reason only of the fact that the property funds and assets of the club are not wholly owned jointly by the members.

(3) Any person selling, assisting in or privy to a sale of intoxicating liquor in contravention of subsection (1)

of this section shall be liable to a fine of four hundred and eighty dollars.

Striking  
club off  
register.

13. (1) Where a club has been registered in pursuance of this Ordinance, a Magistrate, on complaint in writing by any person, may, if he thinks fit, make an order directing the club to be struck off the register on all or any of the following grounds, namely,—

(a) that the club has ceased to exist, or that the number of members is less than twenty-five;

(b) that it is not conducted in good faith as a members' club or a proprietary club, as the case may be, or that it is kept or habitually used for any unlawful purpose;

(c) that there is frequent drunkenness on the club premises;

(d) that illegal sales of intoxicating liquor have taken place on the club premises;

(e) that persons who are not members are habitually admitted to the club merely for the purpose of obtaining intoxicating liquor;

(f) that the club occupies premises in respect of which, within twelve months next preceding the formation of the club, a licence under the Liquor Licences Ordinance has been forfeited or the renewal of a licence thereunder has been refused, or in respect of which an order has been made that they shall not be used for the purposes of a club;

(g) that persons are habitually admitted as members contrary to the provisions in that behalf contained in the rules of the club;

(h) that the supply of intoxicating liquor to the club is not under the control of the members or the committee appointed by the members.

(2) For the purpose of determining whether a club is conducted in good faith as a club, the court shall have regard to the nature of the premises occupied by the club.

(3) If the court grants a summons on the complaint, the summons shall be served on the secretary and on such other person, if any, as the court may direct.

(4) Where the court makes an order striking a club off the register, the court may, if it thinks fit, by that order, further direct that the premises occupied by the club shall not be used for the purposes of any club which requires to be registered under this Ordinance for a specified period, which may extend, in case of a first order, to twelve months, or, in case of a second or subsequent order, to five years: Provided that any such direction may, for good cause shown, be subsequently cancelled or varied by the court.

14. Every registered club shall keep on the club premises or at such other place as may be authorised in writing by the officer of Police in charge of the division in which the club is situate—

Books and documents required to be kept on premises.  
Ord.40-1942,  
s. 4.

(a) a Minute Book recording the business transacted at all meetings of the Committee and at general meetings of the members;

(b) a register of ordinary or full members showing their addresses, and a record of the latest payment of their subscriptions;

(c) a separate register of temporary, honorary and members other than ordinary or full members, showing the date of election and period of such membership;

(d) a copy of the rules of the club with any subsequent alterations authenticated by the signature of the secretary;

(e) all accounts for intoxicating liquor supplied to the club during the preceding six months.

15. Any subordinate police officer, and any constable appointed by him in writing to make inquiries for the purposes of this Ordinance, may, at any time during such hours as a registered club's premises are open to members, enter upon the premises and make inquiries for the purposes of this Ordinance and any subordinate police officer may call for and inspect all books and documents required to be kept on the premises and take copies of any entry in such books or documents.

Power to subordinate police officer to enter upon club premises.  
Ord.10-1947

*Handwritten:*  
A. J.  
3/5

Penalty for  
obstructing  
Police.  
Ord.40-1942,  
s. 5.

16. Any servant, officer, or member of a registered club who obstructs or prevents, or attempts to obstruct or prevent, a subordinate police officer or any constable appointed by him in writing to make enquiries, from having free access to the club premises during such hours as the said premises are open to the members of the said club, or from obtaining information such as he is empowered to obtain for the purposes of this Ordinance, shall be liable to a fine of forty-eight dollars for the first offence and two hundred and forty dollars for a subsequent offence.

Search  
warrant.

17. (1) If a Magistrate or Justice is satisfied by information on oath that there is reasonable ground for supposing that any registered club is so managed or carried on as to constitute a ground for striking it off the register, or that any intoxicating liquor is sold or supplied, or kept for sale or supply, on the premises of an unregistered club, he may grant a search warrant to any constable named therein.

(2) A search warrant granted under this section shall authorise the constable named therein to enter the club at any time of any day within one month from the date thereof, if need be by force, and to inspect the premises of the club, to take the names and addresses of any person found therein, and to seize any books and papers relating to the business of the club.

(3) If any person required by a constable under this section to give his name and address fails to give the same or gives a false name or address that person shall be liable to a fine of twenty-four dollars.

Penalty for  
false return  
by secretary.

18. (1) If the secretary of any registered club or any club which requires to be registered under this Ordinance omits to make any return required by this Ordinance, he shall be liable to a fine of ninety-six dollars, and in the case of a second or subsequent offence to imprisonment for one month, or to a fine of two hundred and forty dollars, or to both.

(2) If the secretary of any such club knowingly makes a return which is false in any material particular, he shall be liable to imprisonment for three months, or to a fine of two hundred and forty dollars, or to both.

19. (1) Proceedings under this Ordinance may be taken, and all penalties incurred may be imposed or recovered, in the manner provided by the Summary Courts Ordinance. Procedure and appeal.

(2) An appeal shall lie to the Full Court from any conviction, judgment, order or decision of a Magistrate made or given under this Ordinance, and the procedure in respect of such appeals shall be such as is laid down in the Summary Courts Ordinance.

20. (1) In the event of the winding up, dissolution or discontinuance of a registered club the secretary thereof shall notify the Clerk of the Peace of the date of such winding up, dissolution or discontinuance. Notification to Clerk of the Peace of discontinuance of a club or change of secretary.

(2) In the event of the person appointed to be the secretary of a registered club ceasing to hold office by reason of death, resignation or dismissal it shall be the duty of the chairman of the Committee of a members' club and the proprietor in the case of a proprietary club to notify such fact in writing to the Clerk of the Peace and also the name of any successor appointed, within fourteen days of the occurrence of either of such events.

21. (1) The Governor in Council may make regulations as to all or any of the following matters— Regulations.

(a) the hours of opening or closing of club premises;

(b) the hours during which intoxicating liquor may or may not be supplied to members or their guests;

(c) restricting the supply of intoxicating liquor to members for consumption off the club premises;

(d) the manner of application for, the procedure thereon and by whom an application for extension of hours during which a club may remain open, or during which intoxicating liquor may be supplied, may be granted;

(e) the fees payable upon application for registration of a club or extension of hours during which a club may remain open, or during which intoxicating liquor may be supplied;

(f) the admission of visitors as guests or temporary members of any registered club.

(2) Any such regulations may differentiate between a members' club and a proprietary club.

(3) Regulations made under this section shall have no force or effect until they have been approved by the Legislative Council: Provided that, until varied or revoked by any such regulations, the regulations contained in the Schedule hereto shall be in force.

General  
penalty.

**22.** Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Ordinance or any regulations made thereunder, for which no special penalty is provided by this Ordinance, shall be liable in the case of a first offence to a fine of twenty-four dollars, and in case of a second or subsequent offence to a fine of forty-eight dollars.

Saving as to  
proprietary  
clubs  
established  
by employers  
for  
employees.

**23.** The Governor in Council may, if satisfied that a proprietary club is established and carried on by any person for the benefit of his employees and not for profit or gain, direct the Magistrate to treat any application under section 5 as if such club was in fact a members' club.

Savings as to  
canteens and  
messes.  
Ord. 23-1945.

**24.** Nothing in the foregoing provisions of this Ordinance or in the Liquor Licences Ordinance shall be deemed to prohibit or restrict the sale or supply of intoxicating liquor to or in any Naval, Military, Air Force, Volunteer Force, or Police Force Canteen or Mess or other canteen or mess approved of by the Governor in Council, where the sale or supply of intoxicating liquor is carried on under the authority of the Governor.

#### SCHEDULE.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Registration of Clubs Regulations.

2. The rules of every registered club shall provide for the hours of opening and closing which, in the case of a proprietary club, shall not be earlier than 7 o'clock in the morning for opening and shall not be later than half an hour after the time fixed for the cessation of the supply of intoxicating liquor for closing.

3. Except as provided in regulation 5 the supply of intoxicating liquor in a proprietary club shall cease at 12.00 o'clock midnight.

4. Nothing in the foregoing regulation shall be deemed to prohibit or restrict the supply of intoxicating liquor to a member of a club residing on the club premises or his guests.

5. The officer of Police in charge of the division in which a proprietary club is situate may, by permit in writing, authorise such extension of the hours for the supply of intoxicating liquor in the club as in his absolute discretion he thinks fit, but not exceeding three hours without the sanction of the Governor in Council. Any application for such extension shall be in writing, addressed to such officer, stating the occasions and reasons for such extension, shall be signed by the secretary, and shall be delivered to such officer at least 24 hours prior to such occasion.

6. The fees specified hereunder shall be paid in respect of the several matters to which they are applicable and in respect of items (a), (b) and (g) shall be paid to the Accountant General.

**Table of Fees.**

	\$
(a) Upon application for registration of a members' club	24.00
(b) Upon application for registration of a proprietary club situate in Port-of-Spain or within six miles of the boundaries thereof if at the time of such application the total membership of the club—	
(i) does not exceed 100     ...     ...     ...     ...	48.00
(ii) exceeds 100 but does not exceed 250     ...     ...     ...	120.00
(iii) exceeds 250 but does not exceed 500     ...     ...     ...	240.00
(iv) exceeds 500 but does not exceed 750     ...     ...     ...	360.00
(v) exceeds 750     ...     ...     ...     ...	480.00

(c) Upon application for registration of a proprietary club situate elsewhere than in Port-of-Spain or within six miles of the boundaries thereof half the amount of the fees specified in paragraph (b) of this Table shall be payable.

(d) In calculating the total membership of a proprietary club no regard shall be had to temporary, honorary or visiting members who are elected for a total period of less than 15 days during any one year.

(e) In respect of any club the registration of which is effected after the 30th of June in any year, half the amount only of the appropriate fee shall be payable.

(f) Upon application to the Commissioner of Police for any extension of hours in respect of a proprietary club—

(i) In respect of a club the total membership of which does not exceed 250     ...     ...     ...     ...	.60
(ii) In respect of a club the total membership of which does not exceed 500     ...     ...     ...     ...	1.20
(iii) In respect of a club the total membership of which exceeds 500...     ...     ...     ...     ...	2.40

This fee shall be payable to the Commissioner and shall be refunded if the application is not granted.

(g) Upon application in respect of the transfer of club premises ... .. 1.20

7. The secretary of a club may, if so authorised by the rules of the club, issue in accordance therewith a card of membership as a visiting member for not more than three days to a person temporarily visiting the Colony: Provided that no subscription shall be payable by such visiting member in respect thereof and no such card shall be issued to the same person more than twice in any one year: Nothing in this regulation shall preclude the election of visitors as temporary or honorary members of a club in accordance with the rules of the club.

8. Subject to the next succeeding regulation, nothing in these regulations shall restrict the admission of persons to a club as visitors or guests in accordance with the rules of the club nor the supply of intoxicating liquor to a visitor or guest on the invitation and at the expense of a member of the club or on the invitation and at the expense of the club itself.

9. The member introducing a visitor or guest, or the secretary when a card of membership has been issued to a visiting member or when visitors or guests have been admitted on the invitation of the club, shall cause to be entered in the club register of visitors and guests the name and address of any such visiting member, visitor or guest.