

Surefire bushcraft Code of Conduct

This code of Conduct is designed to do three things; to provide guidelines on safe conduct for participants on my courses, to provide safeguards to protect both staff and course participants from abuse or bad conduct, and to give guidelines to all parties regarding my underlying focus and ethics regarding inclusion, ethos and environment.

I expect visitors to my courses to:-

1. Listen to instructions provided
2. Act responsibly with the equipment provided
3. Remain focussed and sensible at all times
4. To co-operate with staff in all instructions they give,
5. To remain positive towards all members of the group
6. Ask instructors for additional information or help whenever necessary
7. To take responsibility for themselves and other group members
8. To proactively engage with the group during practical sessions

Safeguards for the protection of staff and course participants:-

I will provide for the safety of staff and participants,

1. Details and/or certificates of any relevant training, including CRB clearance upon request by any visiting group or potential customer
2. I operate a zero tolerance approach to the misuse of potentially dangerous equipment used on the courses I provide. Anyone found misusing equipment will have their privileges regarding the equipment removed until a responsible attitude has been proven. This action is taken at the discretion of the course instructor.
3. I operate a zero tolerance approach to bullying or abusive behaviour, swearing towards staff or course participants. Any behaviour of this nature will result in warnings from Instructors and/or supervisory staff members, and possibly lead to exclusion from the course without refund. This action will be taken at the discretion of the course instructors, A democratic discussion will be held between all involved personnel, Instructors, and clients to achieve the most safe and sensible conclusion to the situation.
4. I will provide a set level of quality and care regarding the quality and state of all equipment provided for courses run by myself or other instructors, with the understanding that more often than not the equipment will be in used condition.

5. I will guarantee communication and co-operation wherever possible or reasonable with members of staff or organisers linked to visiting groups and also with Guardians/parents of any person attending my courses.

6. I will ensure all participants are catered for as far as the provision of tools and materials are concerned. I will continually assess my methods of instruction in line with required standards. This will be ensured through observations and close working relationships.

7. A properly-stocked First Aid Kit must be available on all tutorials. It is the responsibility of students to advise the course tutor of any special medical conditions that may pertain to their well-being, mobility, or performance while on a tutorial. Students must carry essential personal medications, such as anti-allergy, asthma, or diabetic drugs. As a protection from solar ultraviolet radiation, hats, sunscreen and sunglasses should be carried by each student.

Alcohol and Drugs Rules

It is my policy that –All persons engaged in field activities have a responsibility to ensure that they are not, through the consumption of alcohol or a drug, in a state that may endanger themselves or any other person. (This rule excludes over the counter cold/flu and pain remedies).

Misuse of either drugs or alcohol will result in students being dealt with according to policy.

Smoking Rules

There will be no smoking in vehicles or buildings during tutorials and smoking outdoors should be limited to areas where non-smokers are unaffected, ie allocated areas.

Fires

No fires are to be lit other than in designated fire places or by special permit of the controlling authority for the area.

Firearms

It is absolutely forbidden to take any fire-arm on any tutorial.
This includes air rifles / pistols.

Litter

All litter to be removed at the end of every tutorial and, either taken from site or placed in designated bin areas.

Weather Conditions

Before commencing any tutorial, the organiser should check on the weather forecast for the time and region involved, paying particular attention to sea, river, and lake conditions as they apply. Appropriate clothing must be worn or carried to prepare for all anticipated weather conditions. Note that the wind-chill factor exaggerates low temperatures

Hazardous Areas

When working in areas considered to be potentially hazardous, it is the individual's responsibility to keep the relevant course tutor informed of the nature of the hazards. Course tutors, when working in such conditions, must ensure that all necessary precautions are taken. When working in areas where hazards are considered likely to arise, no one is permitted to work alone. A risk assessment has to be completed before undertaking tutorials in any hazardous area.

Inclusion, participation and company ethos:

1. I believe that inclusion and participation are integral to all learning; no matter what your learning capabilities, creed, religion or colour.
2. I believe that learning is a process of failure, discussion and co-operation and nurturing. If these elements are not present you cannot expect to learn.
3. I am fully committed to providing courses and course material to everyone regardless of physical or mental disabilities. I will fully cooperate with carers/members of staff of visiting organisations to provide access and relevant course material for anyone interested in participating.
4. I have a clear 'Leave no trace' & 'Minimal impact' attitude to the environment in which I work. I believe that leaving the environment the way it was found is vital to the understanding of how the environment works.
5. I strongly believe in everyone having a go; I will actively encourage participation by everyone who enrolls on my courses.
6. My ethos regarding the environment is; that it is integral to the learning I provide, therefore the study of the environment is critical to the learning provided. I endeavour to encompass many and varied aspects of the environment into my course material.
7. Enrolling on my course's is your commitment to understanding they are hands on, I do not encourage bystanders, if you are on the course you will get involved, if you continue to refuse to be involved then you will be left to sit the course out without refund.

Thank you for your cooperation.

D.Nott