

Code of Conduct for the Promotion and Hosting of under 18 years events on Licensed premises.

As a result of continued dialogue between the various partners of the Chief Minister's Drug and Alcohol strategy, responsible members of the licensing trade and promoters of such events, a Code of Conduct has been drawn up to assist in the smooth running of events. The overriding objective of the Code is to reduce any alcohol related offences and other incidents emanating from the running and participation in such events.

In line with the directions given by the All Island Licensing Court, licensed premises intending to host such events are required to liaise with the Police Alcohol Unit to discuss issues of community safety.

The purpose of this Code therefore is to reduce incidents and increase the dialogue and liaison of the mutually interested parties to any event. To achieve this objective, the following matters are considered to be highly relevant and priority issues.

1. Notice.
The Police Alcohol Unit must be informed at least one calendar month in advance of any proposed event. This notice must include the type and nature of the event, the likely numbers and age group of those attending together with details of the Promoter of the event (contact details must be included).
2. Partnership.
The Promoter must liaise with the Senior Health Promotion Officer with regards to promotional outlets and the supply of any literature felt required for the target group. The Promoter must also act upon any advice from the Senior Health Promotion Officer regarding contact with other agencies as appropriate to the target audience group (i.e. Life Education staff, Headteacher or nominated person within a particular School, etc.).
3. Premises.
The Licence holder must always comply with any condition placed upon the liquor licence by the All Island Licensing Court. In addition, experience has shown the following points to be highly relevant to the objectives of this Code of Conduct.
 - ◆ Strictly no sale of alcohol.
 - ◆ A strict no entry/re-entry policy to be compulsory at the door to prevent patrons going outside to source alcohol then gaining re-admission.
 - ◆ A strict searching policy to be adopted at point of entry. Any persons carrying or thought to have been consuming alcohol to be refused admission. Persons in possession of illegal drugs to be handed over to the Police in line with normal operating practise.
 - ◆ A final entry door time to be imposed 1-½ hours after first admissions. For instance, an event where the doors open at 7.00pm would have a final entry time of 8.30pm. This measure has been shown to improve the behaviour and reduce the tendency to consume alcohol by patrons within the vicinity of premises reducing community concerns regarding such events.

- ◆ A conclusion time of 11-30pm is felt most appropriate to such events to assist in the arrangement of transport facilities.
- ◆ Premises must maintain an incident book and accurately record the details of persons involved and the nature of any incident. Proper recording not only protects the Licensed premises from spurious allegations but enables the other agencies to make follow up enquiries as appropriate and commensurate.
- ◆ Admission to the event is strictly controlled to persons **below 18** years of age.
- ◆ Cigarette and gambling machines should be disconnected to prevent underage use.

This Code of Conduct may be updated periodically to ensure compliance with the objective.

Version 2. 25th May 2004.