# **Networking Cheat Sheet**

A Royal Touch Training with Anne Sumangil Email: asumangil@gmail.com

### Preparation

- 1. Review your social media update the privacy and clean up your accounts, as necessary.
- 2. Find business professional attire and groom appropriately.
- 3. Prepare your padfolio to include business cards and copies of your resume.
- 4. Do not bring items that you will not use at the networking event.

# **Food and Beverage**

- 1. Answer this question before leaving: Are you attending the networking event to eat or to network?
- 2. If it is to network, eat before you leave.
- 3. Always make sure your right hand is free.

## First Impressions and Shaking Hands

- Upon arrival to the networking event, you are "on stage"
- 2. When shaking hands: make eye contact, hands should be web to web, firm handshake
- 3. Focus on the other person.

### **Entering and Exiting Conversations**

- 1. To enter a conversation, greet the group and ask if you can join them.
- 2. To exit a conversation, excuse yourself. If that is not an option, introduce them to someone else or ask them to introduce you to others.

# **Networking Tips**

- 1. Use small talk to include topics:
  - a. Where s/he grew up or currently lives
  - b. Where s/he works
  - c. What s/he does for a living
  - d. Sports
  - e. Travel
  - f. And if all else fails, the weather
- 2. Avoid talking about religion, politics and money.
- 3. Try to make a connection to the other person by finding things in common.
- 4. Ask questions people love talking about themselves!
- 5. Listen and paraphrase, as necessary.
- 6. Do not gossip.



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