

## **BVH&RT**

### **ROOM CAPACITY CALCULATIONS**

#### **1. The Regulations.**

Building Regulations Approved Document B2: Fire Safety. Table C1 lists the space factors:

1. Standing space including area 2 metres in front of bar: 0.3 m<sup>2</sup> per person.
2. Assembly hall, club room without fixed seating: 0.5 m<sup>2</sup> per person.
3. Committee room, meeting room, lounge, dining room, restraint: 1 m<sup>2</sup> per person.

From this one can calculate the maximum number of people allowed in a room, depending on the use to which it is put.

However, this is subject to consideration of available exits. If a room has only one exit, for example, the room capacity is limited to 60 regardless of the floor area. If a room has more than one exit, one has to exclude one on the basis that one exit may be blocked by fire. Both hall and clubroom have more than an adequate number of escapes so our capacity will be governed by Table C1 above. We have adopted a precautionary approach to capacity, wishing to prescribe maximum numbers well within what might be permitted by Table C1.

#### **2. Hall**

The maximum number of people for an event where attendees are seated at dining tables shall be 80. For all events, such as attendees seated for a talk or concert, or attending a buffet or party, the maximum number shall be 110. In certain cases, and at the discretion of the BVH&RT committee, the maximum number may be increased to 130. This will only apply if the committee has a degree of control over the event and the bar can be accessed by attendees via the clubroom.

If the numbers attending an event might exceed 100 the organiser shall obtain the committees approval to the seating plan at least two days prior to the event.

#### **3. Clubroom**

The maximum number of people for an event where attendees are seated at dining tables shall be 55. For all other events the maximum shall be 80.

#### **4. Seating Regulations Applying to all seated events**

Rows of seats should have no more than 14 in a row. Gangways between rows should be at least 110cm wide.