

OREGON MEN ENJOYING NATURISM

GUIDELINES

I. NAME & PURPOSE:

- Our name reflects our purpose: **Oregon Men Enjoying Naturism [OMEN]**
- OMEN is a not-for-profit social fellowship for adult gay male naturists/nudists in the Pacific-Northwest.

II. CONFIDENTIALITY & RESPECT:

- Confidentiality and respect (for OMEN and its members) are conditions of membership.
- Cooperation and appreciation are essential. Every contributing member and unselfish act is valued.
- No photographs may be taken at any OMEN function without the explicit knowledge and consent of those included. (Pictorial records of events may be accessible to OMEN members.)
- OMEN deliberately chooses guidelines (vs. “regulations”) to facilitate operation. OMEN and its members agree to be guided by “*The Golden Rule,*” ... to contribute “*a playful and engaging spirit*” and “*a good attitude and open heart to enjoy those present.*”

III. MEMBERSHIP:

- Membership is open to men (21 years of age or older) who enjoy naturist activities and desire to socialize in a nudist environment. Application procedures shall be established by the Steering committee.
- Members agree to contribute to OMEN by hosting and/or assisting with event activities.
- A directory of members with email and/or phone numbers (but without home address or personal information) may be accessible to current members.

IV. DUES & CALENDAR YEAR:

- The calendar year (January-thru-December) defines the term of membership.
- Dues are set annually by the Steering Committee.
- Unless previously renewed, membership expires the last day of December.

V. EVENTS & GATHERINGS:

- OMEN endeavors to sponsor and coordinate naturist activities throughout the year.
- Events may be held in private residences or on public property (e.g. clothing-optional beaches), and are generally planned around a potluck meal. Members bring a suitable food offering to share, their own beverage, and a towel to sit on.
- Venues and dates vary depending upon scheduling constraints and the season. Event details (dates & locations) and RSVP information are organized by the Social committee and posted on the website.
- Individual hosts may choose to have a theme or program, and may request a limit to the number of participants permitted to RSVP. They may also, at their discretion, choose to provide a separate space (e.g. massage area or hot-tub) to be accessible after dinner, apart from common areas, and available to all participants.
- “*Common sense & common courtesy*” determine appropriate etiquette. Each participant must assume responsibility for respecting the comfort levels of others.
- Guests are welcome, but must be hosted by a member, or make prior arrangements to provide personal identification and complete an “agreement-&-waiver” statement before participating. Guests may attend up to three gatherings per calendar year prior to joining (free on the introductory visit, but \$5 each time thereafter).

VI. LEGAL & LAWFUL:

- Social naturism and nudity within designated public areas and private spaces are legal and lawful in the state of Oregon.
- Behaviors that are illegal or endanger individual members or the group (disturbing the peace, illicit drugs, public obscenity, etc.) are forbidden and may result in immediate forfeiture of membership.
- OMEN is for *social* naturists. Those who would mistakenly equate nudity with sexual license may find such interests best met at an overtly sexual venue (e.g. adult video arcade or bathhouse).

VII. COMMITTEES:

- The **Steering** Committee is responsible for all duties necessary for OMEN to operate effectively. It shall conduct business on behalf of OMEN, and may authorize the disbursement of funds. (Prior membership approval is required for any single expense greater than \$100.)

The committee shall establish whatever procedures are reasonable to accomplish OMEN objectives and protect its members.

The committee shall consist of four-to-seven (4-7) men, selected from nominees or volunteers, who evidence a reasonable degree of the following qualifications:

- *frequent participation at events;*
- *social interaction with members;*
- *organizational & record-keeping proficiency;*
- *effective communication skills (oral & written);*
- *familiarity with the Guidelines;*
- *frequent utilization of the website;*
- *overt interest in promoting OMEN.*

The committee shall determine (and modify) its duties and leadership as necessary, or upon request by any committee member (with consensus of the majority). Committee members shall assume and/or allocate the following duties:

- Coordinator (to address topical concerns, coordinate communication, organize agenda topics, conduct meetings, etc.);
- Treasurer (to keep financial records, maintain a bank account, deposit dues, pay expenses, and routinely report on OMEN's financial status);
- Secretary (to monitor and respond to email inquiries);
- Membership (to maintain records of member accounts, payment of dues, & "agreement & waiver" subscription);
- Social committee chairman (to organize and lead the Social committee);
- Webmaster (to maintain and suggest recommendations for the website).

To whatever extent reasonable, committee members shall "cross-train," share duties, and cooperate to ensure that OMEN does not become excessively dependent upon (nor unduly burden) any single individual.

- The **Social** committee shall be chaired by a member of the Steering committee, but it shall operate autonomously to encourage and organize a variety of events, venues, and activities. It shall independently solicit, coordinate, and schedule hosts and helpers. And it shall cooperate with the webmaster to ensure that the membership has convenient and current access to event information.

- Additional (*ad hoc*) committees may be created by the Steering committee to perform routine or special tasks benefiting the group, including (but not limited to) maintaining the web site, public outreach & education, and keeping historical records.

VIII. MEETINGS & ELECTIONS

- Committee meetings may be conducted personally or electronically (on-line or by phone), and before or after or outside of regularly scheduled general events. The membership must be informed of significant actions or changes affecting OMEN or its members.
- Solicitation for Steering committee candidates will occur during the last quarter of a calendar year (or whenever a vacancy occurs). Elections and confirmation will be conducted at a business meeting (preceding a general OMEN event, and after the membership receives at least ten days prior notice of agenda). Confirmation requires approval by a minimum of two-thirds of the members present (including those represented by proxy).
- The term of service will be two years (except in cases of resignation, a vote of no-confidence, or appointment to an unexpired term).

IX. AMENDMENTS:

- OMEN Guidelines may be amended following a four-step procedure:
 - a) Amendments may be advanced by the Steering Committee, or suggested (in writing) by any member to the Steering Committee for consideration;
 - b) The Steering Committee will propose amendments by email to the general membership, and specify a date by which to respond or comment (no less than ten days thereafter);
 - c) The Steering Committee shall also notify the membership by email of any substantial modifications from an initial proposal, specifically noting alterations and/or explanations for rejecting alternative suggestions;
 - d) Adoption requires approval by a minimum of three-fourths of the members present (including those represented by proxy) at a meeting called for such purpose (before or in lieu of a general event), and scheduled no less than ten days after email notice of said meeting is sent to the membership.

X. AFFILIATIONS:

- OMEN is affiliated with Gay Naturists International (GNI), and grants reciprocal guest privileges to non-resident members of other gay naturist groups.