

Code of Conduct for Members

- 1.1 The Society is run by students. We are volunteers, not professionals, we are simply doing what we enjoy doing, and we hope you can join us in that enjoyment
- 1.2 Therefore, do not give the leaders a hard time – we don't have to let you come on walks! But...
- 2.1 While on a walk, Walk Leaders have the authority which you must abide by. You must obey them in order to ensure your own safety and that of the whole group.
- 2.2 The Coordinator and Walk Leaders have the authority to refuse your attendance on the walk, for any reason, but without having to tell you this reason, and without possibility of refund.
- 2.3 While walking, you must stay with your group at all times and not lag behind.
 - 2.3.1 If there is a good reason for you to leave the group at any point, you must make this known to the Walk Leader *and* the Coordinator, who both must give their permission before you are allowed to part company with the group.
 - 2.3.1.1 If you wish to spend part of the day visiting family/friends instead of walking with the group, you must ask permission at sign ups, and ask the Coordinator and your Walk Leader on the day for permission as in 2.2.1
 - 2.3.2 We go to many beautiful places and encourage the practice of photography, however, you must not hold up the group by taking too many photographs.
 - 2.3.3 If for medical or fitness reasons, you feel you are unable to keep up with the group, please signal this to the walk leader at the first opportunity. They will then adjust the pace to suit you. It is preferable that this is done early before you become totally exhausted.
 - 2.3.4 If you are allowed to attend the walk even though you have inappropriate equipment (as per the 'Packing List'), you will be expected not to be a burden to the group. If you cannot keep the pace because, for example, you are wearing unsuitable footwear, this will not be looked upon kindly.
- 3.1 You must come on the walks knowing what to expect and having prepared accordingly.
- 3.2 Weather plays an important part in what equipment you are likely to need to bring. However, remember that the weather here can change very quickly, and having too much equipment isn't a problem, but not having enough is a major problem.
 - 3.2.1 We are used to harsh weather conditions here in the North of England. Only highly extreme weather events will lead us to cancel a walk. Therefore, come prepared to walk in rain or shine, hot or cold.
 - 3.2.2 Therefore, you must be prepared to deal with paths that are exceptionally muddy and wet.
- 3.3 You must bring any food and drink you will need during the day's walking. We are usually walking in fields, up on hills, and away from easily accessible shops.
- 3.4 You must have a level of fitness necessary to easily complete the selected walk, at the pace expected. (see table of walk difficulty)

3.4.1 As an open student society, we welcome all students wishing to attend walks with us. However, if you feel you are unlikely to be able to comply with article 3.4 for medical reasons, and still wish to attend, please inform the walk coordinator and we will attempt to make special arrangements for you.

4.1 Please shut all gates we pass through

4.1.1 It is the responsibility for the last person in the group to pass through the gate to check it is properly shut, and latched/bolted if there is such a mechanism

4.1.2 If you are in doubt as to whether you should shut the gate – ask the Walk Leader, or shut it. A closed gate can't cause harm, but an open gate could lead farm animals to escape.

5.1 Although we try to facilitate your enjoyment of the countryside, and we try to prepare for accidents...

5.2 You are responsible for your own actions! If you wantonly or recklessly disobey this Code of Conduct and the instructions of your Walk Leader and the Coordinator, you may be expelled from your walking group, banned from future walks, and have your Society membership terminated.

6 We are not responsible for you on socials.

6.1 Socials are to be treated just like you are going out with a bunch of mates (well, you are) and so you should look after yourself.