

Anonymity in open zoom meetings

1)A Zoom meeting is no different to an open meeting or a public meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. If we are at an open meeting we are quite visible to any member of the public that decides to come along. If members are aware that it is an open meeting then they have a choice whether to attend. Each member is entitled to the level of anonymity that they choose, so long as it is below the level of press, radio, films and social media.

We trust God, that only people with a desire to stop drinking or an interest in alcoholism would attend a Zoom meeting.

2) Groups can decide to run a closed Zoom meeting where you only give the link to those you know to join the meeting. This could be advertised on the website as closed.

The suggestions set out below are from A.A World Services for members can make an informed decisions around Zoom meetings

ZOOM MEETINGS PROTECTING ANONYMITY & DEFAULT SETTINGS

For Zoom users:

With the move to online meetings, we want to pass on best practices for protecting anonymity. These have been curated from the membership and online resources.

Zoom meetings can be are publicly accessible and full names and faces are often displayed. Additionally, by default all Zoom meetings are recorded to the cloud. Turning that feature off is simple, fortunately.

There are other settings in the Meeting subtab that can also be adjusted, such as disallowing remote control of devices, file transfer, data sharing with Zoom, and screen sharing.

Here are some suggested settings for your meeting to use. Please note that most, if not all, of the settings below are not the Zoom default:

Go to: Settings > Recording and click off the Local and Cloud recording features.

In the Zoom Settings section, under the Meeting subtab:

- Require Encryption for Third Party Endpoints
- Disable Auto saving chats
- Disable File transfer
- Disable Feedback to Zoom
- Disable Screen sharing
- Disable desktop/screen share for users
- Disable Remote control

- Allow Virtual background (this is the Zoom default and allows the user to use a virtual background instead of the inside of their apartment, for example)

In the Zoom Settings section, under the Recording subtab:

- Disable Local recording
- Disable Cloud recording
- Disable Automatic recording