

Member Guidelines

Different Viewpoints

We do not schedule discussion topics that focus on politics or religion. But these topics may come up on occasion since they touch on other aspects of life. Proselytizing one's political or religious views can easily spoil the event for others and is one way to be removed from this group. Our discussions are meant to facilitate interesting discussions and connections, not who is "right."

When to Dive Into the Topic?

It's entirely appropriate to begin an event with introductions to others and engage in the type of casual conversation that's normal when people meet for the first time. But once dinner is served, you're encouraged to dive in a little deeper and get into the event's topic. Attendees are provided with a few questions in advance that relate to the event topic. This helps get things started. It's normal for conversations to wander. But everyone is encouraged to focus on the event's topic for at least a while since many attendees are there for that purpose.

Smartphones at the Table

Our events are a great way to connect with others "in real life." Don't miss that opportunity! Accordingly, attendees are discouraged from using smartphones during events. Exceptions include looking up the event's "topic questions" posted on our Meetup site, or emergencies.

We're Not a Dating Group, but...

We are first and foremost a discussion group that seeks to facilitate friendships. But it's no secret that Meetup groups tend to have many members who are single and this group is no different. If you meet someone here that you'd like to see outside of the group, please do *not* pursue that unless you have first established *mutual* interest during an event. Members who are aggressive toward other members in this regard will be removed.

Meetup's "Connections" Feature

Meetup has a "Connections" feature that allows participants who attended a given event to request a "connection" with other participants of that same event. If the recipient of your connection request agrees, both of you will see each other on your

respective Connections lists. *The intent is to allow people to confirm mutual interest in chatting at future events.* But this feature lacks the nuances of in-person communication (even less than a text message). So members are encouraged to use it respectfully. Finally, please know that your Organizer does NOT use this feature.

Your RSVP is Taken Seriously

Most events are held in restaurants that have reserved seating. Restaurants go out of their way to accommodate groups like ours. If you are scheduled to attend an event and change your mind, please update your RSVP as soon as your plans change.

Don't Be Left Out!

Be sure that your Meetup settings allow you to receive timely notifications of new events and related updates! For tips on how to do that, click [HERE](#).

Thank you!