

DRUGS, SMOKING & ALCOHOL POLICY

Failure to comply with the following Policies may lead to a member being required to show cause to the Region Commissioner and possibly the Chief Commissioner, as to their ongoing future within the Association.

1. SMOKING

- 1.1** Recognising the legal implications regarding passive smoking all buildings situated on properties owned or controlled by The Scout Association NSW have been declared 'Smoke Free' areas. All those people using any of our buildings are to be made aware of this by signage and other appropriate means.
- 1.2** Youth members will not be allowed to smoke, as we have a duty of care to ensure we are providing a safe environment, and we also recognise the intent of the Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 that tobacco products are not be possessed by persons under the age of 18 years.
- 1.3** Possession or use of tobacco products by any youth member under the age of 18 years, at any Scouting activity, will result in the product being confiscated. Continued possession may lead to removal from the activity.
- 1.4** Smoking, by adults, whether Members, Supporters, Parents, Contractors or Employees:
 - 1.4.1** Whilst at Scout meetings and activities may only occur off-site
 - 1.4.2** Out of sight of youth members;
 - 1.4.3** Far enough away from youth members that they cannot smell the smoke;
 - 1.4.4** At a place that will not allow the effects of smoking to enter any Scout building and (subject to 1.4.5) not closer than 5 metres of any Scout property boundary.
 - 1.4.5** Where the size of the property is such that is not practical for someone to leave the site to smoke, the Association may consider identifying a discreet location on-site that meets the requirements of 1.4.2 through 1.4.4 inclusive. The NSW Scoutsafe Committee must approve the identification of such a location.
- 1.5** Adults smoking in uniform (as defined by The Scout Associations' NSW insurer); when in view of the public should be discreet and aware that their smoking could reflect negatively on the Association.
- 1.6** Contractors, workers and employees must observe the appropriate Workcover and Work Health Safety & Environment smoking rules and whilst on any Scout property not breaches the requirements of 1.4.

2. DRUGS AND DRUG ABUSE

The Association strongly deplores the increasing misuse and abuse of all drugs within the community. While not defining guidelines as in the case of smoking and alcoholic drinks, The Association reminds all Leaders and Supporters that Federal and State laws specifically cover the subject. Members should make themselves conversant with these laws.

Possession or use of "prohibited drugs" by any adult or youth member at any Scouting activity will result in that person being required to leave the activity immediately and in the case of youth members, parents will be advised of the reasons for such action. Police will be advised in any case of suspected illicit drug possession and/or use.

3. ALCOHOLIC DRINKS

While the Scout Association is not teetotal, our responsibilities to youth, their parents / guardians and other members require adults to be particularly circumspect in regard to the consumption of alcohol while taking part in Scouting activities. In particular, Leaders and Rovers must never allow themselves to be placed in a position where there can be any suggestion that the consumption of alcohol may have affected their ability to exercise proper care of members and activities under their charge or supervision.

- 3.1** Joey Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts and Venturer Scouts are not permitted to consume alcoholic drinks at Scouting meetings, activities or any other function they attend as a representative of the Scout Movement.
- 3.2** Rovers and Leaders are not permitted to consume alcoholic drinks during Joey Scout, Cub Scout, Scout or Venturer Scout meetings or activities except as provided in 3.3 and 3.4 below. Rovers and Leaders shall not consume alcoholic drinks immediately before attending Joey Scout, Cub Scout, Scout and Venturer Scout meetings or activities.
- 3.3** With the approval of the Chief Commissioner or Region Commissioner, alcoholic drinks may be consumed in moderation at formal Scouting functions where accepted convention would normally permit the serving of pre-dinner drinks and table wines with meals.
- 3.4** With the prior written approval of the Chief Commissioner or Region Commissioner, and only under suitable

circumstances in an area not available to youth members of the Association, alcoholic drinks may be consumed in moderation by Rovers, Leaders and other adults at a Scouting function or activity which lasts several days (such as a Jamboree, Jamborette).

- 3.5** While it is not to be encouraged, Scout premises may be made available for activities at which it is intended that alcoholic drinks will be consumed (such as wedding receptions, birthday celebrations), but only where such use is not prohibited by any law, regulation or prior agreement. The premises must be cleaned immediately (not left to the next day) and all empty and full containers for alcoholic beverages removed.