

# INTOXICATING SUBSTANCES POLICY

Woodcraft Folk DFs



**Approved by:** DF Committee

**Document owner:** DF Safeguarding Representative

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Previous versions of this policy are available on request. Please contact the DF Secretary via [email](#).

The most up-to-date copy of this policy will always be accessible via [spanthat.world/files/policy/substances](https://spanthat.world/files/policy/substances).

Any references to this policy should use the link above.

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## Scope

This policy applies to everyone present at DF Events.

## Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to inform people at DF Events about the expectations surrounding intoxicating substances at events. It should be read in the opening circle of every event, along with the Consent Policy.

## Related Documents

- Complaints Procedure, Woodcraft Folk, email the secretary for access;
- Safeguarding Procedures, Woodcraft Folk DFs, [spanthat.world/files/policy/safeguarding](https://spanthat.world/files/policy/safeguarding).

The policy starts overleaf.

# 1 Policy

We are an inclusive young person's movement and therefore will sometimes have problems with intoxicating substances.

As an organisation our primary goal is to make sure people are safe. Safeguarding incidents can arise from both legal and illegal substances. It is important to emphasize that the legality of a substance has little bearing on how safe it is. We are volunteers, not police, however, everyone must be aware that illegal substance use remains illegal at DF events.

Never be afraid to come to an on-shift Coordinator, First-Aider or MEST-UP rep if you are worried about the safety or wellbeing of yourself or others. There will always be designated responsible people (including MEST-UP, First Aid, event coordinator) and they will be identifiable by wearing a hi-vis jacket and will remain sober on shift. Keep in mind that these people are volunteers. We all have collective responsibility to the community on DF events.

We aim to create an inclusive and safe atmosphere at all of our events, and that includes people not feeling peer pressure. Be aware that behaviour can make other people feel pressured, even unintentionally. What some people feel comfortable doing may make others feel uneasy. Be mindful of the impact your actions have on others and the atmosphere you are creating. If you feel uncomfortable or peer pressured in any way, please know that you can talk to a designated person found on the Safe Tree. You can also or write a note for the comments box, which can be anonymous if you wish. Please be aware that our Safeguarding Procedures mean that if you share something serious with a designated person, it may be in the best interest of you and the event that it is passed on to higher levels of our safeguarding structure. Any complaints received will be dealt with according to the process laid out in our policies. Coercion is always unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

DF volunteers will not try to search you bags, rooms, tents or bushes. However, anyone who is found to be involved in drug dealing on a DF event will be asked to leave immediately. Further action may be taken including contacting external bodies if deemed necessary. Selling alcohol to under-18s or buying alcohol on the behalf of under-18s remains illegal on DF events. If a complaint is made about drug dealing then Woodcraft Folk's complaints procedure will be brought into effect.

If a complaint is made, or your actions are making people uncomfortable or pressured, we will intervene and the matter will be investigated by the coordinating team and the appropriate members of DF Committee. The safeguarding procedure will be followed and further action may be taken, including expulsion from the event.

Smoking and the use of vapes is prohibited on site with the exception of the smoking area. There is a designated smoking area [points at smoking area]. Smoking in personal tents and indoors is not only a risk to yourself, but to everyone on camp.