



Society for Creative Anachronism (NZ), Inc.

<http://www.sca.org.nz>

Comments: committee@sca.org.nz

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Children and Young People (under 18) Participation Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to inform parents, guardians, and minor children of their responsibilities regarding their attendance and participation whilst attending SCA NZ events.

SCA NZ supports and encourages the active participation of children and young persons. We listen to their views, respect what they say, and endeavour to involve them in making decisions about matters that directly affect them.

Scope

This policy is applicable to all SCA NZ events where people under the age of 18 (Minors) are in attendance.

Definitions

Minor	A person under the age of 18.
Event	Any SCA NZ gathering including, but not limited to, tournaments, feasts, balls, A&S meetings, fighters practice, council meetings, camping events, etc.
Guardian	The term Guardian shall be used to define a parent or legal guardian within the meaning of the Care of Children Act 2004. It is not any other relative, family friend, relative, teacher, babysitter, coach, etc. The definition under the Act is of a person who has the duties, powers, rights, and responsibilities that a parent of the child has in relation to the upbringing of the child, or is vested in the guardian of a child by any enactment.
Nominated Caregiver	A person aged 18 or older who has been appointed by the Guardian (as defined above) in accordance with this Policy to assume responsibility for a Minor.

Attending Events

Minors may attend an SCA event if their Guardian or Nominated Caregiver is also in attendance at that event.

The name of the Minor and their Guardian or Nominated Caregiver must be recorded on the

booking or sign-in record for events where bookings or sign-in forms are used.

At all other events, the Guardian or Nominated Caregiver must ensure the steward or host is aware of the minors who accompany them to that event.

Supervision of Minors

The SCA NZ aims to be a safe place for everyone involved in SCA NZ activities. Minors are welcome to attend SCA events, but the SCA NZ is not a childcare service and does not act on behalf, or in place, of a Guardian or Nominated Caregiver.

Guardians/Nominated Caregivers are responsible for the supervision, behaviour, welfare, and safety of the Minors in their care at all times at SCA events.

SCANZ recognizes it is reasonable to expect young people over the age of 10 to spend time at events without direct adult supervision. However, each situation involving an unattended minor of any age needs to be considered on its own merits and SCA NZ reserves the right to require Minors to be directly supervised at all times.

SCANZ is not responsible for ensuring the supervision of Minors. It is the sole responsibility of the Guardian or Nominated Caregiver to ensure children are appropriately supervised.

If a Minor is acting in an unsafe manner, behaving inappropriately, appears to be in distress or appears ill or injured, SCA NZ members may, on an all-care and no responsibility basis, make arrangements to locate or contact the Guardian/Nominated Caregiver responsible for the Minor. If they cannot be reached, the event steward or any member of the SCA NZ Committee may contact the relevant authorities for assistance (i.e. ambulance, police, etc).

Any childcare arrangements must be made privately and are neither endorsed nor approved by SCA NZ. Parents who enter into private childcare arrangements must still remain at the event site.

Activities for Minors

There may be activities at SCA NZ events that are geared to Minors. Guardians and Nominated Caregivers are expected to supervise those Minors in their care during these activities.

The SCA NZ does not warrant the suitability of any person at an Event to instruct, entertain or otherwise participate in activities with Minors. It is the responsibility of the Guardian or Nominated Caregiver to decide if an activity is suitable for the Minor in their care, and to ensure their supervision whilst undertaking any activity at an SCA NZ event.

Activities aimed at Minors shall not be titled or advertised in such a way as to imply the person(s) running such activities have been vetted for their suitability to interact with Minors, or that Minors may attend those activities without appropriate supervision from their Guardian or Nominated Caregiver.

Activities aimed at children do not remove or reduce the responsibility of the Guardian to supervise the Minor(s) in their care.