

CONSENT POLICY

Woodcraft Folk DFs



Approved by: DF Committee

Document owner: DF Safeguarding Rep

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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/consent.

Any references to this policy should use the link above.

Scope

This policy applies to everyone who is attending a DF event across the whole site. This policy is active for the entire duration of the event.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to lay out the expectations of everyone at all DF events regarding consent to intimate behaviour.

Related Documents

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

The policy starts overleaf.

1 Introduction

In DFs everyone has the right to feel welcome, to feel comfortable, and to feel safe. Be friendly, respect boundaries. Do not expect everyone to have the same boundaries as you, be sensitive and respectful of all other people.

Before sharing any intimate behaviour such as hugs, sexual acts etc, with another person, remember that you must have consent.

Consent means positive affirmation and is necessary for each and every time, for every act. No means no and only yes means yes.

This affirmation must be explicit and non-coercive, “maybe”, “not yet”, “I’m not sure” do not count as giving consent.

Any forms of peer pressure will not be tolerated. If an individual has been affected by peer pressure, explicit or not, they cannot consent.

Sexual arousal does not count as consent. If you are uncertain, ask. If you are not comfortable with asking for explicit consent, stop, until you are.

You must accept “no”, either verbally or through body language, as an answer without questioning the person’s reasons.

Threatening and/or coaxing people into saying yes does not count as getting consent, this is an example of coercion. A person may change their mind and withdraw consent at any time, this must be respected.

If someone is impaired due to intoxicating substances or otherwise they cannot consent. If you are under the influence of intoxicating substances you must still get consent. You will be held equally responsible for your actions whether you are sober or otherwise.

2 How to help

We encourage DFs to look out for their each other. Don’t be afraid to check in with someone, you can report incidents you witness or experience anonymously via the comments ‘box’.

There will be a comments ‘box’ available (Give place and appearance of box) for you to report anything that might be worrying you, including behaviour that breaks consent. The comments box will be dealt with according to our complaints procedure.

There are MEST-UP reps on duty at all times who are trained in mediation and support and are there to support you with any concerns relating to consent. Safeguarding issues will be progressed up the safeguarding tree, as necessary.

Any behaviour that breaks consent will be dealt with according to our safeguarding policy which is displayed (tell them where they can find a printed copy).

A summary poster of this policy will be on display at every event.

3 Explicit Consent List, if there are any further questions on the subject

- Consent for one act does **not** count as consent for any other
- Consent at one time does **not** count as consent at any other
- **Not** saying “no” is not consent
- **Not** saying “yes” when asked, is **not** consent
- Ambiguous answers, e.g, “maybe” or changing the subject, are **not** consent
- Coaxing a yes out of someone is **not** consent
- Threatening a yes out of someone is **not** consent
- If someone changes their mind you **no longer** have consent
- If someone is aroused, this does **not** mean they consent
- Someone who is impaired due to intoxicating substances or otherwise **cannot** consent
- If you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs you **must still** obtain consent
- If someone is unconscious they **cannot** consent

This is **not** an exhaustive list of forms of non consensual situations.

Consent is freely given, clear affirmation that you would like to experience whatever intimate act is being suggested, sexual or otherwise.