



**Kandersteg**  
International  
Scout Centre

# Safe From Harm Policy

# 1. Introduction

Over 12000 Scouts and Guides visit Kandersteg International Scout Centre every year. The centre's success is based on many factors, and a crucial one is the ability to keep scouts safe from harm. To ensure the Centre's commitment to this matter, the KISC Association Committee has compiled several documents and policies that address potential risks to keeping our people safe from any form of harm. This is a transversal approach to ensure that the safety of our people is integrated in all aspects of our Centre. This policy consists of various other policies, which are individual documents that address specific parts of our operation. They are developed, maintained and updated individually, with the aim of contributing to the overall safety of our guests, our staff and the visitors to the Centre.

## 2. Statement

"Kandersteg International Scout Centre is committed to ensuring the safety and the well being of all guests, staff members and guests staying at KISC". Our safety commitment aims to provide a safe yet stimulating environment in which young people may develop spiritually, mentally, physically and socially, safe from harm.

## 3. Contents of Safe from Harm Policy

The SMT and Steering Committee has identified the following integral policies of the overall Safe from Harm policy, which affect KISC Guests and Staff:

- a) Risk Management Policy – external document
- b) Child Safeguarding Policy – external document
- c) Alcohol Policy (Guests) – Addendum A
- d) Alcohol Policy (Staff) – external document
- e) KISC General Rules (Staff) – external document
- f) Kitchen Hygiene Policy – external document

# Addendum A

## KISC Alcohol Policy – Guests

KISC discourages the consumption of alcohol during your stay at KISC. We believe a safe environment needs to exist for all our guests and staff; we therefore will not tolerate any excessive consumption of alcohol at the KISC property, and will also hold you responsible for misbehaviour as a result of excessive alcohol consumption if not on the KISC property, for example in the Kandersteg village.

KISC works hard maintaining a good relationship with the village authorities, its inhabitants, and tourists. Excessive alcohol consumption in a scouting environment, which includes the Kandersteg village, is not scout-like and will not be tolerated by the KISC management.

KISC does not sell alcohol to guests, except under specially regulated circumstances and with explicit approval of the KISC director. Though we discourage alcohol consumption, KISC is not an entirely alcohol free centre. The majority of guests are under aged children and youth. We therefore expect from all our guests to be role models and reduce the consumption of alcohol to a minimum, if at all. Drunken behaviour is NOT tolerated on our property and may lead to removal from the KISC property.

### 1. Special circumstances

We understand that alcohol may be consumed on some special occasions. We do not forbid such occasions, but you require a special permission from the director, allowing us to regulate the consumption of alcohol on our premises. See section 3 below.

### 2. Legal framework

In any case, KISC conforms to Swiss legal requirements regarding the sale of alcohol. Note that your country may have different rules and regulations. These do not legally apply in Switzerland. We therefore explain the Swiss regulation below, followed by an explanation about the special permit required from the KISC Director.

Swiss law prohibits the sale or free distribution of:

- Wine, beer and cider to under 16-year-olds
- Spirits, aperitifs and alcopops to under 18-year-olds

If in doubt on the age of the adolescent client/ customer, an official ID is required. Also, a clearly visible sign is to be installed at the point of sale, indicating the sales restrictions.

### 3. Special permission KISC Director

The KISC Committee has set the following requirements for a special permission to be obtained from the KISC Director in case the group leadership wishes to consume alcohol on the KISC property. Without this permission, alcohol consumption will not be tolerated and may lead to removal of your group from the KISC premises.

#### **a. Group activity with alcohol**

The group leadership affirms in writing to oversee the consumption of limited amounts of alcoholic drinks, in congruence with the Swiss law as explained above. This means that KISC may deliver, if the special permission has been granted by the KISC Director, limited amounts of wine and beer for consumption by people over 16. The group leadership remains fully responsible to adhere to Swiss law and to KISC regulations and is expected to discourage alcoholic consumption by young people under his/her care.

#### **b. KISC organised activity with alcohol**

During International Evenings, limited amounts of beverages or drinks containing alcohol may be allowed, as brought in by guests to demonstrate and introduce their country's specialties in the framework of a display of the culture of the country. This is also pending permission by the KISC Director. In such cases, there will be instructions indicating responsible consumption of alcohol.

#### **c. Private guest consumption**

Solely in the privacy of their own rooms or campsites, guests may responsibly consume alcohol as long as this does not cause any form of offence to other guests. Alcohol is not tolerated in public areas of the Centre, except as explained under events operating under the special permission of the KISC director in sections "a" and "b" hereof.