



2021 In-Person Meetings Guidelines

The past fifteen months of Covid-19 restrictions are being lifted. Depending on your geographical location, how this happens will be different. These guidelines are designed to help chapters develop their own strategies moving forward. Sisters in Crime National will not be hosting a breakfast at Bouchercon. We hope that we can meet in person in 2022.

Following are our recommendations for chapters considering in-person meetings moving forward.

2021 Events

As health authorities update their guidelines, and restrictions are lifted, we've got some recommendations for planning in-person events.

- Follow the CDC guidance for gatherings.
- Follow state, county, and local guidance for in-person events.
- Follow the venue rules for meetings. Venues have the right to create their own restrictions.
- Set up registration for in-person events.
 - This will help you if you have capacity limitations.
 - When people register, have them check off a box that acknowledges any restrictions on the event, and the risk to unvaccinated individuals.
- Make an online option available. That may mean a computer that is passed around with an open Zoom window, or livestreaming using Streamyard or another similar resource.

Set guidelines for making meetings safe and accessible.

In general, this is a good time to assess your in-person meetings, and ensure that you're creating a welcoming environment for all.

- Have you looked at the Sisters in Crime Speaker Recommendations? [Here they are.](https://www.sistersincrime.org/page/SpeakerRecs) (<https://www.sistersincrime.org/page/SpeakerRecs>)
- Sisters in Crime has some resources for equity and inclusion for meetings. [Here they are.](https://www.sistersincrime.org/page/SinCDEIResources#Events) (<https://www.sistersincrime.org/page/SinCDEIResources#Events>)
- How can you make your events "hybrid" moving forward? In other words, making your in-person events also available online whenever possible. Technology will continue to develop, and we'll work on making training and recommendations available.
- Take note of other issues that come up, and use the Presidents' Listserv to discuss them. Working towards something is much more important than waiting until your work is perfect.