

## So you want to start a Humanist community?

### Humanism and Humanists Australia

Humanism is a philosophy of life that values applying reason to solve human problems and showing empathy for all human beings and sentient life. Humanists value democratic institutions, diversity and respect for human rights. In that, humanists do not believe in or rely upon any supernatural entities to intervene in human affairs. Human progress is up to us. [Humanists Australia](#) (HA) is a national membership organisation for humanists set up in December 2020 to further the humanist way of thinking and acting in Australia. HA is a member of [Humanists International](#).

### Purpose

Thank you for your interest in starting a HA community in your area. HA is committed to building humanist communities all around Australia for the purposes of fostering a sense of belonging and engaging people from all walks of life in the humanist philosophy and activities. Activities of current communities include discussion groups, picnics, walking, cultural activities and book clubs, for example. Your group will have autonomy to decide what kinds of activities to organise (consistent with [Humanist values](#)).

### Process

The HA Communities Working Group will review your application and discuss with you your expectations and next steps within 14 days.

### Community Rules

Community leaders are required to be financial members of HA and adhere to the [HA Code of Conduct](#). Our Communities encourage active participation from

all kinds of people, regardless of ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation and political affiliation. Community leaders are expected to communicate HA diversity and inclusion rules and moderate the group so that all members feel safe and welcome at all times.

## Support provided by HA

HA provides a Meetup group, insurance (for events organised by HA members) and some financial assistance to communities for marketing and running events. HA will also advertise community events on the national website and eNewsletters.

Leaders are expected to maintain their HA membership and encourage their community members to join HA. Leaders are also expected to manage funds transparently and responsibly.

HA Community Leaders have the support of a network of other community leaders from around Australia.

\*\*\*

## Expressions of Interest

To express interest in becoming a HA community leader or helping to establish a new community in your area, please contact the Communities Working Group at [communities@humanistsaustralia.org](mailto:communities@humanistsaustralia.org). A member of the working group will then contact you to discuss your interest and offer support in moving forward.