

# Does your community group need a TV Licence?

**If your community group plans to watch one-off TV events such as the Olympics, live concerts or big TV moments, you need to make sure you're correctly covered by a TV Licence, even if it's just for a short period of time.**

Usually you only need one TV Licence to cover a club or community group – for example, when the centre is used by different clubs or groups throughout the week and the same TV can be used by all.

However, in some cases certain areas may need a separate TV Licence – for example, when part of a community centre is solely occupied by a club or group and a TV is used by other groups in other areas of that centre.

It costs £145.50 for a colour and £49.00 for a black and white TV Licence.

For any questions, please contact our call centre on **0300 790 6112**.



## You need a TV Licence if:

- You watch or record live TV at your community centre using a TV, computer or any other device plugged into the mains.



## You don't need a TV Licence if:

- Members watch or record live TV at a community centre using their own device such as a laptop, tablet or phone that is not plugged into the mains and they have a TV Licence for their home address. This is because of the way TV Licensing legislation is worded.
- You only watch on demand or catch up TV services on the premises. (The government is changing the law, which means you will need a licence for BBC programmes on demand – including catch up TV – on BBC iPlayer. We expect this to come into effect in autumn 2016.)
- Devices are only ever used to watch CCTV, DVDs or videos.



## My group only wants to watch a one-off TV event. Can we buy a short-term licence?

Short-term licences are available only to people who will be 75 on their next birthday. So for a one-off event, a licence must be bought in advance. However, there are a number of payment options available to spread the cost. Also, if you only need the licence for a short period of time, you can apply for a refund when you no longer need the licence. Refunds are issued for unused quarters (that is, any full three-month period remaining on the licence).



## Do you grant discounts for charity or not-for-profit groups?

No, sorry. Concessions are set by the government and there are no discounts available for these groups.



## Who is responsible for paying the licence fee?

If you rent space at a local community centre, then it is the responsibility of the centre owner/manager who gives you permission to use the centre to make sure the centre is correctly licensed. If the property is owned or managed by your group, then responsibility lies with your group.



## What happens if we don't have a licence?

Being caught without a TV Licence is a criminal offence and you could be fined up to £1,000\*, plus any legal costs and/or compensation you may be ordered to pay. Community groups have been fined in magistrates' courts this year, so it's important you understand the law. Once licensed, your community group can enjoy TV legally, whatever device it's watched on.

\* The exceptions are in Guernsey where the maximum fine is £2,000 and Jersey where it is £500.

**Find out more at:** [tvlicensing.co.uk/businessinfo](http://tvlicensing.co.uk/businessinfo)

or call our contact centre to discuss your circumstances on: **0300 790 6112**