

Twelve Fine ranges

Kings Cross Community Garden Incorporated

ABN 71 291 381 778

www.kingscrossgarden.org

MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

August 2023

About the garden

The Kings Cross Community Garden is designed as a productive and welcoming communal urban garden, which encourages the community to come together, learn and share their interest in food production, gardening and sustainability. It is a community garden with shared garden beds, managed and maintained by its members.

Our principles:

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| Integrated | We will contribute to the overall public amenity of Lawrence Hargrave Reserve by respecting other users, integrating the garden into the broader reserve, and creating an inviting street address. |
| Organic | We will promote use and education of organic gardening principles and use natural pesticides and fertilisers and non-GMO seeds. |
| Community | We will share our produce with the community, work towards larger harvests for charity donations, and develop the garden as a place for community gathering, education and leisure.
Several beds are designed specifically as a public herb gardens so that the community can share in the harvest. |

About membership

The garden operates as an incorporated association, Kings Cross Community Garden Incorporated, registered by NSW Fair Trading under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*. A modified version of the Model Constitution is the governing document that describes the membership rules, the committee structure and powers, the process for annual general meetings and other governance activities. The Constitution can be downloaded from our website kingscrossgarden.org.

Membership is open to individuals. As a member, you may choose to be actively involved in garden activities, participate in events and/or other management processes, or to be supporters. All members are highly valued.

The garden is located on public land controlled by the City of Sydney, and volunteers wishing to participate in community garden activities do so subject to the Terms & Conditions and Safety Guidelines set out in this agreement, as well as to any terms and conditions required by the City of Sydney.

How to join

1. **Apply:** You can use the online form available at kingscrossgarden.org/application-form. If you would prefer to use a hard copy form, please email us at kingscrossgarden@gmail.com or drop in to one of our working bees.
2. **Pay:** Once we've received your form, we'll send you an invoice for the initial membership fee, which includes setup and induction costs. This fee is \$40, and covers you until 30 June, regardless of when during the year you are joining. Once this invoice is paid, you will be admitted to the register of members. (Note that, to renew your membership after 30 June, you'll need to pay the annual membership fee, currently \$40; we'll send you a renewal invoice on 1 July each year.)
3. **Induction:** As soon as possible after you've paid, we'll arrange a mutually suitable time to meet you in the garden for an induction, so we can explain how the garden works, council rules, and safety requirements.

You can then participate in garden activities to whatever extent you want.

Terms & Conditions

Participation

- Members are encouraged to participate in one or more of the teams looking after the different areas of the garden (see [special interest groups](#) on our website). This may involve attending working bees, and/or participating in the rosters for managing the garden, such as watering, composting, weeding, worm farm management and other tasks as allocated by the Committee or garden coordinators.
- Members are also encouraged to attend workshops and other garden events, whether or not they are actively participating in a garden team. The Committee will inform all members about events by email, social media and/or our website www.kingscrossgarden.org.
- The garden is managed under organic gardening principles. Members must follow guidelines for composting materials and worm farms. Only approved garden workers should add material directly to the composting bins/worm farms.
- Harvested produce will be shared among those members attending working bees, with excess to be available for other members to collect. Herbs and leafy greens may be collected in small amounts as available.
- The garden will not be used for commercial gain.

Gardening together

- Members must treat each other and other users of the garden with respect and kindness.
- Any disputes or conflicts will be managed by the garden coordinators and the Committee, who are committed to resolving issues fairly and quickly. The Committee has the final say on a member's continuing membership, which may be revoked if necessary.
- Members should report any issues to the Committee by email to kingscrossgarden@gmail.com.

Safety

- Members must accept the Kings Cross Community Garden Safety Guidelines including the use of personal protective equipment (gloves and masks as appropriate), safe use of equipment and management of risks including sharps found in the garden, and use of the first aid kit.

KINGS CROSS COMMUNITY GARDEN SAFETY GUIDELINES August 2023

1. All members must attend an onsite induction by a garden Committee Member and be aware of potential onsite risks and how to reduce the likelihood of getting injured.
2. Gardeners are expected to supply their own approved personal protective equipment to protect feet and hands, and must wear COVERED SHOES and SUITABLE GLOVES when gardening.
3. Garden design will incorporate safety features and the Committee will regularly monitor hazards, risks and safety issues.
4. A clearly marked FIRST AID KIT will be readily available in the garden shed.
5. The garden should be checked for syringes, glass and other sharp or dangerous objects before a gardening session.

If you find syringes or other sharp objects, follow the sharps pick-up protocol:

- PUT ON GLOVES: DO NOT HANDLE SYRINGE & DO NOT PUT CAP BACK ON SYRINGE
- Inform the Garden Coordinator who will bring sharps container (Yellow Box) to the syringe (NOT syringe to sharps container)
- Open lid of sharps container
- Pick up the syringe with tweezers (Nifty Nabber) and place (sharp end first) in container
- The Garden Coordinator will contact the needle hotline clean up on 1800 633 353 when the container is full.

BEST PRACTICE – SAFETY IN THE GARDEN

General requirements:

- Garden members must be 18 years and over; children must be supervised by a responsible adult.
- Dogs are not allowed in the garden, except assistance animals, which must be leashed at all times.
- Members must treat each other with respect, and work together in a safe and harmonious way.

Use of personal protective equipment (PPE):

- Wear covered shoes at all times.
- Wear sun protection, suitable gloves and masks as appropriate.

Safe use of tools:

- Be careful when carrying tools – make sure there is no-one behind or beside you who could be hit, and put unused tools out of the way. Wash and dry all tools after use and store safely in shed.
- Carry tools in your hands rather than over the shoulder to avoid hitting people.
- Do not lay tools across paths or in long grass or other vegetation where they cannot be seen.
- Place pointed forks or rakes with blades down, facing the earth.
- Do not use power tools or machinery unless supervised by a garden coordinator.

Safe use of garden materials:

- Only prepare approved organic controls under the guidance of a garden coordinator or adviser with experience and knowledge of procedures.
- Be careful when preparing or using organic controls which may cause injury, e.g. chili spray.
- Wash all produce before eating or cooking.
- Store materials neatly and safely in their designated area so that they do not leak, or encourage rats or cockroaches or create a trip hazard or fall on people from a height.
- Wear a mask and gloves when handling potting mix and mulch.

Safe garden practices

- Avoid sunburn and dehydration by wearing a hat, protective clothing and sunscreen, and drinking water during the day. Wear sunglasses.
- Avoid touching or handling insects you find in the garden unless you know what you are doing.
- Check before lifting tools or pots that there are no spiders underneath.
- Keep gates closed, and pathways clear, level and free of weeds.
- Alert a garden coordinator or Committee member if you become aware of any hazard or safety issue.