

Running events for local Scouts and Guides

Introduction

This factsheet details why SSAGO groups may consider organising events in their local county/area, what they can organise and the rules that need to be followed.

Why organise events?

There is no requirement that members of SSAGO should organise events for Scouts and Guides. However, within a SSAGO group there is often a wealth of experience and knowledge, some great ideas and much enthusiasm. Organising an event can help a SSAGO group become more active in a county/area, can allow those unable to volunteer weekly to keep in contact with young people and can potentially count towards certain Scouting and Guiding Awards (if a member of The Scout Association or Girlguiding UK). The young people joining in the event can get so much from contact with young, enthusiastic members of SSAGO so whilst there is no requirement to organise events they can be fun and rewarding for all involved.

What kind of events

As long as the planned activity is not banned for the organisation it is being planned for (either The Scout Association or Girlguiding UK) then a SSAGO group can theoretically organise it. Some activities will require permits or qualifications; this should be fully investigated before suggesting organising an event.

As long as the rules and regulations are followed events can be anything from Night Hikes to discos, wide games to campfires.

Rules to follow

When organising events for members of The Scout Association and/or members of Girlguiding UK the rules of these organisations must be followed. These can be found at www.scouts.org.uk/activities and www.girlguiding.org.uk. **SSAGO rules do not apply even if the event is being solely organised by SSAGO members.**

If the event is going to involve SSAGO members having a Night Away or participating in Adventurous Activities the relevant notification needs to be sent to SSAGO prior to the event (see 'Taking your club away' factsheet and 'Doing Adventurous Activities' factsheet).



Contacts to make

Before organising an event it goes without saying that contact should be made with the relevant local Scout/Guide commissioners. These can help locate the rules for events and suggest locations and places to borrow equipment from. Many counties/areas will have many advisors and these should be informed of the events and may well work alongside the SSAGO group organising them.

Telling SSAGO about it

It is always good for other SSAGO groups to see what has been achieved. Putting a short report into the next edition of SSAGO news will be very well received. Email to publicity@ssago.org.uk