

CHAPTER 16

WHY JOIN A FEDERATION?

You have finally decided to form a film society: you've been through all the preliminaries, have a working committee and are planning your first season. Everything is fine. Why should you spend a few more dollars to join a State Federation?

Knowledge: You will come in contact with people running other film societies, allowing an exchange of ideas.

Insurance: Your society will be covered by film damage and loss insurance. This includes loss or damage to the film while in transit as well as damage while it is being projected. You cannot obtain this sort of insurance anywhere else.

Some Federations also offer Public Liability and equipment insurance policies under their own "umbrella" policies, at competitive rates. Check with your State Federation.

Library Access: To gain access to restricted films in the National Film & Video Collection through Cinemedia you must register your society. You are asked which Federation you belong to.

Appraisal Sessions: Some State Federations often run film appraisal sessions which are open to you free

of charge. You may also run your own appraisal sessions in which case the Federation will supply a list of sources with interesting sounding films and appraisal forms which you will need to send back to them. A small subsidy towards the freight costs may be available from the Federation. Write to your Secretary.

Film Availability State Federations have information on film availability.

In addition, individual Federations offer other services e.g. workshops on various aspects of running a film society, "box schemes" to reduce freight costs, regular newsletters or magazines, film reviews, access to technical advice, film festivals, etc.

So make sure you join one of the State Federations. They are all affiliated with ACOFS; Queensland and Northern Territory film societies may join the NSW Federation. Happy Viewing.

Contact details as of August 2000 are:

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