

What to expect at a Dinner Club event

Are the events expensive?

No. We only choose the restaurants that give us special deals. No high prices for us because we've been going so long. We give our venues free plugs on the internet and by email, and if we're happy, we go back on a regular basis which ensures a good price for you.

Why are The Dinner Club events so special?

You won't get great banquets and interesting, interactive and highly social nights like these if you go out on your own or with one or two others. You need to be part of a large group of like-minded people. When you attend one of our events you'll meet lots of new people and maybe even someone special.

Dinner Club is a recognised centrepiece of the Sydney social scene for people aged 30 plus who are seeking to meet members of the opposite sex. Our events are drawcards for people who enjoy great company and good conversation over a relaxed dinner.

What age groups are involved?

A few events are for certain ages but the rest are open. Our members are aged from 30 to over 50.

What should I wear?

Dress is smart casual.

When should I arrive?

Arrival time is 7.15-7.45pm but the food doesn't usually begin until 8.15pm. It's best to arrive early to get a good seat (and easier parking).

Can I bring friends?

Of course you can bring friends if you would like to, but many people enjoy the night more when they come on their own.

What if I feel nervous?

Some new people are shy and cautious about coming along for the first time on their own, and they find it daunting to walk into a full room where they don't know anyone - and some chicken out.

The solution is to arrive first, be the first to arrive around 7pm and watch the others come soon after. It's easy to go in when there is no-one else but your host (David) there.

Another great idea is to arrange to meet David for a chat first over coffee. Once you know more about the process, it may help you summon up the courage to attend for the first time.

If you wish to meet first ring me, David, on 8214 8397 or 0419 605 365 and we'll arrange a time to meet over coffee.

How is the seating arranged?

Seating is alternate with moves between courses (known as intercourse rotation) to allow you to meet more people. We ask people to change seats every 30 minutes or so. This allows you to meet all the members of the opposite sex and means you won't get stuck with the same people all night. Generally, we ask the males to change chairs.

If someone catches your eye

People are encouraged to swap numbers on the night and make new friends, however, if you see someone you like but you don't get to talk to them or you fail to get their contact details, you can send David an email and he will forward it on to them. In your email, suggest a meeting during the week or at a future event.

Special Free Meal Deals

When you attend your first Friday or Saturday night dinner, you can ask for three Free Meal Deal slips. (Don't forget to ask for them.)

Come to three more dinners, collect three more Free Meal Deal slips and you can come to your next dinner or speed dating event for free.

On the first night of your next round of dinners you can ask for two more Free Meal Deal slips. Then, just collect four more slips and come to another dinner for free! (Don't forget to ask for them).

How do I get there by public transport?

If you need to know which buses or trains to catch to an event ask David when you book as he has all the bus route maps.

What is this Dinner and Speed Dating combined?

As The Dinner Club is a sister club of Sydney Speed Dating, on some Friday and Saturday nights people attending the dinner events sometimes request a slow speed dating event at the end.

We call this our Love Lotto and it can be wonderful fun as well as a process that reveals potential matches, which may have gone unnoticed earlier in the evening.

So if you're attending a dinner event and someone suggests it, why not join in and play along? Who knows, this might be one Lotto you actually win.

What you pay for is what you get

Why go to McDonalds-type events: they're always the same and you'll only ever meet clowns.

Why only go on the web, where you'll meet spiders?

Why should you pay \$35-\$50 to go out for a dinner night, when you can spend \$5-\$20 on cheaper, dance party events? If you go to cheap functions (which are always the same) you meet cheap people and the same people.

If you come to better quality events you meet better quality people who can sustain a conversation. And you'll get fed, unlike those other pick-up events and singles hell holes.

Smarter internet dating

If you are into internet dating and getting lots of hits from members of the opposite sex, but you're finding one-on-one dates time consuming, awkward

and speculative, why not do as others are doing and invite them all along to an event?

People often don't fit their profiles and descriptions, so speed things up and see all your prospects in one night. This way you can quickly find the ones you like and will have more time to spend with those you choose. Simply tell all your hits to meet you at a few slow speed dating events and compact all the dates into just a few slow speed dating or dinner events.

To set it up, send them all emails with the details of the events you are willing to meet them at. At the event you'll get 20-30 minutes with each person, one on the left and one on the right at the same time. The guys move every 30 minutes, and you can select which ones you like by filling in your secret silent selection Love Lotto© slips.

This way you can match with only the ones you choose and who choose you. It's very time efficient and you could see and interview many in one night and not feel embarrassed or obligated. So send them all the details, they book in with me, tell them to bring a friend too perhaps and you bring your friends to compare notes. As others are doing this too you get to meet even more people and multiply your chances of more quickly meeting the right person.

Some pointers from someone who attends our events

1. When attending any dinners or outings be in a positive mood.

Remember, enthusiasm is infectious.

2. Being sociable is a reciprocal activity, so make the most of the evening and circulate and mix with people to make your own evening more varied and interesting.

3. Give feedback. It is good to know what works and what doesn't.

4. Always be pleasant and DO NOT overly discuss previous marital problems, unless it is found interesting by other people. Too much can be a real turnoff and will be classified as BAGGAGE!!

The same applies on dates. You really have to move on and leave it behind like scenery receding into the past and getting smaller and eventually over the horizon in your rear view mirror. It will happen if you are moving in life and when you get involved with the problems of other people by listening to them your own seem to get smaller. After all theirs are more interesting and you learn more when you listen to theirs.

When you do all the talking you learn little. This is also one of the keys to successful dating, get the other person to do most of the talking (less work for you) about their favourite subject (themselves) and compliment them on their good points. Flattery will get you everywhere.

5. NEVER discuss any previous or current members in an adverse or gossipy way. This can be a turnoff and may say more about you than them. It may also start gossip behind your back. People admire those who find and speak the best of others as everyone has their strengths - though in some cases you have to be of certain levels to discover them.

Remember everyone has their story if you have ears to listen and you can learn from everyone! Try it.