

Setting up for Bunco

1. Select a date; make posters, press release; post on website and social media networks; email WLU members and people who signed up and provided an email address at previous Bunco events. In the email, state that the event is RSVP with a \$5 donation at the door. Ask for volunteers to help set up the tables; to bring snacks and chocolate candy; ask for donated bottles of water; lemonade, lemon, milk. Ask for help cleaning up after: putting away tables and chairs, vacuuming, washing dishes. Ask for donated prizes.
2. Bunco is RSVP because we have equipment for 40 players and 40 players is the most we can comfortably fit in the meeting room.
3. Set up 10 tables with four chairs each and tablecloth, 4 pencils, 4 score cards, candy dish with wrapped chocolates, three dice, table number.
4. Table No. 1 is the "head" table. Use a different color tablecloth than the others; make this table special. This table gets a bell.
5. Set dining room up for tea, lemonade, water and snacks.
6. Have donation box at sign in table or meeting room table. Suggested donation is \$5.
7. Set up a table of books for sale near book nook.
8. Have Bunco rules available. No need to put the rules on each table.
9. A few weeks prior to Bunco, ask members to donate prizes. Set these prizes up on the piano. Use gift bags if available.
10. Put guest sign-in book at greeting table where Membership chair or committee person will greet players.
11. Make sure there are membership brochures available.
12. Members should wear name tags and sign volunteer sheet. Guests should create a name tag when signing in.
13. Post calendar of remaining events.
14. Set up three photos of Ella to use as ghost players if needed.

Bunco time

1. You want to have as few empty seats as possible so as not to have to play with the ghosts. Players are in multiples of four at a table. Before starting the game, count the players and then move some players if necessary to have four at each table. Put the ghosts (Ella's photos) where a player is missing.
2. Once the seating is situated, make any WLU-related announcements before getting into the history of the game and the rules.
3. How many people have been to the Foss Mansion before?
4. How many people know what the Woman's Literary Union does? We have brochures for you to learn if you don't know.
5. How many people have played Bunco before? We have a set of rules we are going to use that might be different from the way you've played Bunco before but we've found these rules are the best for large groups like this.
6. Tell the history of Bunco:
 - Bunco is a dice game / Dates back to 18th-c. England
 - Game traveled to U.S. with immigrants
 - Gamblers brought it from East to West during Calif. gold rush in the 1850s
 - Gamblers called the game Banco, later Bunco Dice, finally just Bunco
 - From 1870s-1880s very popular in every large U.S. city
 - Victorian period it was family or parlor game played at get-togethers
 - During 1920s/Prohibition it was popular as gambling game again esp. at speakeasies
 - This is where term Bunco Squad arose due to the raids of gambling parlors
 - After Prohibition, Bunco's popularity declined in big cities but spread to suburbs
 - Not much heard about Bunco 1940-1930 while U.S. was involved in various wars
 - Since 1980s Bunco popular again for fun
 - World Bunco Assoc. -- 2006 -- 27 million bunco players in the U.S.
7. Go over the rules and play two or three practice rounds