

LAWS FOR A SAFE AND CONGENIAL WEEKEND

Please Read Carefully!

1. **You are solely responsible for your own safety and behaviour at all times.** Willful, aggressive, or inappropriate behaviour that threatens the sanctity of The Gathering or our members will not be tolerated. Only one warning will be issued. If the offence is repeated the offending party will be asked to leave The Gathering.
2. **You are solely responsible for the safety of your child(ren) or any minors in your charge.** The safety of children is a high priority. For their safety, children found unsupervised in a hazardous or restricted area will be escorted back to their responsible adult. Please read the "Policy Concerning Minors" carefully to familiarize yourself with the restrictions and procedures concerning children.
3. **We honour the Gods and ourselves by obtaining consent BEFORE engaging in any type of sensual activity with another person.** It is mandatory that all attendees obtain clear, enthusiastic consent prior to engaging in any form of intimate contact. This includes kissing and touching. Uninvited touch of the breasts, genitals or buttocks is considered sexual assault and the situation will be addressed accordingly. This policy extends to coercing someone to touch you. Ask for consent prior to making physical contact with anyone. "NO MEANS NO", AND "YES MEANS YES". Remember that consent is context specific: a positive response to an invitation to dance is an agreement to dance and should not be considered an invitation to engage in any further activity. Respect the physical, mental and emotional boundaries of others – ask for consent before engaging in any form of physical contact. We ask that participants be aware of their language and behaviour and consider whether they may cause harm to others. Our intent is to provide a safe comfortable space for all event attendees, therefore we will not tolerate any form of violence, sexism, ageism, homophobia, sexual harassment, or consent violations. Please report any contraventions to the Board of Directors immediately.
4. **Alcohol:** The open and obvious consumption of alcoholic beverages is not allowed. Illegal and recreational drug use is not permitted. One warning will be issued to those in violation of this policy. Repeated offences will result in being requested to leave The Gathering.
5. **Amplified music** is permitted only in designated areas and at designated times. The camp is located within a municipality and we must comply with local noise ordinances.
6. **No photographs** of other people without their express permission. **Extra care** must be taken to avoid photographing non-consenting people in the background, especially if nudity or special costuming is an issue.
7. **Smoking** will be allowed in designated areas only.
8. **Fires** are permitted in designated areas only and must be attended at all times. This includes candles, incense, and all other sources of ignition. **Important:** No incense or candles may be burned in cabins or cottages or yurts at any time.
9. **No littering.** Recycling is encouraged. Litter bags/recycling and waste receptacles will be available at the Dining Hall and other designated areas. Do not throw litter in the lake, ponds, or fire pits. Absolutely no litter (including cigarette butts) in sacred fires! Please ask if you are not sure.
10. **No defacing** or cutting of picnic tables or benches. No weapons, including ritual tools, outside of ritual space.
11. **No animals** — dogs, cats, fish, wombats, live familiars or others will not be admitted. The only exception to this rule will be assistance dogs.

Anyone in contravention of any of the above rules will, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, be asked to leave the premises immediately. There will be no refund of fees.