



Girlguiding UK

Meeting between The Scout Association, Girlguiding UK and SSAGO

Sunday 8th January 2006

Present: Ed Wilson (TSA staff) Adrian Wray (TSA Volunteer)
 Anna Massey (Girlguiding UK staff) Nick Varney (SSAGO
 Chairperson) Ruth Smith (SSAGO Secretary) Jennie
 MacDougall (SSAGO Treasurer)

		Action
1.	Welcome and introductions all parties introduced themselves and agreed the purpose of the meeting; An opportunity to discuss issues and concerns between the 3 organisations.	
2.	Various points were clarified at this point. The Network commissioners job description is to change and this will include a section on working with SSAGO Not all SSAGO clubs have Scout and Guide Liaison officers a person to communicate with at all clubs should be agreed SSAGO membership 750 -800 members traditionally more Girlguiding UK members than Scout Association members . Last year 122 members held scout warrants and 117 Guide Warrants. National SSAGO membership costs £2 payable annually	
3.	Insurance: SSAGO clubs are predominantly insured by their Students Unions however they also are covered by insurance through the Scout Association this is paid for every SSAGO member by the National treasurer . Members attending Scouting or guiding events are covered by their respective insurances	NV
4.	Constitution: Ed and Anna were both concerned that the new constitution had removed TSA and Girlguiding UK's right of attendance at exec meetings. Nick explained that it had been very difficult to give 3 weeks notice of meetings when meetings were often brief 5-10 min conversations at Rallys or by phone. It was agreed that Nick would propose a constitution change that wherever possible TSA and Girlguiding UK should be invited to exec meetings. The latest constitution did not state that all constitution changes needed to be ratified by GIRLGUIDING UK and TSA. Again a proposal to reinstate this clause will be put to SSAGO members	NV
5.	Values of Scouting: Alcohol- SSAGO already promotes a sensible approach to drinking and are currently producing a unreasonable behaviour policy Illegal substances- SSAGO are working on an illegal substances policy. This will be shown to GIRLGUIDING UK legal department before it is given to SSAGO members to approve Political Statements - SSAGO agreed to remove the Make Poverty history banner from their website as it goes against TSA and GIRLGUIDING UK policy on remaining politically neutral	NV/ AM

6.	<p>Child Protection: Clarification of membership age range of SSAGO - members are predominantly 18+ but some unions accept members of colleges who can be as young as 16 or in the case of Loughborough 14 Responsibility of club chairs and executive in making sure everyone has followed the correct procedure for CRB checking. - SSAGO club registration forms ask for members names and CRB status eg cleared, pending not applied for . Currently CRB forms are checked by the local Network commissioner but there are some issues with this. The group discussed individual SSAGO groups being able to check CRB forms TSA to look into this. An alternative was that national SSAGO should be able to check CRB forms . Also the group discussed what should happen if there is an adverse return from a CRB form and how the situation should be handled. - This has never actually happened but its important to consider what would happen. It was suggested that any clubs obtaining an adverse CRB should notify the exec. Arising from this was the issue of banning members from SSAGO and keeping a list of these members currently banned.</p> <p>Safe from Harm and TSA yellow cards: TSA and Girlguiding UK agreed that all new members of SSAGO should be given these</p>	<p>EW/AW</p> <p>Anna to check with Girlguiding UK legal department</p> <p>AM/ EW to organise getting cards to members secretary</p>
7.	<p>Accident notification forms: All accidents should be reported to the Scouts using the relevant form. Copies of the form and details of what to report were given to all at the meeting. Completing accident forms is not optional it is a requirement of being insured through Lancing The question was asked if SSAGO are insured through Lancing should they still fill in Girlguiding UK accident forms and follow Girlguiding UK activity rules?</p>	<p>AM/EW to go to the full committee meeting in February to explain this</p> <p>AM to check this</p>
8.	<p>Effective an positive communication: a) Some clubs are having problems getting members into units. Discussion ensued over possible solutions and several suggestions were put forward Writing to all commissioners about SSAGO in august Articles in Scouting and Guiding magazines Articles on the website b) regular communication between SSAGO and headquarters support teams- all agreed that this meeting was a really positive step and links should be continued with the new exec c) Communications at local level. Commissioners need to be made aware that SSAGO exists in their area d) Sharing best practice: SSAGO agreed to share Rally and ball evaluations with headquarters e) making all members aware of opportunities available to them- TSA and Girlguiding UK to advertise relevant events in SSAGO news and promote SSAGO on websites and in publications</p>	<p>All</p>
9.	<p>Clarification of activity Policy- covered in item 8</p>	
10.	<p>SSAGO National rallies: it was suggested that the current how to run a rally handbook was out of date and contained some dangerous- if humorous recommendations. It was proposed that this should be rewritten in 2006</p>	<p>NV to organise the current handbook being taken off the web site</p>

11.	SSAGO 40 years: SSAGO explained that they would be 40 years old in 2007 and instead of holding a summer rally there would be a reunion weekend for all ex members of SSAGO. Ruth is organising this. Ed and Anna offered to promote the 40 th anniversary through Guiding and Scouting magazines. Ed suggested that the SSAGO ball could be held at Gilwell in 2007 as one of the earliest SSAGO rallies had been held there	AM/EW
12.	A.O.B The group all agreed that the meeting had been very positive and that steps needed to be taken to maintain a good relationship between the 3 organisations	

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