

Saddleworth Outdoor Pursuits Association (SOPA)

Code of Conduct

Introduction

SOPA is dedicated to providing safe, inclusive, and enriching accommodation for people hiring the centre to undertake outdoor activities. This Code of Conduct outlines the expectations for respectful behaviour from volunteers involved in the centre. By adhering to this code, we can create a positive and enjoyable environment for everyone.

Core Values

SOPA's core values guide our conduct and interactions:

- **Safety:** Our top priority is ensuring the physical and emotional well-being of all volunteers.
- **Respect:** We treat everyone with courtesy, dignity, and fairness, regardless of age, background, or ability.
- **Responsibility:** We take personal responsibility for our actions and decisions, both on and off the centre.
- **Inclusion:** We strive to create a welcoming environment where everyone feels valued and respected.
- **Environmental Stewardship:** We respect and protect the natural environment in which we operate.

Expected Behaviour

- **Volunteers:**
 - Prioritise the safety and well-being of all volunteers.
 - Provide clear and concise instructions and ensure volunteers understand safety procedures.
 - Be patient, supportive, and encouraging to volunteers of all skill levels.
 - Treat volunteers with respect and professionalism.

Unacceptable Behaviour

- Actions that compromise the safety of yourself or others.
- Disrespectful or discriminatory behaviour towards volunteers or users of the centre.
- Physical or verbal abuse.
- Theft, vandalism, or damage to SOPA property or the environment.
- Consumption of alcohol or drugs before or during SOPA activities.
- Disruptive or inappropriate behaviour.

Consequences of Violation

SOPA takes violations of this Code of Conduct seriously. Depending on the severity of the violation, consequences may include:

- Verbal warnings
- Exclusion from SOPA
- Referral to law enforcement (for serious offenses)

Reporting Violations

If you witness or experience a violation of this Code of Conduct, please report it immediately to the Chairman of SOPA. Reports can be made anonymously if preferred.

Commitment to Review

SOPA will periodically review this Code of Conduct to ensure it remains relevant and reflects our commitment to a positive and safe outdoor experience for all.

Signed: Mark McLoughlin, Chairman of SOPA

Date: 9th August 2024

To be reviewed annually at the SOPA AGM