



North Devon Model Society Membership Guidelines

We want the society to be a happy, friendly and supportive environment. Members are not restricted by age, race, gender, politics, religion, disability or skill. We are united by our mutual enjoyment of model making, in all its forms, and welcome anyone to join us. Our motto, 'Meet, Build, Share, Learn, Enjoy' is what our club is about and at the end of the day we all come to the club to have a good time. The following simple common sense guidelines aim to create a friendly, supportive and constructive environment for all members and guests.

Please:

1. Your committee needs your help and support to make the Society work for everyone, please let us know if you can help us, if you have an idea for the society, or if you can contribute in any way to running the meetings & shows, or if you can deliver talks/training.
2. Please talk to any member the committee if you have any concerns about the Society.
3. If you can, please help with the set up and take down at the beginning and end of meetings. We need to leave the hall as we would wish to find it, clean and tidy.
4. Please help with tasks such as making the tea, or washing up.
5. Follow any guidelines for the premises that we are using.
6. Models entered into a competition should be your own work, or should state what work is not yours.
7. Please be helpful, supportive and respectful of other modeller's creations and abilities. We aim to encourage and support all skill levels of modellers. If you are commenting on someone else's work, please do not point out faults, issues, mistakes, unless they specifically ask for how you would improve their model. Please be constructive and helpful. Some of us enjoy building and painting models for simple enjoyment, others are extremely competitive. Some people enjoy learning and developing with each model, others are happy with the level they are at. Not everyone wants to be rivet count perfect, or airbrushed to exact Federal Standard paint code, so it's important to be considerate.

What we DO NOT want at meetings:

A number of incidents have taken place at meetings that the NDMS Management Committee and membership have agreed were unacceptable behaviour.

1. PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH, pick up or handle anyone else's model(s)!!! Please ask permission *before* handling anyone else's model. It is fine to *refuse* to have anyone else handle your model – you know how delicate or robust the model is. We ask you respect the modeller and the model.

2. Please, no “practical” jokes. We all enjoy a good joke, but hiding someone else’s personal belongings does not constitute a joke!
3. The North Devon Model Society will not tolerate abusive, racial or sexual behaviour of any kind. Anyone carrying out such behaviour will be asked to leave immediately.
4. Please, NO SHOUTING in the meetings. It disturbs everyone else. If you have a problem with anyone at NDMS, please speak to that person first. If you cannot resolve the issue amicably, please raise your concern with the Chairman or Secretary on a one to one basis. They will escalate to the Management Committee if required, and comeback to you. The last thing anyone wants is for long running issues to fester and create an unpleasant atmosphere at the society.
5. Covid stopped the society from meeting, now we are back and running, we ask that if you have any symptoms of Covid, Cold, Flu, Coughs or anything else that may be transmissible, PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND Society meetings until you are not infectious. We have both young and old members, and family members, who may be at risk of infection. If in doubt, please do not attend.

NDMS Management Committee authority over membership.

The Society has a constitution as required by the Charity Commission. This includes the requirement that the Management Committee have a process to be able to discipline, or remove from the membership any member for breaching its rules. If an NDMS member is disruptive, abusive or whose behaviour is in anyway unacceptable, as determined solely by the Management Committee, then the Committee has sole discretion to take any action it sees fit, up to and including banning that person from attending NDMS meetings and events, for any period it determines is appropriate. This is stated in the NDMS constitution. The member has the right to appeal to the committee, with a friend in attendance. At an appeal, the Committee can confirm or revise the decision. The decision of the Committee is final.

This policy was agreed by:

_____Chair

_____Secretary

_____Treasurer

at the NDMS committee meeting on _____

It will be reviewed no later than March 31st 2024.