

UNIT CODE OF CONDUCT

The following document comprises a series of guidelines on a number of topical issues considered important by the Unit. This document was created by the Unit, for the benefit of the Unit and is designed to be reviewed annually by the Unit members.

These guidelines describe what actions, language and dress code that the Unit Members feel is acceptable and, what is not acceptable.

The guidelines list the action that will be taken if these rules are broken or ignored by any member. The Unit will “self police” these policies.

LANGUAGE

- No swearing at any leader, helper or other adult at any time is considered appropriate.
- No personal abuse to any fellow Explorer Scout is permitted
- *Punishment:* a reprimand by Leader and a reminder of these rules

ALCOHOL

- Scout Association guidelines (2006) states they recommend that no one under the age of 18 will be allowed to consume any kind of drink containing alcohol whilst on a Scout activity of any nature. This is in line with current Law and Government recommendations.
- Alcohol Beer, Cider and wine is considered acceptable by Unit members. All spirits (Cocktails, alcopops) are not acceptable.
- The appropriate place for the consumption of alcohol (with parental permission) would be at a Unit Social function e.g. our Birthday Review or possibly with a meal when on camp.
- Permission must be sought from a leader and the alcohol consumed in the same room as the leader.
- No unit member is to bring alcohol to any function.
 - *Punishment:* next function is to be alcohol free

BULLYING

- Is considered totally unacceptable at any time. Bullying can be physical, verbal or mental.
- All incidences of bullying are to be reported to a leader.

DRUGS

- The Explorer Unit will not tolerate any use of illegal drugs. This includes possession, selling, taking and offering of drugs to others. If a member of the Unit is found to have breached this trust, this will certainly lead to expulsion after discussion with members of the Unit, the Unit Leaders and the District Explorer Leader.
- *Punishment:*
 - On a case by case basis: 1st offence, Unit leader, District leader and Parents to be involved.
 - 2nd offence, Parents and Police to be involved.

SMOKING

- Is permitted for those members who are 16 or older and in the appropriate place – outdoors, and in a designated smoking area – i.e. away from everyone else. However, event leaders and fellow Explorers wishes must be taken into account.
- Smoking is not permitted when in uniform.
- *Punishment:*
 - 1st offence, a reprimand by Leader and a reminder of these rules.
 - 2nd offence, suspension.

PROTOCOL WHEN "ON PARADE"

- "On parade" is defined as – start and end of Unit Meeting; District or Area function (or similar). Everyone is to look appropriate and make good use of one's time. Uniform to be worn with buttons done up and scarf/woggle worn appropriately. Talking, pushing and general "mucking around" is considered unacceptable.
- *Punishment:*
 - 1st offence, a reprimand by Leader and a reminder of these rules.
 - 2nd offence, left out of next activity.

SEX

- The 2004 "sex act" states that it is illegal for anyone under 16 (consenting or otherwise) to engage in acts of sexual intercourse.
- There will be no mixed sleeping arrangements between Unit members on any activity.
- There will be no activities of a sexual nature of any description between Unit members during any Explorer events, camps or activities.
- Although it is recognised that building relationships are important to young people, the Unit leaders have a responsibility to ensure that all Unit members behave sensibly if close relationships between Unit members occur. The parties involved are expected to abide by these rules when on a Unit activity at all times.
- While on camps, Unit members may not enter the tents of the opposite sex at any time unless there is a serious emergency.
- *Punishment:*
 - 1st offence, a reprimand by Leader and a reminder of these rules.
 - 2nd offence, left out of next activity.

ATTENDANCE, COMMUNICATION, AND RESPONSE

- The Unit runs a balanced programme over 12 months with many activities and camps. The leadership team accepts that it is not always possible to make every meeting – however, please try and let a leader know if you are unable to make an activity.
- Communication is carried out in a number of ways – a programme is issued at the beginning of every term; it is also published on our web site. In addition to the programme, a text messages will be used to update unit members. If this message asks for a reply – it is very important that you respond with a yes or no. Certain activities are limited by numbers.
- *Punishment: If you do not respond and subsequently turn up, you will not be able to participate in that activity.*

GENERAL DO'S AND DON'TS

- Do wear uniform to every meeting unless told otherwise.
- Do take an active part in activities and meetings – or please go home.
- Do tell people if you can't make meetings
- Don't leave it until the last minute to find out what is going on
- Don't let games get out of hand
- Do act in a mature way
- Do have fun!