**Speed Dating Role Plays**

**Scenario 1: The monologue**

The couple do not look at each other and make no eye contact. Feel free to add-lib!

Man: “So, what football team do you support?”

Woman: (quietly & looking at the floor) “I don’t know.”

Man: “I support …..”(continues a monologue about football, players, matches, etc etc).

Woman: (Sits quietly looking at the floor, occasionally glances at her watch).

I will stop the role play after a few minutes of this. I will ask the audience what was wrong with the scenario? What could Bob do differently? What could Christine do differently? If they are really stuck we can suggest the following:

1. Introduce yourself.
2. Pick a conversation topic that both people can talk about.
3. Give a compliment.
4. Take turns when talking.

Then we can replay the role play this time with lots of eye-contact and smiles.

Man: “Hello I’m Bob, what is your name?”

Woman: “Hello I’m Christine, it’s nice to meet you.”

Man: “You look nice.”

Woman: “Thank you, you look nice too.”

Man: What would you like to talk about?”

Woman: “Maybe you could tell me what you enjoy doing for fun?”

Man: “OK”

**Scenario 2: The rude comments**

Continuation of previous conversation:

Woman: “Maybe you could tell me what you enjoy doing for fun?”

Man: “Well I like playing football with my friends.”

Woman: “You don’t look very fit.”

Man: (looks hurt) “Oh, well, I just do it for fun.”

Woman: “Football is boring! People that like football are weird!”

I can stop the role-play there and ask what went wrong? Take home messages from this one:

1. Show interest in what the other person says by asking them more questions.
2. Try to be sensitive – even if you don’t like what the person is talking about you don’t need to tell them this.

Replay with more reciprocal interest.

**Scenario 3: The ending**

Something will indicate that the chat is over.

Man: Gets up and rushes off to next table.

Woman: (sits looking sad)

What was wrong with that?

1. Be polite and say something along the lines “thank you. It was nice talking to you.”

Replay this……a happy ending…