## **Event Planning Tips – Weddings**

Planning your wedding can be a daunting task.
We hope these tips will assist you in making the process easier.
If you need additional assistance, feel free to call us at
(800) 899-1140 or visit us at www.lifeofthepartyonline.com.

There are numerous books and magazines devoted to the planning of weddings. If you are planning a wedding, we strongly encourage you to refer to these resources. However, there is one area of weddings that many of these publications overlook- *entertainment*. This is our area of expertise, and we hope that our tips will help you in planning this aspect of your wedding.

Beginning of the Reception: Entertainment can make a huge difference at the beginning of a wedding reception. During the first 60 to 90 minutes, the wedding party is typically having their formal pictures taken. Consider entertainment that will keep your guests entertained during this normally slow period. Make sure that any entertainment you select fits with the tone / formality of your wedding. Examples of appropriate entertainment include: strolling magicians, fortune tellers, caricature artists, mimes, live music, etc.

Entertainment for the Kids: If there is going to be children at your reception, professional entertainment can go a long way towards keeping the kids busy. Try to designate a separate room for children's activities, if possible. If this is not possible, consider the lobby area or a section of the banquet room. Entertainment for kids includes: arts & crafts coordinator, balloon artist, clown / characters, magic show, puppet show, games and activities coordinator, etc.

**Bands & DJ's:** Music is a must for a wedding reception. Professional DJ's and musicians can help coordinate traditional ceremonies as well as provide opportunities for your guests to dance. When choosing musical talent, make sure that they specialize in weddings, use professional equipment and are familiar with the various ceremonies you may want for your reception. We work with a variety of musicians and DJ's, and we can assist you in determining which one would be right for your event.

**Dance Motivator:** Dance motivators work with your DJ to get your guests involved! They teach popular dances, and they have a variety of games and activities that will transform your reception into a party!

**Dance Shows:** Professional dancers add a touch of class to a wedding reception. Our 2 person teams can perform a variety of dance styles (eg. ballroom, swing, salsa, tango, etc). Rather than a traditional 30 minute dance show common at other banquets, most brides find that short mini-shows work better for wedding receptions. This format allows your guests to enjoy a variety of short, classy & unique shows without taking too much time away from other reception activities.

## Co-written by:

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**Judy Shock** – Judy has entertained children and adults alike for over 10 years. Judy has been a professional dance instructor for a variety of events. Additionally, Judy has earned her B.A. in Musical Theatre.