



# New Member FAQ's

Santa Barbara Newcomers Club (SBNC) is a social organization designed to introduce newcomers to Santa Barbara while enabling them to meet new friends and learn about our beautiful community. We host a wide variety of activities: parties and get-togethers at member homes and local restaurants, shared interest groups, exploring Santa Barbara and service to the community to expose members to various cultural and charitable groups in the area. Each month the club offers over 50 events for members to enjoy.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Who can join SBNC?

Santa Barbara Newcomers Club is open to anyone who has moved to the Santa Barbara area within the last 18 months and is an awesome way to meet people and learn about what Santa Barbara and the surrounding areas have to offer. It is an incredibly successful way to get established in your new environment.

### Are there different categories of membership?

There are 3 categories of membership – a Newbie, a Newcomer Member, and an Extended Newcomer. All receive the same privileges and benefits. The typical term for membership is 2 years. A 3rd year can be added if certain criteria are met.

#### Newbie

Newbies are new members who have joined the club within the last 90 days. They are identified as newbies so that other members will make an effort to reach out to them and make them feel welcomed.

#### Newcomer Member

Newcomers are regular members. It is someone who has moved to the Santa Barbara area within the last 18 months, has joined and paid the dues for a 2 year period, and has been in the club longer than 90 days.



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## Extended Newcomer

If a member is active, his/her membership can be extended for a third year and this category is called Extended Newcomer Members.

## What happens when a membership term is completed?

When you complete your membership term in the club, you become a "Graduate" and have the opportunity to join other social groups made up of former SBNC members.

## How can I view SBNC events?

All events can be viewed on the Events Calendar section of the SBNC website ([www.sbnewcomers.org](http://www.sbnewcomers.org)). There is a "public" view available to nonmembers and shows high-level information for each event. There is also a "members only" view of our events calendar in the member's section of our website. Once you are a member, you will be able to see all details of events posted as well as be able to register online for those you wish to attend.

## How can I sign-up for an event?

Any member can sign up for an event on the Event Calendar by clicking on the event and then clicking the register button.

## How are events organized?

SBNC members form committees aligned to an activity type or shared interest. Committees are responsible for organizing and executing the events for that interest area. There are currently more than 30 active committees that are planning 50+ events per month. Committees are made up of member volunteers and led by a Chair / Co-Chair who are responsible for all aspects of the successful execution of the event including promoting/posting events to the Event Calendar on the website.



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## Why do events open for registration at 12:01 AM on a Tuesday?

Registration events are announced in the Club's online newsletter, e-News, on Sundays. Since SBNC members may receive the emails announcing the events at different times, the opening is delayed to give an equal chance to all Club members to register. Tuesday was chosen to allow new members, who join after attending a Monday evening orientation, to register. The 12:01 time for posting events is set by the Club's website platform.

## When can I join a committee?

Once you are a member, you are eligible to join a committee at any time after your dues have been paid. Twice a year, in January and July, a Dine & Sign event is held to give every member a better understanding of the types of activities offered by committees. Members will have a chance to sign up for one or more committee(s) of their choice. Since committee participation is for a 6 month period (Feb through July and Aug through Jan), members have an opportunity to participate in a variety of different activity groups (committees) over the course of their membership.

## Who can I contact if I have questions?

All questions can be submitted via links on the "[Contact Us](#)" tab on the website ([www.sbnewcomers.org](http://www.sbnewcomers.org)). These questions will be directed to the appropriate person and answered in a timely fashion. If you have questions specific to membership, you can email [membership@sbnewcomers.org](mailto:membership@sbnewcomers.org). If you have questions about event posting, email [helpdesk@sbnewcomers.org](mailto:helpdesk@sbnewcomers.org).