

Shipping companies and ship owners:



Who is in charge of social activities?



Is there someone on board responsible for organising social events? If so, is it the right person? Prompting your seafarers to elect a social chair on board each vessel, in addition to shore side personnel, could help ensure social activities are tailored for individual crews and organised regularly. Ideally, this will be taken up voluntarily by a crew member who is enthusiastic about coordinating activities on board

Seafarers have different interests and backgrounds

Encourage creativity among your seafarers - get them to share their interests with each other as much as possible. Do you have musical or artistic crew members who could share their talents? What can you do to promote shared interests?

Is communal space conducive to socialising?

Feedback from seafarers might help determine if improvements could be made to shared spaces on board vessels to help to facilitate rather than inhibit socialising

What are the barriers to socialising on board your ships?

Do seafarers feel they have enough time?



What can you do to ensure crew have enough time to rest, speak to family and socialise with other crew members on top of their demanding job?

Are there designated funds for leisure time on board?

For example: funds to provide onboard equipment that encourages social interaction such as a karaoke machine or sports equipment; funds for self-development courses while on board; and onboard subscriptions for sports TV channels and access to TV news

Poor internet connection



Some social activities may be improved by access to the internet, e.g. seafarers may want to double-check game rules, etc. online. Besides, if seafarers are too concerned about when they can next contact home or go online, they're unlikely to be able to focus on social activities on board

Socially isolated crew members



Be aware that some seafarers on board may feel isolated if they are the only woman, deck cadet or crew member of their nationality, for example. How can you ensure everyone feels included in social activities?

#ConnectingCrew

