

Children / Under 18s in SMC Huts Guidance & Rules

The Club's huts are designed & equipped for use by responsible adults and every effort is made to ensure the safety of all occupants. However, when it is proposed that an individual child or group of children are to be brought into this environment, it must be made absolutely clear to the party at the time of booking, that the additional duty of care required for the welfare of that child or those children, lies with the visiting adult or adults in charge and not the SMC. In this context a "child" is a person under the age of 18.

The acceptance of bookings from individuals, other clubs or groups has always been and will remain at the discretion of the Custodian for each hut, as the accommodation and circumstances vary from hut to hut.

Where a school or youth group requests the use of a hut, that group shall be required to book and pay for all bed spaces, excepting those beds reserved for SMC members' use at all times. In such cases, the visiting group will be advised that members may be present in the hut. Similarly, SMC members enquiring to use the hut should be advised of the visiting group's booking.

Where a Club member, a visiting club or other group wishes to include a child or children in their party, this must be declared to the Custodian when making the booking, in order that SMC members can be advised of this, as above. The visiting party shall accept full responsibility for the behaviour, safety and well being of any child or children in their group and will make such decisions as are appropriate, regarding sleeping arrangements.

In all cases where children without their parents are to be taken into the Club's hut, it is the responsibility of the person or persons making the booking to ensure that they obtain the necessary parental permission and written agreement as to which individual adult(s) will be in "loco parentis".