

## **INTEREST GROUP POLICIES**

### **AAUW Ann Arbor Branch**

1. Groups must accept responsibility for branch activities and promote the welfare of the branch. At each group meeting, time should be scheduled (preferably at the beginning) to give announcements of branch activities. Upon request, groups will be responsible for assisting the social chairs at designated branch meetings.
2. A copy of the year's hostess schedule, and membership list with contact information is to be sent to the President-Elect by November 1. The President-Elect and the Interest Group Calendar Editor should be notified of changed or rescheduled meeting dates.
3. Groups may use AAUW members as speakers or invite guest presenters. The branch policy is that groups should not pay their speakers.
4. Each group chair shall keep complete records of the year's activities, to be turned over to the incoming chair. The chair shall maintain communication with the group regarding scheduled activities and speakers. The group chair will send an annual report, directory information, and the name of the incoming chair to the President-Elect by May 15.
5. Any person eligible for AAUW membership may be taken to one interest group meeting. House guests are welcome at branch or group meetings. *[Same as # 11 in General Policies]*
6. Group membership is open to any branch member. Some groups, by their nature, must be limited in size. Additional groups on the same subject may be formed if there is enough interest.
7. Branch members may visit any group meeting after first contacting the chair or hostess before that meeting. The President-Elect is encouraged to attend one meeting of each group during the year and would appreciate being invited if a special event is occurring.
8. Groups may have members who are not eligible for AAUW membership and they shall be known as Community Members who pay local dues for the privilege of participating and may attend branch meetings but may not vote or serve on committees.
9. Anyone eligible for AAUW membership must pay AAUW dues. EXCEPTION: The longstanding Couples Gourmet Interest Group is the exception to the above membership rule. Only one member of the couple must join AAUW and pay full dues.
10. Group chairs should consult the President-Elect on any matter of policy or

practice before the group takes any action, which might affect the branch. Changes to the established meeting calendar must be cleared with the President-Elect.

11 A small fee may be voted by the group members to cover the cost of materials: this fee should be reviewed each year by the group.

12. Cancellation of interest groups due to inclement weather is at the discretion of the host. We DO NOT follow the Ann Arbor Public Schools 'school closing' guidelines.

*Revised February 2016*

*Policies may be changed by a majority vote of the Board members present and voting.*