

1st BINGHAM 'POLARIS' ESU

UNIT CONSTITUTION

The ethos of Polaris Explorer Scout Unit can be summarised as: Leave a place, situation or person as good as or better than you found it. To help us achieve this we will keep in mind "Don't be a dick".

Below is the written constitution of 1st Bingham 'Polaris' ESU.

General Behaviour

The Unit expects good behaviour from all Young People and adults at all times. If your behaviour is considered silly or annoying, you will be asked to stop. Damaging property (deliberately or accidentally), physical violence and bullying are considered as poor behaviour.

Bullying

Bullying in any form will not be tolerated in the Unit. Persistent name calling, fighting, racism and deliberately leaving people out are included in bullying. An action is considered bullying if the recipient or anyone else considers it so.

Swearing

Mild swearing is tolerated if kept to a minimal level. There must be an apology if someone finds the language used offensive.

Attendance

Everyone is expected to attend Friday night meetings unless they have a valid reason not to. If you know you are unable to attend you are expected to inform the leaders of your absence, either directly or via another member of the Unit. Absence with no valid reason is not acceptable and regular non-attendance will lead to a discussion between the Leaders and the Unit member about their continued membership of the Unit. Important events (St Georges Day, Post delivering etc.) should be attended by all members of the Unit (Leaders and Young People).

Punctuality

The meeting starts at 7:45pm, therefore everyone should arrive by 7:40 so we can begin on time. If someone knows they will be late then they should inform someone (preferably a Leader) beforehand. Lateness is impolite, anyone who is late will be asked to make tea, do the washing-up and do any other menial tasks that need doing on the night. Changes in start time will be informed by email in advance.

Subs

Subs for the year are due on the first of October and may be paid termly on the first of October January, April and July or paid up to the following October. The Cabinet will determine the level of subs for the following year. Subs must be paid within 4 weeks and late payers will receive a final warning after 3 weeks.

Uniform

There is no need to wear uniform on a Friday meeting at Church House or on an outside activity unless it's a formal visit somewhere. All members will wear a necker (not necessarily 1st Bingham) at all times on camps when it is safe to do so. All Unit members need to wear an Explorer Scout shirt when asked, but do not necessarily have to own one. The Unit can loan members a shirt for an event which must be returned straight after the event. All members will be given one adult 1st Bingham necker upon investiture; any replacements must be bought.

Tobacco (including E-Cigarettes)

Smoking is to be heavily discouraged and is not be permitted Friday night. If someone is already smoker then on a longer event it will be allowed under restrictions: it should be done individually; kept to a minimum; and away from the rest of the Unit.

Alcohol

Alcohol may not be consumed at a Friday night meeting and any Unit member attending a Friday night meeting who appears to be intoxicated may be asked to leave. On an overnight meeting or a camp over 18s may consume alcohol but must abide by restrictions. Alcohol may not be consumed before "pudding o'clock" which is usually 9pm and the consumption of alcohol must be in moderation and not affect ability to participate in the rest the event.

Any leader may confiscate alcohol from any individual at any time if necessary. If any young person thinks someone needs alcohol confiscating (including from another Leader) they should speak to a Leader to do so.

Electronics

The Unit and Leaders accept no responsibility for loss or damage to any electronic device on a camp or Friday night meeting.

Fridays:

Use of mobile phones will be discouraged during Friday night meetings as they cause distractions and prevent the smooth running of activities; if a Leader requests it they should be put away immediately.

Camps:

Games consoles and music players:

These are allowed for use on journeys to and from a camp; the use of headphones is strongly encouraged. These devices may be used during free time. Recharging of devices is strongly discouraged while on camp and will be unplugged if left unattended.

Mobile phones and internet-enabled devices on camp:

The use of the devices during the camp will be allowed for essential reasons (exam results, weather forecast etc.). If the Leaders suspect that these devices are being used inappropriately (for bullying/viewing inappropriate web content etc.) warnings will be given and the device may be confiscated for the rest of the event. The recharging of these devices is strongly discouraged while on camp and may be unplugged if left unattended.

Discipline Procedure

The Unit expects good behaviour from all members and any discipline will be proportionate to the offence. It is expected that most misdemeanours will be minor and require no more than a verbal reprimand. If the behaviour endangers the individual or any other member a Leader may remove the individual from an activity. Cabinet members will be consulted if the behaviour of an individual requires them to be sent home from a Friday night meeting or a camp.