

Policy Document:

Code of Conduct

Last updated: December 2021

Last reviewed: December 2021

1. Overview

- 1.1. This Policy Document aims to outline the behaviour SSAGO expects from its members.

2. Behaviour

2.1. General Behaviour

- 2.1.1. Behaviour, which is not in the nature of Scouting or Guiding, will not be tolerated.
- 2.1.2. Any actions which bring the reputation of SSAGO, The Scout Association or Girlguiding UK into disrepute will be dealt with by the National SSAGO Executive.

2.2. Alcohol

- 2.2.1. Where our members drink we encourage them to do so sensibly, and for clubs to adopt a rational approach to drinking.
- 2.2.2. We actively encourage the membership to monitor and police itself in terms of what is acceptable and unacceptable drinking behaviour.
- 2.2.3. Alcohol is not an excuse for poor behaviour, inappropriate behaviour propagated under the effects of alcohol will not be more favourably viewed, that acts committed when sober.
- 2.2.4. No body under the age of 18 must consume alcohol whilst participating in any activity under the banner of SSAGO, Scouting or Guiding. Anybody who does will be breaking the law and so appropriate action will be taken.
- 2.2.5. Any body found to be supplying alcohol to a person under the age of 18 is also breaking the law and will have appropriate action taken against them.
- 2.2.6. Events may have a designated alcohol free space and members should respect this.

2.3. Illegal Substances

- 2.3.1. The use of illegal substances of any kind will not be tolerated at SSAGO events.
- 2.3.2. Where usage is known or suspected the police shall be called immediately, and The Scouts, Girlguiding and their University shall be informed.
- 2.3.3. The individual will be suspended immediately and asked to leave the event, at their own cost, and will be subject to further disciplinary action.
- 2.4. National Event Conduct
 - 2.4.1. The implicit nature of a SSAGO National Event means there are large numbers of people coming together.
 - 2.4.2. Any SSAGO Clubs or Events may set down any additional rules around behaviour or conduct as they see fit.
 - 2.4.3. All participants should conduct themselves in accordance with this policy and any rules given by the event, considering those around them.
 - 2.4.4. Members should conduct themselves in a manner that would be appreciated by all members.
 - 2.4.5. Members should accept and respond to reasonable requests made by the National Event organisers, the National Exec and other members regarding their behaviour.
 - 2.4.6. SSAGO operates a watershed policy on the singing of campfire songs inappropriate for young people at national events. Such songs may only be sung at the campsite after midnight, or other time agreed by the event organisers and SSAGO Exec, and after a warning has been given to those in attendance and there are no young people present. Individuals singing these songs at National SSAGO events before midnight, in the presence of young people, or without such warning may be subject to disciplinary action.
 - 2.4.7. Members should respect the neighbours and public surrounding the event and be mindful of the noise they cause.
- 2.5. Online Behaviour
 - 2.5.1. SSAGO members should act in a Scout and Guide like fashion on SSAGO online platforms including but not limited to:
 - 2.5.1.1. On the official SSAGO social media platforms;
 - 2.5.1.2. On the SSAGO Discord server; Emails to and from SSAGO emails.

- 2.5.1.3. In direct and group messages relating to SSAGO business.
- 2.5.1.4. Any other platforms advertised by SSAGO as an official communications channel between members.

3. Club Behaviour

- 3.1. Clubs or individuals may be disciplined for any of the following:
 - 3.1.1. Failure to pay membership or other money owed to SSAGO;
 - 3.1.2. Taking part in banned activities;
 - 3.1.3. Failure to submit Activity, Nights Away or other required notifications;
 - 3.1.4. Loss or damage to property;
 - 3.1.5. Behaving in an un-Scouting or Guiding fashion;
 - 3.1.6. Attending an event while suspended or banned;
 - 3.1.7. Knowingly permitting a suspended or banned club or individual to attend an event;
 - 3.1.8. Failure to abide by restrictions or conditions imposed by previous disciplinary action;
 - 3.1.9. Other deliberate breaches of SSAGO Policy;

4. Reporting

- 4.1. Where an individual or club is believed to have breached this policy members should submit a complaint to the National Exec in line with the "Complaints" policy.
- 4.2. During a National Event, issues can be reported immediately to the National Exec by phone via the SSAGO hotline. Where an issue is reported, members in the first instance will be reminded of the code of conduct and in severe or subsequent cases may be asked to leave the event at their own cost while the report is investigated.