March 30th, 2023

ABC Guidance Letter #2023-1

The purpose of this guidance letter applies to a patriotic, fraternal, or benevolent organizations that hold a specialty liquor license, called a Club license, per Idaho Code 23-903(6). The definition of a Club license, per Idaho Code 23-902(1) – “Club” includes organizations where the sale of spirituous liquor for consumption on the premises is made to members and to bona fide guests of members only. The general public is not allowed and persons under the age of 21 are prohibited from entering, remaining or loitering upon the licensed premises. Entrances to the licensed premises should be posted to restrict those under the age of 21 from entering. If there is a separated room away from the licensed premises you wish to remove from the floor plan already approved by ABC, and not sell or allow to be consumed alcoholic beverages, and prohibit smoking, you may be allowed to do so in order to allow the general public and those under the age of 21 to enter. A “Club” license does not qualify as a restaurant under IDAPA 11.05.01.010.06 because this endorsement on an alcohol license requires an establishment to be open to the public, advertised and held out to the public as primarily a food eating establishment, individually priced meals are prepared and regularly served to the public, have a dining room or rooms, kitchen and cooking facilities for the preparation of food, and the number, and type of employees normally used in the preparing, cooking and serving of meals. However, you can continue to serve food to the club’s members and bona fide guests.

CAPTAIN ROCKY GRIPTON
Idaho State Police
Alcohol Beverage Control