

Sydney Modern Quilt Guild

Policy Document incorporating a Code of Conduct

– introduced Nov 2023, this version approved in committee on September 8, 2025

The Sydney Modern Quilt Guild is registered by the NSW Office of Fair Trading, and is incorporated according to the regulations in New South Wales.

The current version of the Sydney Modern Quilt Guild's Constitution was approved by members at its AGM on 20 November, 2022. This policy document serves in conjunction with that constitution.

The Sydney Modern Quilt Guild is referred to here as "the Guild".

The committee voted in by members at the annual AGM is referred to here as "the Committee".

The registered constitution of the Guild is referred to here as "the Constitution".

Sydney Modern Quilt Guild is affiliated with QuiltNSW and the international Modern Quilt Guild.

Please note that this policy document may be amended at the discretion of the Committee. Any changes will be promptly communicated to members.

Aims and Purpose of the Guild

Our Guild operates for non-commercial purposes, primarily to support and encourage the growth and development of modern quilting through art, craft, community and education.

Within the scope of these purposes the Guild aims to:

- Develop and encourage the art of modern quilting,
 - Encourage new quilters and other textile artists and crafters interested in non-traditional quilts,
 - Foster and facilitate social opportunities for members, focussed on a shared interest in modern quilting,
 - Offer educational opportunities through classes, workshops and sharing of information,
 - Work with other guilds and groups with a similar purpose,
- and
- Support and provide opportunity for charitable works that provide back to the community through the use of our modern quilting skills.

Joining Fees & Annual Subscription

For FY25/ 26 membership fees are \$65 for members, plus a \$25 joining fee for new members.

Any adjustment to the fee schedule will be made by the Committee in consultation with the Guild's financial officer's report, and will be promptly communicated to members.

Code of Conduct

Purpose:

All members and guests of the Guild are entitled to be in an environment where they are treated with dignity and respect. This Code of Conduct clarifies the basic standards of behaviour expected of all members of the Guild – both in person and online.

Principles:

The Guild's committee will:

- Ensure that meetings, workshops and other Guild sponsored events are held in safe, inclusive and healthy environments.
- Ensure that the Guild's social media groups, eg. the private Facebook group, are also run in accordance with this Code of Conduct.
- Ensure that only office-bearing members of the committee may enter into contracts on behalf of the Guild.
- In good faith, comply with all NSW legislation and regulations relating to incorporated associations
- Act responsibly and consistently with the Guild's purpose and Constitution.

Each member of the Guild will:

- Consider the best interests of the Guild and all fellow members of the Guild.
- Apply common sense wherever possible.
- Treat the name and logo of the Guild, and those of all affiliated associations, with respect. These names and logos must not be used by any member for commercial, personal, or non-Guild purposes.
- Treat all members with courtesy, respect, integrity, fairness and openness; and show consideration and respect for others, regardless of differing or conflicting views.
- Maintain an environment that is free of all types of discrimination and abusive, harassing or offensive behaviours.
- Ensure their social media posts and interactions are polite, tolerant and generous, just as they would behave in a real life, face-to-face conversation.
- Ensure their social media identities are transparent to everyone at all times.
NOTE: The Committee and moderators may recognise a member's need for an online pseudonym (eg. Facebook handle), to maintain the personal safety of individuals. In this instance, members of the Guild's private group will be able to be aware of who that member is, and will respect that member's need for privacy and security.
- Respect the confidential nature of both the Guild's business, where applicable; and the work of other members – where they request discretion.
- Comply with the Constitution of the Guild, and the policies outlined in this document.

Follow the Law:

The following will not be tolerated:

- Defamation.
- Racism, sexism, ageism, homophobia, or religious or political intolerance.
- The posting of rumours or innuendo.
- Posting or promotion of illegal content or activities.
- Posting or promotion of commercial activities, other than those sponsored by the Guild, or deemed suitable, relevant and of interest by the Committee.
- Bullying and cyber-bullying (ie. posts or comments used to bully a person or group by sending messages of an intimidating, harassing, aggressive or threatening nature).
- Failure to attribute sources in quoting and referencing, (please reference all sources, often just a name or URL link to the original material is adequate)

Policy Implementation:

- Any member or guest of the Guild who, at a meeting of/ or in a social media group set up by/ or at an event sponsored by the Guild, feels harassed or discriminated against, should report the incident to a member of the Committee.
- The Committee will investigate all complaints regarding questionable, abusive, offensive, harassing or unethical behaviour and take appropriate action according to the Constitution.
- In social media environments, moderators may delete or edit posts that do not comply with this Code of Conduct and – in serious cases – may temporarily or permanently ban Guild members from group.
- If any member is found to have behaved in a way that is contradictory to this Code of Conduct, they shall have their membership reviewed and, possibly, revoked – according to the terms of the Constitution: see Part 2 Membership, sections 10, 11, 12.

Please respect your Guild, the Committee, your fellow members and any moderators.

Any personal or online comments that are defamatory or otherwise impugn the good standing and reputation of the Guild, the Committee or any individual member of the Guild will not be tolerated. Please always remember that our Guild is a not-for-profit organisation, and members of the Committee and the online moderators provide support to the Guild on a voluntary basis.