

Watch parties

Opportunity:

Providing a safe, fun, and engaging atmosphere for people to enjoy watching a sports game, ceremony, or event to build relationships through celebration and common passion.

Requirements:

1. Meaningful pretext (what brings us together, i.e.: celebrating World Cups, Olympics, sports finals);
2. hospitality (building a familial environment), generosity and kindness, being willing to reach people;
3. Must be free of charge and inclusive of all supporters, nationalities, abilities;
4. An atmosphere of celebration and non-conflictual behavior between supporters, with emphasis on celebration and fun;
5. Good connectivity, appropriate technological equipment, updated subscriptions, right channels and legalities on viewing numbers;
6. Consider snacks if financially and logistically possible;
7. Make sure the space is accessible to all abilities! Wheelchair accessible, subtitles for the deaf, appropriate audio for the blind, etc.;
8. A great way to educate people on a new or different sports through teaching/games including about rules, history, players, or teams;
9. Use international games or events to learn about and appreciate the diversity of other cultures - have people of a participating nation share some of their traditions? Food? Songs, games, haka, anecdotes, stories, etc.





Process:

Before the event:

- Confirm and abide by legalities of the number of persons viewing (private or public); rules around promoting the event - i.e., public flyers, social media, etc., only word of mouth, and whether adverts can be played or not;
- Target invitations to specific people groups such as students or for everyone including families;
- Set up the screen, audio, and location.

During the event:

- Consider having a team focus on technical logistics ensuring audio quality, commentary language, sub-titles, Sign-Language Interpretation, or extra support for persons with disabilities;
- Consider a team-leading icebreaker game for meet and greet - to connect with others;
- Have team members focusing on hospitality and welcoming (preparing food and drinks for everyone, greeting people and engaging in conversation - especially with those that come alone, etc.)

After the event follow-up:

- Invite people to the next watch party or some other event
- Plan follow-up activities beforehand that are fitting for the people that you are inviting

Activities:

Consider these activities at an appropriate time – pre-game, half-time, or post-game/event:

1. Perhaps share a meal or light refreshments
2. Quiz - about the sport, or the countries participating
3. Show a video testimony of an athlete/ invite a (former) athlete to speak
4. Some games or fun activities (ice breakers, small challenges, quick 5-minute workout or stretch, ...)



Posture:

- Warm, welcoming, full of hospitality, celebration and fun.
- Select games that are appropriate for the target group - students, entire family, youth group, men's group, women's group, etc.

