

Appendix B - Rowany Festival - Parent/Carer Code of Conduct

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What is this?

This Code of Conduct is for parents, carers and other adults responsible for children who are attending Rowany Festival 2015.

It explains how people responsible for children at Festival are expected to behave, and the reasons why.

It gives both adults and children some common sense guidance about how to enjoy Festival within the:

- Festival Guidelines for Parental Supervision
- SCA Ltd Child Protection Policy

Who is responsible for my child at Festival?

Parents are responsible for their own children.

Parents can make their own arrangements with other adults to care for or supervise their children, for any period of time.

- Be clear how much responsibility is being delegated.
- Be clear about your expectations of what is involved, and how long the arrangement is for.
- Make sure that your expectations are acceptable to the other person.
- Children who are old enough to understand should have the arrangement explained to them.

Children over 10 who are considered capable by the parents involved may supervise one or two younger children for limited periods.

Are there specific rules about children at Festival?

- ⑩ Children under 12 years of age must wear a tag clearly indicating their name, age, parent/carers name, and campsite.
- ⑩ Children under 14 years must be accompanied by an adult if going swimming.
- ⑩ Children entering the tavern must be accompanied by an adult, and remain at least one metre away from the bar.
- ⑩ Boffer play - no head shots, ever.

How much am I expected to supervise my child?

The Festival Parental Supervision Guidelines provide guidance on minimum acceptable supervision at different ages.

- They are based on published NSW guidelines, so that our practice is in line with local authorities' expectations.
- You can always supervise your own child more closely.

How is my child expected to behave?

All participants at Festival are expected to behave with honesty and integrity, to act with care and diligence, and to treat everyone with respect.

- Supervision of children at Festival should support them to achieve these behaviours.
- Children given age-appropriate levels of independence are also expected to behave this way.

For children this means:

- Know the Festival rules and keep to them.
- If you have been given extra rules by your parent or carer, keep to them.
- Talk respectfully and politely to everyone. Be helpful if you can.

- Respect other people's property. Ask permission if you want to touch something that is not yours, and make sure you are welcome before going into a campsite. If you don't know for sure, don't do it.
- Have fun in a way that doesn't spoil things for other people. Find a place to play loud games where the noise won't bother anyone.
- When you are playing with other kids, try to make it fun for everyone. If someone is hurt or very upset, stop and check they are okay. Get a grown-up if you need help.
- If you get hurt or very upset, and are not okay, go and find your grown-up.

How can I help my child have a good time at Festival?

Help your child participate at the right level for them.

- Make sure they have an age-appropriate understanding of the Festival rules.
- Guide them to build appropriate relationships with other children and adults.
- Help them to understand and feel at home in the SCA.
- Show them how to have fun and be safe when camping.

Get involved with the organised activities for children and youth, such as Schola.

- These are run by volunteers, so please help out if you can.
- Activities are not child care – the Supervision Guidelines still apply.
- If you are not staying with them, tell your child what to do afterwards.

Cooperate with other parents and responsible adults to make it easier for everyone.

- Share duties so your kids are supervised and you get to have fun too.
- Combine forces to ensure there is always a responsible adult available to your kids at popular playspaces like the Fort.

What happens if this code of conduct is not followed?

Any Festival participant, including Festival Officers, may politely ask a child to change their behaviour if they believe it is dangerous, disruptive or against the Festival Rules. If this does not resolve the issue they should take it up with the child's carer or parent.

Respond courteously and thoughtfully to people who complain about your child's behaviour or your supervision. Resolve the issue with them if you can. If necessary, help your child to understand the problem and behave differently.

The Festival Steward has the duty and authority to ensure Festival can be a safe and positive experience for all attendees. The Steward will act fairly and strive to resolve issues with minimum impact on attendees, but where necessary they can:

- Adjudicate between parties who cannot resolve child behaviour or supervision issues themselves.
- Require a child or an adult to change their behaviour at Festival, including mandating an increased level of child supervision.
- Limit a child or adult's access to particular activities or areas of the site for any period.
- Expel a child or adult from Festival when they determine that no other sanction is likely to be effective in protecting that individual and/or other attendees' safety or capacity to enjoy Festival.

Parent/Carer Statement

I acknowledge that I have read the *Festival Parental Supervision Guidelines*, and *Festival Parent/Carer Code of Conduct* and that I understand:

- I am **responsible** for the actions of child/children in my care.
- The minimum **supervision** requirements for children in my care.
- The **areas out of bounds** for child/ren in my care.
- Child/ren in my care must understand and adhere to the **Festival Rules**.
- The process for **managing complaints and disputes** about child behaviour and supervision.
- The Steward has the authority to impose a range of **sanctions or restrictions** in response to behaviour that is dangerous, disruptive or against the Festival Rules, up to and including expulsion from Festival.

I acknowledge that by signing below and entering the Festival event, I and any child for whom I am responsible undertake to abide by the standards of behaviour set out within these documents.

Signature of Parent/Carer