National SIGs, Local SIGs, International SIGs

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What are SIGs?

• SIG = Special Interest Group
• Many available at both the national and local group level – no limits other than your imagination and interests*

• *as long as the purpose of the SIG don’t violate Mensa governance documents
How do SIGs benefit me as a member?

- They are an easily identifiable tribe of like-minded individuals for members to connect with
- They illustrate the wide diversity of interests represented in Mensa
What kinds of SIGs are there?

• National vs Local
• Types of National SIGs
But I don’t see a SIG that interests me?

• Creating a National SIG
• Creating a Local SIG
How would I go about creating a National SIG?

• Go to us.mensa.org, sign in
• Click on Connect
• Click on Special Interest Groups
• SIG listing contains all the SIGs thus far, descriptions, POCs
• SIG resources has info on how to start a SIG, the SIG Handbook, and the application form
• Info you’ll need for submitting the form includes...
What you need...

• A SIG name
• A Co-Coordinator (very important!)
• A SIG description
• A SIG contact email
• Decide on how people should contact you regarding the SIG
• Decide on Internationals, non-Ms, whether the SIG will collect money, etc.
• 10 current dues-paying members of AMERICAN Mensa, along with their membership numbers and email addresses
• Decide on what your social media presence will be (recommended)
How do I find SIG members?

• Friends
• Local Group
• Social Media
• Contact me and we’ll brainstorm
Questions?
How would I go about creating a SIG within my Local Group?

Create an event or two to determine local interest
Talk to your Programs Officer, Membership Officer, LocSec, etc.
Now that we’re a National SIG, where can we grow from here?
International SIGs

International SIGs are not subject to a national Mensa, but to Mensa International directly. Mensa International may recognize International SIGs (I-SIG) that meet all of the following criteria:

• A minimum of ten Mensa members from at least two countries.
• Two or more coordinators.
• A unique name, not currently in use by another I-SIG.
• A defining activity, theme or topic, that can be summarized briefly.
• A disclaimer that any opinions expressed by the SIG or its members do not represent those of Mensa as an organization; such disclaimer must be clearly visible if the SIG uses any form of public forum.
International SIGs

Mensa International's obligation towards International SIGs are:

- To include them in official lists of I-SIGs.
- To allow them and only them to present themselves as "A Special Interest Group of Mensa International".
- To de-recognize an I-SIG if it is inactive or if the activity does not conform to its description.

The I-SIG must acknowledge that it will continue to operate under the terms and conditions of the Constitution that Mensa International will not be responsible for any commitment undertaken by an I-SIG. The recognition as I-SIG does not change the legal status of the SIG nor does it create a legal entity.
Questions?
Thank you for coming today!

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