

Terms & Conditions of Connecting DG membership

Purpose:

An exclusive networking group for entrepreneurs to connect with each other and confidently refer group members to their secondary network should the opportunity arise. This requires a high level of trust and respect between all members, with the understanding that this is not a sales platform.

Membership:

- The group will be limited to 25 members, with the opportunity of up to 15 guests at any one time, both of which requires a recommendation or nomination.
- Existing members may object to any membership application on the grounds of business or personal differences
- Businesses are registered, not individuals, to allow businesses to send 'substitute' representatives.
- The group reserves the right to revoke membership without warning, however unless 'the member' in question has committed an act of gross misconduct they will *usually* receive at least one verbal warning before having their membership terminated.

Subscription

- Guests may attend up to 2 meetings for free
- New applications are to be reviewed by membership committee
- There is a (non-refundable) joining fee of £100, which covers the 2 guest meetings, the current meeting and the admin costs.
- If accepted a monthly subscription of £15 per month, to be paid by standing order every month, is due to be set up before the 4th meeting. (A late subscription will require any outstanding invoices to be paid within 30 days.)
- Membership may be cancelled by the member at any time by cancelling the Standing Order. However it would be nice to know up front, with any reasons why, in case we can make some improvements.
- There are no refunds ... ever. You pays your money and takes your choice.

Meetings:

- The group will meet on the last Tuesday of the month at 8.45 for a 9.15 am start
- The group expects members to have attend a minimum 8 meetings a year to keep the meetings worthwhile. If you do not meet this level of meetings we reserve the right to, and may, give your membership to another business in your industry.

Roles:

Roles to be filled by fully paid up members for a maximum of 12 months, and can not 're-fill' the same roll for at least another 12 months unless otherwise avoidable.

- Treasurer
- Chair
- Host(s)
- Membership committee

Format:

- Coffee at Welcome (half hour)
- The 60 second introduction. (timed)
 - This gives existing members an opportunity to announce what has been going on in their business (this adds better insight to what they do well) or a request for help such as an introduction, or a Roundtable topic, etc
 - And it gives guests or new members an opportunity to quickly introduce themselves.
 - Everyone has the opportunity to request a chat with attendees after the their introduction.
- Short Presentation / Q&A / workshop / Business RoundTable (10-15min)
 - This will normally be a short presentation but could be a simple Q&A session or Workshop
 - A RoundTable will be an opportunity to ask for either specific feedback and advice or to explore a business topic.
- Food & Informal networking
 - Bacon butty or similar finger buffet with coffee / tea / etc
 - The venue room to be made available for another hour after for informal networking.

Rules of Engagement:

- This is not a selling platform, the group in general will not allow it to become a 'pitch fest', you have been warned.
- The group will be based on trust, respect, and collaboration. Therefore a degree of confidentiality is expected.
- We intend to have an enjoyable atmosphere that encourages support and collaboration, so don't be too serious or mess with our vibe,
- We have no hard and fast rules about membership eligibility, other than you need to be / run / own a business and be a good fit with existing members. An application for membership may be declined for many different reasons, even if it is just a case of disturbing the group dynamics (ie nobody likes you). The group reserves the right to decline an application without giving any specific reason.
- Anyone found to have unreasonable behaviour, see the clause under "Membership"

General

The group reserves the right to change these rules should the majority of members agree to it. We don't know exactly what is going to work and we may want to try different things in the hopes of improvement. This is not a formal organisation, it exists to serve and / or entertain the members. (we don't judge your reasons for coming)

If you have any suggestions for improvement either talk to one of the Admin Roles / Committee members after the meeting or email suggestions to info@connectingDG.co.uk.