Things to Consider Before Starting an Online Club

Online Platform

- Which platform should your club use? Features and performance can vary per platform, depending on the provider. Free platforms are usually accompanied by advertisements or restrictions on usage. To select the best platform for your club, research platform reviews via the web, such as Web Conferencing Service Reviews. Conduct a member survey to determine your club's preference.

Bandwidth

- Bandwidth affects audio and video performance, which can impact the quality of your club meeting. Available bandwidth is based on each individual's location, and the number of devices using the network. Will all of the members have enough bandwidth to fully participate in club meetings?

Technology

- As with bandwidth, hardware and software can affect equipment performance. Will the club's equipment and all of the individual members' equipment meet the standards required for a quality online experience? To ensure quality meetings, online clubs may need to set minimum standards for equipment and bandwidth.

- Audio and video challenges can be frustrating and can negatively impact the club experience. What technological challenges could your online club face? Be prepared by talking through the possible scenarios and the solutions beforehand, and update your Addendum of Standard Club Options when appropriate.

Club Meetings

- How will your club members interact outside of club meetings? Discuss the use of social networking, such as Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn, to keep members connected before and after meetings.

- How will your club documents be stored? Cloud-sharing applications or the easy-Speak automation system can be used for storing club documents.

- How will your club members provide feedback, evaluate speakers and vote for the best speaker, best evaluator and best Table Topics speaker at your club meetings? Be prepared by talking through options and update your Addendum of Standard Club Options when appropriate.