

What is a Cannabis Social Club?

A Cannabis Social Club consists of members, adult citizens who organise the cultivation of a limited amount of cannabis to satisfy their personal needs. Thus a closed circuit is established between growers to consumers, where certain requirements are met concerning health, safety, transparency and accountability.

The concrete form and ways of operating of a Cannabis Social Club depend on the legal, political and cultural standards which are valid in the country in which it is established. However, there are some basic principles and attitudes which all Cannabis Social Clubs adhere to and which distinguish them from other kind of initiatives.

1. Supply follows demand, not vice versa

The production capacity of a CSC is based on the expected level of the consumption of its members. The supply is organised in order to meet the demand of the members, not vice versa.

2. Non-profitability

Cannabis Social Clubs are established as non-profit associations. The benefits that may be obtained by the association and that derive from economic activities, are used to promote the goals of the association, and not distributed among the members. Cannabis Social Clubs aim to generate legal employment and purchase goods and services in a taxable way.

3. Transparency

Cannabis Social Clubs are legally registered associations. Their internal organisation is democratic and participative. The decision-making body is the Annual General Assembly, to which all members are invited to attend or mandate another member. Each member has one vote.

On the AGM, a narrative and financial report of the activities of the association in the preceding year should be presented and approved, as well as a plan for the following year, including provision of cultivation and price.

Cannabis Social Club maintain a record of their activities, which is easily consultable by members, other CSC's or authorities. This includes financial accountability, an (anonymised) registration of members and their estimated consumption, and an (anonymised) registration of production.

4. Public health oriented

Cannabis Social Clubs make only use of methods of cultivation that meet the standards of biological agriculture. They develop an effective policy of prevention and treatment of harmful use of cannabis, and promote ways to ensure responsible and beneficial use among their members. They elaborate research into health aspects of the cannabis that they produce and inform their members on the results of this research.

5. Willingness to dialogue with authorities

Cannabis Social Clubs are willing to engage in any kind of dialogue with authorities, and implement an active policy to invite authorities to this dialogue.