

## Chapter 1

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### 101 Definition

The Association is governed by its Constitution as an independent, non-political, non-governmental, non-profit and educational movement for boys and girls and adults open to all without distinction of origin, race or creed, in accordance with the purpose, principles and method of the Scout Movement conceived by the founder Robert Baden Powell and stated below.

### 102 Aim

The aim of the Association is to contribute to the development of boys, girls and young adults in achieving their full potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities by:

- Developing their character;
- Training them in citizenship;
- Developing their spiritual, social, intellectual, and physical qualities;

### 103 Principles

The Scout Movement is based on the following principles:

- **Duty to God:**  
Adherence to spiritual principles, loyalty to the religion that expresses them and acceptance of the duties resulting therefrom.
- **Duty to others:**  
Loyalty to one's country in harmony with the promotion of local, national and international peace, understanding and co-operation. Participation in the development of society with recognition and respect for the dignity of one's fellows and for the integrity of the natural world.
- **Duty to self:**  
Responsibility for the development of oneself.

### 104 Method

The Scout Method is a system of progressive self-education through:

- A Promise and Law.
- Learning by doing.
- Membership of small groups (e.g. the patrol) involving, under adult guidance, progressive discovery and acceptance of responsibility and training towards self-government directed towards the development of character and the acquisition of competence, self-reliance, dependability and capacities both to co-operate and to lead.
- Progressive and stimulating programmes of varied activities based on the interests of the participants, including games, useful skills, and services to the community, taking place largely in an outdoor setting in contact with nature.

### 105 Membership

105.1 Membership of the Association is voluntary.

- 105.2 Membership of the Association is open to all boys and girls and adults irrespective of origin, race, creed, sect or class who accept and adhere to the principles of the Movement and who make the Scout or Cub Promise as the case may be.
- 105.3 In addition to membership defined above, lay membership is open to all persons who accept and adhere to the aim and principles as defined above.
- 105.4 The following are considered to be members of the Association so long as they are properly serving in the positions enumerated:
- 105.4.1 SCOUTS who are members of a registered Group, or who are registered as Lone Scouts, Lone Rovers;
  - 105.4.2 SCOUTERS who hold Warrants in terms of Chapter 3;
  - 105.4.3 Probationary SCOUTERS who hold Temporary Permits in terms of Chapter 3;
  - 105.4.4 Persons holding designated or Honorary Ranks (Rule 302) and persons registered as members of the South African Fellowship of Former Scouts;
  - 105.4.5 Members Of Group Committees (Rule 622);
  - 105.4.6 Members Of Local Associations (Rule 506);
  - 105.4.7 Members Of Regional Scout Councils (Rule 418);
  - 105.4.8 Members Of Provincial Scout Councils (Rule 406);
  - 105.4.9 Members Of The National Scout Council and its subsidiary Councils (Rule 202);
  - 105.4.10 Associate members, who may be persons or bodies corporate, appointed annually by The National Scout Council in recognition of good service to the movement;
  - 105.4.11 Affiliate Members, being specialist interest groups involving scouts and friends of the Movement which are admitted as such to operate nationally or in a Province by resolution of the relevant Provincial Scout Council on such terms and conditions as the National or Provincial Scout Council, as appropriate, from time to time stipulates. The Council appointing an affiliate member shall have the right at any time to withdraw the appointment.
- 105.5 Notwithstanding any other means provided in POR, the membership of the Association of any person, or anybody of persons, may be determined by resolution of the National Scout Council, which body shall not be under any obligation to state its reasons for such actions.

## **106 The Scout Promise**

On investiture, Scouts and Rover Scouts make, or where appropriate, re-affirm the Scout Promise.

### **The Scout Promise is:**

"On my honour I promise that I will do my best. To do my duty to God, and my country. To help other people at all times. To obey the Scout Law."

## **107 The Cub Promise**

On investiture a Cub makes the following Promise:

### **The Cub Promise is:**

"I promise to do my best. To do my duty to God, and my country. To keep the Law of the Wolf Cub Pack and to do a good turn to somebody every day."

## **108 Promise By Adults**

- 108.1 On investiture or presentation of a new Warrant, all Commissioners and Scouters (including Pack Scouters) make, or where applicable re-affirm, the Promise as in Rule 106.
- 108.2 Other members may, if they so wish, make the Promise as in Rule 106.

## **109 Variation For Religious Reasons**

In a multi-religion society there are members who, for reasons of conscience, are unable to accept the formulae of the Scout and Cub Promise in regard to "Duty to God". Provided that the intention to accept the words as implying divine guidance is sincere, the word "God" may be replaced by terms such as "Allah", "My Dharma", or "My Religion", and others as appropriate to the religion concerned.

## **110 The Scout Law, Motto and Slogan \***

110.1 The Scout Law is:

1. A Scout's honour is to be trusted.
2. A Scout is loyal.
3. A Scout's duty is to be useful and to help others.
4. A Scout is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout.
5. A Scout is courteous.
6. A Scout is a friend to animals.
7. A Scout obeys orders.
8. A Scout smiles and whistles under all difficulties.
9. A Scout is thrifty.
10. A Scout is clean in thought, word, and deed.

110.2 The Scout Motto is: "Be Prepared."

The Rover Scout Motto is: "Service."

110.3 **The Scout slogan is:**

"Scouts try their best to do at least one Good Turn to somebody every day."

## **111 The Cub Law and Motto\***

111.1 **The Cub Law is:**

"The Cub gives in to the Old Wolf, The Cub does not give in to himself (or herself)."

111.2 **The Cub Motto is:** "Do Your Best".

## **112 Religious Policy**

112.1 The Association recognises freedom of religion and expects every member to adhere to spiritual principles, to be loyal to the religion that expresses them and to accept the duties resulting there from.

112.2 Every member of the Association shall show tolerance and respect for the religious convictions of others.

112.3 Every adult member of the Association must realise the importance of the effect on young people of personal example in the implementation of Rule 112.1

112.4 If at any time a SCOUT does not belong to a religious body, the Scouter must endeavour in co-operation with the parents or guardian of the SCOUT, to put the SCOUT in touch with one. This should, if possible, be the body to which the parents belong, or into which the SCOUT may have been baptised, or otherwise introduced.

- 112.5 When a Group is composed of members of one particular form of religion, it is the duty of the Scouter to arrange such religious observances and instruction as the Scouter, in consultation with the Chaplain of the Group, or other religious authority, may consider best.
- 112.6 Where a Group is composed of members of different religions, it is the duty of the Scouter to encourage and assist SCOUTS to attend services of their own form of religion. Any form of prayer or worship used at meetings or in camp should be of the simplest character; attendance being voluntary and it being understood that those absenting themselves will spend the time in worship according to their own beliefs.
- 112.7 When the Group is engaged in weekend activities every endeavour should be made to arrange for SCOUTS to attend their own form of worship before, during, or after the activities.

Where it is not permissible under a rule of religion for any SCOUT to attend religious observances other than those of his own form of religion, the Scouter must see that this Rule is strictly observed while the SCOUT is under the Scouter's control.

### **113 Chaplains**

- 113.1 Where the structure of a religious body allows, a Senior Chaplain may be appointed to perform the following functions:
- Supervision and co-ordination of religious training in Scout Groups sponsored by that particular religious body.
  - Arrangement of appointments of Group Chaplains.
  - Arrangement, where possible, for the religious training of SCOUTS of the Chaplain's denomination in open Groups.
- 113.2 Where the structure of a religious body allows, Provincial and Regional Chaplains may be appointed to carry out the functions of a Senior Chaplain under that person's direction in a defined area.
- 113.3 Where the structure of a religious body allows, Group Chaplains may be appointed to carry out the functions defined in Rule 112.
- 113.4 The rank of Chaplain, at any level, is a Designated rank (Rule 302.2) and may be conferred on any minister of religion including lay preachers, and other authorised lay workers. The rank is conferred by the council at the appropriate level on the recommendation of the controlling authority of the religious body concerned.
- 113.5 Before appointment, Chaplains are expected to familiarise themselves with:
- The pamphlet "What is Scouting"? ;
  - The religious policy of the Association;
  - The qualification laid down for the Cub and Scout Religion and Life Badges.
- 113.6 Chaplains may wear uniform as Scouters (Rules 701 and 708), if they so desire, and badges as in Rules 801 and 809.

### **114 Combined Church Parades**

Combined church parades are permitted, but in no circumstances may a SCOUTER urge SCOUTS to attend places of worship other than those of their own form of religion except with the sanction of the parents and of the religious bodies concerned.

## **115 "Scouts' Own"**

Gatherings of SCOUTS known as a "Scouts' Own" are held for the worship of God and to promote a fuller realisation of the Scout Law and Promise. A Scout's Own is conducted as demonstrated on training courses. A Scouts' Own is supplementary to, and not in substitution for, services as defined in Rules 112.5 and 112.7. Attendance at a Scouts' Own is voluntary in the spirit of Rule 112.7.

## **116 Politics \***

116.1 The Association is not connected with any political body.

116.2 Every member shall have individual freedom of thought and action in political matters, provided that the aims of any political party to which he or she may give allegiance shall not conflict with those expressed in the Constitution. In accordance with Rule 116.3, election to parliamentary or other government office shall not alter the right to membership of the Association.

116.3 No member of the Association shall influence or involve the Association in any question of a party political nature nor shall take part as a Scout or in Scout uniform in any meeting, gathering or other occasion associated with any political party.

116.4 The Association, being a non-political body, may not render assistance to either party in an industrial dispute.

## **117 Emergencies**

If any recognised public authority announces that voluntary workers are required to avoid a grave public danger, there is no objection to a SCOUTER, with the consent of his DC, offering the assistance of the Scouter's Troop/Crew to such authority provided that no compulsion is brought to bear on any individual SCOUTS to volunteer their services; that the parents' consent is obtained; and that no penalty attaches to SCOUTS for not volunteering. Such offers of assistance must be reported by the DC to the Reg C and Provincial C forthwith.

## **118 Finance**

118.1 The Association is primarily dependent on the parents of the SCOUTS for the raising and provision of funds for its proper administration and development.

118.2 Only the National Scout Council shall have the right to make national appeals for funds.

118.3 No other general appeals to the public for donations shall be made without the prior consent of the Provincial Scout Council and the Provincial C. The Province in which such an appeal may be made must be clearly defined and strictly adhered to. This defined Province must be designated when application is made to the Provincial C for permission to proceed with the appeal.

118.4 As the spirit of the Movement is that, where SCOUTS are concerned, money should be earned, no form of begging is permitted.

## **119 The Children's Act**

SCOUTS may not take part in street trading (as defined in the Children's Act) either for their own funds or for other institutions or charities, but they may assist institutions or charities as messengers or in other capacities.

"Street trading" as defined in the Children's Act means:

- The hawking of any article and the distribution of handbills or advertisements;
- Playing, singing, or performing for profit, shoe cleaning, motorcar tending, and other like occupations carried on in a public place.

"A public place" as defined in the Children's Act means "any street, road, square, lane, park, or any railway premises, sports ground or recreation ground, or any vacant town land to which the public has access whether free or on payment of a fee".

Section 21 of the Children's Act places the onus of the offence on any person who causes a child to offend against the Act, or on the parent, guardian, or other person having custody of the child (this in certain circumstances could include the Scouter) who allows the child to offend.

The listed offences include:

- Begging or soliciting donations towards any object. (This does not apply to any child of the age of 12 years or over where the donations sought benefit neither the child, nor any of the child's relatives, nor the child's guardian, nor the owner or person in charge of the place where the child is housed or fed);
- Accompanying any person while acting as above;
- Engagement by a child under the age of 12 in "street trading" as defined above, unless the Local Authority has prescribed that such a child may carry out that form of "street trading" and the child conforms to any relevant bye-laws made by the local authority;
- Engagement by any child between the ages of 12 and 16 years in any form of "street trading" except in conformity with any bye-laws made by the local authority;
- Exhibition for public entertainment of any child under the age of 14 years except under a licence issued in terms of Section 23 of the Act.

(Provision is made in Section 23 for licences to be issued by a Commissioner for Child Welfare to perform in public).

NOTE: The effect of Section 21 is that a child may perform in public provided that neither the child nor the child's relations receive any consideration for the performances.

## **120 Illegal and Undesirable Methods of Fundraising**

120.1 All members of the Movement acting as such must observe all the provisions of this Rule 120 and must not countenance, or be concerned in, any public method of raising money for SCOUT or other purposes which is in any way contrary to the law of the land, or is likely to encourage SCOUTS in the practice of gambling.

120.2 In addition to the limitations imposed by the provisions of the Children's Act, the following Rules apply:

120.2.1 SCOUTS may not take part in any scheme outside the Movement where their appearance is required as an advertisement intended to trade on the moral status of Scouting, or as a visual attraction, usually made under the excuse of service.

120.2.2 Except at bona fide Scout Shows, SCOUTS may not appear on stages, or at any entertainment, or sports meeting, in uniform unless their appearance is authorised by their Reg C or Provincial C.

120.2.3 SCOUTS shall be kept away from surroundings where the presence of juveniles is either undesirable because of the place itself, or because of the activities in those surroundings. It is

important that the attention of bodies requiring assistance at a function be drawn to the need to comply with Rules 120.1 and 120.2.5.

120.2.4 Where SCOUTS take part in shows, either their own or in a programme filled by lay performers, it must be ascertained beforehand whether any part of the show is undesirable from the point of view of SCOUT standards. If the deletion of such items cannot be secured, SCOUTS may neither attend nor take part.

120.2.5 Intoxicating liquor is not permitted at SCOUT camps; or at functions or entertainments organised by members of the Movement, or by other bodies, attended by SCOUTS in uniform. Intoxicating liquor may only be served on Scout premises with the permission of the Provincial C given specifically for each occasion on the assurance that SCOUTS will not be present. It shall be a condition of letting that intoxicating liquor may not be sold on hired Scout premises.

## **121 The Good Turn**

The Good Turn is an essential part of the SCOUT programme, and must be an individual matter, as far as possible self-promoted and self-executed. The term used for certain activities of a Pack, a Patrol, a Troop, or some other number of SCOUTS, does not then conform to the principle of a Good Turn, and is in reality a service carried out. The programme should be directed at motivating the SCOUT to carry out individual Good Turns. While desirable that SCOUTS shall give help where it is needed, such help shall be withheld if the object of those asking for it is to avoid employing persons other than SCOUTS to undertake it.

## **122 Hitch-Hiking**

Hitch-hiking is a form of begging and should be discouraged. SCOUTS are not permitted to practise it in uniform except in case of emergency.