
Group Behaviour Policy and Code

This policy was introduced in 2011 and is 'signed up to' by parents and members over 8 years of age by having completed and signed the membership form. Please ensure you read this Policy through with your child so that the boundaries of what is and is not acceptable behaviour is absolutely clear.

Verbal Warnings

If the behaviour of a Beaver/Cub/Scout/Explorer is considered to have fallen well below the 'Group Code of Acceptable Behaviour', that Beaver/Cub/Scout/Explorer, or group of Beavers/Cubs/ Scouts/ Explorers, will be given a verbal warning by a Leader. The offender(s) will be told to stop whatever they are doing and warned what will happen if they don't comply.

Examples of unacceptable behaviour could be: -

- continual talking, or verbal disruption when a 'Leader' has asked for quiet;
- continuing with unacceptable or disruptive behaviour after being directly told to stop;
- persistent refusal to follow instructions, or the rules of a game.

Initial Formal Warnings (aka Yellow Card)

If a verbal warning is ignored, the Beaver/Cub/Scout/Explorer may be required to take a time out away from the other members of the sections. The form of this will vary from section to section. The Section Leader will record the name and details of the incident in the register. The parent(s) of the section member may also be contacted.

More serious bad behaviour could result in the immediate issue of an initial formal warning. Examples of this type of behaviour include:

- threatening language or behaviour – (not involving use of physical violence);
- careless disregard of property leading to its damage;
- challenging the authority of a Leader, Instructor or Helper.

Second level warnings (aka Red Card)

If the Beaver/Cub/Scout/Explorer commits a second Yellow Card offence on the same night they will receive a second level warning. Again, name and details of issue will be recorded and the Beaver/Cub/Scout/Explorer will not be allowed to take any further part in that evening's Colony/Pack/Troop/Unit meeting.

Parent(s) will be advised of the issue of a second level warning, as soon as it is practical to do so. Depending on the situation the Section Leader may send for the parent/guardian to collect their child early. Sending a Scout home, (if he makes his own way to Troop meetings) could also be an option, but only after the parent/guardian had been contacted and advised.

Certain behaviour could result in the immediate issue of a second level warning. Examples of these include:

- bullying or physical unprovoked attack on another Group Member;
- blatant vandalism to property or equipment;
- deliberate defiance of clearly given instructions - particularly where safety is threatened.

Please note that some sections will operate this system using Yellow and Red cards:

1st Claygate Scout Group

(Founded 1909)



Suspension - If a Beaver/Cub/Scout/Explorer receives a Red Card, he or she will automatically be suspended from the next two meetings and will not be allowed to attend camps or outings held during the 4 week after the issue of the red card, if the card is issued prior to a period when he section will not be meeting then the 4 weeks will commence on resumption of section meetings. . In most cases the Section Leader will also require a hand written letter of apology.

Continual Offending- If a Beaver/Cub/Scout/Explorer receives four Yellow Cards in any six-month period he or she will be suspended.

Appeal – If a Beaver/Cub/Scout/Explorer feels that they have been unfairly issued with either a Red or Yellow card, he or she can appeal to the Group Scout Leader to review the incident and punishment. Any appeal must be made within seven days of the issue of the card.

Exclusion- If a Beaver/Cub/Scout/Explorer receives three Red Cards (either as a Cub or Scout), then on issue of the third Red Card, exclusion proceedings will be initiated. This is a very serious matter involving the Section Leader, Group Scout Leader and District Commissioner and would result in exclusion from all Groups in the District.

Hugh Gostling
Group Scout Leader
August 2016