

## LMUG-talk Charter

### 1. About this Charter

- 1.1 This charter is a LMUG regulation and contains the policies and rules for the London Macintosh User Group mailing-list, known as LMUG-talk. By subscribing to LMUG-talk, you agree to the items listed within the charter.
- 1.2 This charter may be modified by the committee of the London Macintosh User Group at their discretion. Modifications will normally be discussed on-list before being enacted. Modifications to the charter will be alerted to subscribers via a special notice, and 7-days grace allowed for subscribers to unsubscribe before the revisions come into effect.

### 2. Purpose of LMUG-Talk

- 2.1 LMUG-talk exists as a forum for general discussion related to Apple Macintosh computers. It is primarily a support forum for members of the London Macintosh User Group:

<http://www.lmug.org.uk/>

- 2.2 LMUG-talk is open to all members of LMUG and also non-members.

### 3. Ownership

- 3.1 The LMUG-talk list is owned and managed by the committee of the London Macintosh User Group. Contact the List Manager

[lmug-talk-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:lmug-talk-owner@yahoogroups.com)

- 3.2 The interpretation of adherence to the list policies, rules and acceptable behaviour on the list is solely the determination of the list owner.
- 3.3 Moderators are appointed on invitation of the List Manager and confirmed through the committee.

### 4. Behaviour on-list

- 4.1 LMUG-talk is intended to be self-moderating. Contributors to the list are expected to show consideration for the purposes of the list; for the other contributors to and readers of the list; and for the limitations and characteristics of email and the Internet. General guidelines to this are widely available on the Internet under the name of "Netiquette."

#### 4.2 *Topics for discussion*

Discussions topics, started by subscribers should be related to Apple Macintosh computers. Where discussions deviate from this, they are off-topic and should be:

- (a) - Designated with OT in the subject line
- (b) - Kept to a minimum
- (c) - Transferred to another forum, off-list.

#### 4.3 *Composing messages*

When composing a response, include from the previous posting only only text you are responding to, as well as sufficient context to ensure your message makes sense. Do not simply hit Reply and send!

Please keep "me too" and "agreed" postings off the list; these are best sent privately.

Include technical information in technical questions e.g. version of Mac OS; name of your Mac; software revision. These help others on the list answer your question.

When responding to a digest post, please change the subject to match that of the original posting.

Try to keep your signature below 4 lines.

#### 4.4 Abuse

Subscribers are expected to behave with respect and toleration to others. Abuse will not be tolerated. Subscribers should alert the moderator(s) to postings which are causing concern.

#### 4.5 Commercial

Subscribers may not post any adverts of a commercial nature or use their access to the List to e-mail such offers to subscribers privately.

Subscribers may use the list to advertise personal items for sale or collection, as well as their professional services/products (but not prices). Details of transactions must, however, be kept off-list. The List owner makes no claim regarding services or products offered by members of the list.

While an important part of belonging to LMUG (or any other Mac User Group) is the finding and giving of help to each other, it should be borne in mind that some people earn their living by doing this for a job. Therefore, if there is to be a charge for such help either over the phone or by a visit then the helper should make it clear from the outset, preferably in writing, what the charges will be and how they are to be paid.

Subscribers may share their experiences, good or bad, with particular products, and may also explain how and where to get such a product, but any recommendations should be based on personal experience and phrased in their own words.

Do not post, distribute or reproduce in any way any copyrighted material or trademarks, discuss methods of copyright circumvention or post other proprietary information without obtaining the prior consent of the owner of such proprietary rights.

#### 4.6 Attachments

E-mail attachments cannot be sent via LMUG-Talk and are automatically removed.

#### 4.7 LMUG Committee

The LMUG-committee may use the list to post messages of any nature that may be of interest to members of the London Macintosh User Group.

### 5. **Responsibilities of the Moderator(s)**

- 5.1 The Moderator(s) are intended to enforce LMUG-talk's policy for on-list behaviour. The tools and methods used to do so are at their own discretion and may vary over time according to need, convenience, or choice. Generally, the moderator(s) will attempt to warn offenders prior to taking action, but reserve the right to take any step they deem necessary, at any time, to maintain the purpose of the list and preserve the interests of subscribers.

Moderators have the following specific responsibilities:

#### 5.2 Approving and inviting new subscribers

LMUG-talk is a restricted list. Each new member must be approved. New subscribers must answer a question of the moderator's choosing and to their satisfaction before being allowed to join the list. This is to ensure that the new member is a real person and not an automated SPAM device.

#### 5.3 Banning subscribers

The decision to ban a subscriber is reserved to the LMUG-committee and bans must be referred to the committee for approval, except in relation item (c) below.

Banning means a subscriber is unsubscribed and not permitted to rejoin the list. Banning will occur if:

- (a) - the subscriber is persistently abusive, or very abusive
- (b) - the subscriber is persistently off-topic
- (c) - the subscriber posts a non-mac related commercial message
- (d) - the subscriber post a mac-related commercial message, more than once.

#### 5.4 Moderating postings to the list

Where LMUG-talk's policy for on-list behaviour is broken, in particular regarding topics for discussion (4.2) and abusive behaviour (4.4), messages to the list may be moderated. Moderation means each message that is sent to the list is reviewed before it is posted to subscribers of the list - errant messages will be rejected and not posted to subscribers. Moderation will continue until errant messages have ceased.

Moderation will occur if:

- (a) - topics have drifted off-topic for a long time
- (b) - postings to a topic have become abusive
- (c) - a warning to amend behaviour has been ignored by (a) poster(s).

Offensive posts may be deleted from the LMUG-talk archive (see Annex)

This charter constitutes clear warning of expected behaviour - further warnings should ideally be unnecessary.

#### 5.5 Monitoring posts for commercial content

Moderators will monitor posts for commercial activities and either warn or ban errant posters.

#### 5.6 Responding to queries from subscribers

Subscribers may request assistance from the Moderator(s) for any aspect of using the LMUG-talk mailing list at the following address:

lmug-talk-owner@yahoogroups.com

### 6. **Disclaimer and Privacy**

- 6.1 The opinions expressed on LMUG-talk are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the London Macintosh User Group.
- 6.2 LMUG-talk is a **public** list open to all who subscribe with hundreds of subscribers around the world. Messages posted to the list are readable by all, and are archived on servers controlled by a third party (Yahoo).
- 6.3 Subscribers should use discretion and common-sense when posting personal information on LMUG-talk. Subscribers should treat personal information posted by others as **confidential** information, and not disclose it to non-subscribers without the permission of the owner of that information.
- 6.4 Subscribers are solely liable for any and all claims arising from copyright infringement, libel, or any other infringement upon the rights of others and agree to indemnify the list owner against any such claims.
- 6.5 The subscriber list is available to Moderators but will not be distributed to parties other than the London Macintosh User Group.

*Last Updated - 24 May 2005*