

# **Cannabis Social Clubs**

## **Worldwide**



**Martinus Hendrikus van L.**

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## **DISCLAIMER.**

The content of this book has been carefully compiled based on scientific sources, practical experience and publicly available data.

**It is not a substitute for medical advice.**

**ALWAYS consult a qualified practitioner if you have any health concerns.**

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## **INTRODUCTION: WHY THIS BOOK?**

The debate surrounding cannabis has gained momentum in recent years. Countries that have pursued repressive policies for decades are now revising their legislation. At the same time, there is growing public awareness that criminalizing consumers and small-scale growers causes more problems than it solves. In this context, the concept of the Cannabis Social Club (CSC) is more relevant than ever.

This book was written to bring order, clarity, and direction to a field full of confusion, conflicting information and diverging interests. It is intended for anyone involved with cannabis in a legal, transparent and socially responsible manner—from users to club founders, from policymakers to lawyers.

A CSC is not a coffee shop, not a commercial chain and not a front.

It is a collaborative model based on transparency. People join voluntarily, grow cannabis collectively for their own use and are accountable both to the rules of the club and to the rule of law.

A CSC is a non-profit organization whose goal is to protect public health and dismantle criminal structures.

This book not only describes how to set up a CSC, but also why. It shows which countries are already successfully applying the model and what legal, practical and social lessons can be learned from them. From Spain to Germany, from Malta to Switzerland—and from small local associations to international policy reforms.

As former chair of ENCOD (European Coalition for Just and Effective Drug Policies) and as an advisor involved in the legalization of cannabis in Malta, I have worked for many years on the development, defense and professionalization of this model. Drawing on that experience, I will take you through the process of setting up a CSC, step by step.

This book is based entirely on verifiable sources and contains no advertising, speculation or empty promises. The goal is clear: a workable, safe, social and legal model that helps governments and citizens regulate cannabis in Europe and beyond.

Let's build a new standard. Let's start with the basics: information, transparency and cooperation.

**Martinus Hendrikus van L.**



## WHAT IS A CANNABIS SOCIAL CLUB?

A Cannabis Social Club (CSC) is a transparent, democratically organized association of adults who grow cannabis together for their own use.

The model was developed in Europe as an alternative to both the illegal market and commercial sales, with the core values of public health, responsibility and community spirit.

CSCs are **not** businesses.

They are **not** commercial sellers of cannabis.

There is **no** publicly accessible shop, **no** advertising, **no** profit motive and no middlemen.

They **are** associations in which members - usually through a membership agreement - provide an estimate of their personal cannabis use, thus governing the amount of cannabis the club grows and distributes.

## **CHARACTERISTICS OF A CANNABIS SOCIAL CLUB.**

### ***Non-profit structure.***

CSCs are not allowed to make a profit.

All income (such as membership fees or from product sales) is used for operational costs, quality control, education and social purposes.

### ***Closed circuit.***

Only members are allowed to receive cannabis.

There is no sale to third parties or tourists.

Every transaction is recorded.

New members are carefully screened and introduced.

### ***Collective cultivation.***

The club grows the cannabis itself or has it grown under supervision, based on the estimated annual consumption of its members.

This ensures that there is never any overproduction or surplus that could end up on the black market.