

Guiding Principles for Metropolitan Walkers members

The aim of the Metropolitan Walkers is to provide a sociable, friendly and inclusive environment for walking and social activities for members. Metropolitan Walkers is part of the Ramblers, which is a charity. In addition to the wider charitable aims of the Ramblers (see <https://www.ramblers.org.uk/about-us>),

Metropolitan Walkers as a group has a particular focus on encouraging London-based people of working age to walk, and supports making walking accessible by public transport. This document outlines the behaviour we request of members (including committee members, walk leaders and other activity organisers).

- Please be polite and friendly – both to existing and potential members and to members of the public we encounter on Metropolitan walks or other events.
- Please feel free to come along on 2 or 3 walks to try out Metropolitan Walkers and see if it is right for you; after that, if you wish to continue walking with the group we ask you to join the Ramblers as a member and put Metropolitan Walkers as your local group. Similarly, we ask that members please keep their membership up to date for so long as they walk with us or participate in Metropolitan Walkers activities.
- Our walks require mobility and a degree of physical fitness dependent on the nature of the walk. We endeavour to provide information on the level, nature and intended pace of the walk. Please consider this when selecting which walks to attend – particularly in relation to week-ends away, as some may be very challenging.
- Please recognise that whilst we endeavour to provide a high quality service to our members and helpful information about our walks and activities, our walks leaders and organisers of social activities and week-ends away are unpaid volunteers who put in a considerable amount of their own time for the benefit of the club; sometimes things may not go according to plan – please try to be understanding and supportive.
- Please consider leading an activity in the future as leading a walk or organising a social helps support the group's continued success. In particular we need walks leaders to come forward – please speak to a member of the committee if you are interested
- Please respect the privacy of all members – members who provide contact details for activities they organise ask that these are used only for purposes related to that activity.
- Please respect all member of the group and their differing backgrounds and walking abilities. Discrimination on the grounds of sex, disability, race, sexuality, religion, age or nationality will not be tolerated. Likewise, any sexual or other harassment, bullying, victimisation, or behaviour that is threatening, intimidating or aggressive is unacceptable.
- Please feel free to provide feedback on activities, as we are always looking to improve the club's activities and service for members. If necessary, please use the complaints procedure if you feel that a member of Metropolitan Walkers may have breached these guiding principles, or that their behaviour has become a concern. All concerns will be dealt with in confidence.

The Ramblers' Association is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. Company registration no. 4458492. Registered charity, England & Wales no. 1093577, Scotland no. SC039799.

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