

Activities in Falkirk District

Some key notes:

- POR Chapter 9 must be followed when running all activities:
<https://www.scouts.org.uk/por/9-activities/>
- A list of available guidance on activities is contained here:
<https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-your-section/programme-guidance/information-for-volunteers/general-activity-guidance/>
- If necessary a member of the party holds a valid adventurous activity permit - Activity permit list: https://cms.scouts.org.uk/media/19648/activity_permit_list-jan-23.pdf (It is the leader holding the permit who is responsible for all decisions for the duration of the activity).
- More activity ideas and guidance available here: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/activities/>
- 9.1.1.2
These activities are not permitted within The Scout Association:
 - towing of inflatables behind powered watercraft, such as banana boating
 - bungee jumping
 - hitch hiking
 - knife throwing
 - archery tag and other combat style archery activities
 - trotti biking
 - *(Check POR as this list may be updated before this guidance)*
- Other activities have their own rules as to what is and isn't allowed e.g Throwing or shooting at targets representing humans or animals is not permitted.
- A risk assessment must be carried out, recorded, communicated to all supervising adults and participants, acted on, and reviewed regularly:
<https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/staying-safe-and-safeguarding/risk-assessments/>
- Risk assessments should be of a similar level or better than the HQ examples:
<https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/staying-safe-and-safeguarding/risk-assessments/example-risk-assessments/> If using any examples these must be reviewed and edited as needed for your specific activity.
- Continue to assess risk throughout the activity and stop the activity if needed.
- Suitable InTouch arrangements must be in place:
<https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-your-section/programme-guidance/information-for-volunteers/intouch/>

- For every activity there must be an adult who is designated as the leader in charge (POR 4.3.10.1). The leader in charge should be an adult who is a member of the relevant Section Team and holds a full appointment; or must be agreed in writing by the line manager if this is not the case and must also hold a full role. Other adults and participants need to be made aware of who is in charge. Guidance here: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/staying-safe-and-safeguarding/safety/planning-and-assessing-risk/leader-in-charge/>
- Adult to young person ratios must be met as noted in POR 4.3.10.8: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/por/4-local-organisation-of-sections-groups-districts-counties/#4.3> or more adults if needed to ensure safe activities following risk assessment.
- First Response cover is required for all meetings and activities. Some activities may require a full first aid certificate holder i.e. remote activities.
- Activities must have followed the correct approval process as set out below.

Authorising Activities in Falkirk District

POR (rule 9.1.2.1) states that *“The District Lead Volunteer is responsible for approving all activities for Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Scout Network. This must be by means of a system agreed between the District Lead Volunteer and each Group Lead Volunteer or District 14-25 Team Leader.”*

This documents the delegated responsibilities for authorising activities under POR rule 9.1.2.1 in Falkirk District.

1. Group Lead Volunteer are responsible for authorising all activities that take place in Squirrel, Beaver, Cub and Scout Sections in their Group (with the exception of those mentioned elsewhere in this document). Group Lead Volunteer will need to see and consider every section’s programme.
2. The 14-24 Team Leader is responsible for authorising all activities that take place in Explorer Scout Units in the District (with the exception of those mentioned elsewhere in this document). The 14-24 Team Leader will need to see and consider every Unit’s programme.
3. If, in any instance, a Group Lead Volunteer or the 14-24 Team Leader is unsure whether to authorise a particular activity, they must discuss it with the District Lead Volunteer.
4. If the position of Group Lead Volunteer or 14-24 Team Leader is vacant then the activity must be authorised by the District Lead Volunteer.

5. Where an activity is covered within the Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme and led by a member of the District holding the relevant permit, the GLV / 14-24 TL must be aware of the activity taking place on each occasion (see points 1 and 2). If you are using someone from outside the District with a permit the DLV must be informed.
6. All Nights Away must follow the 'Nights Away Notification (NAN)' process: <https://www.falkirkscouts.org.uk/MyFiles/Global00098/Programme/Nights%20Away%20Notification.pdf> and be approved by the District Lead Volunteer or accredited Nights Away Approver on the 'My Membership' system.
7. International trips must follow the Visits Abroad process - <https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-your-section/programme-guidance/international-scouts-and-events/going-abroad-with-scouting/> which will be checked by the Region Visits Abroad Recommender and then approved by the District Lead Volunteer.
8. The following activities must be notified to the District Lead Volunteer who will seek appropriate advice on suitability ahead of approving the activity to take place: shooting, air activities, motor sports, and water activities that don't fall under a permit or swimming in a managed swimming pool.
9. For activities and events involving only adults (Adult Groups in Adventurous Activities 9.8) the District Lead Volunteer must be notified of the activity taking place.

Approval of activities will be discussed at each District Leadership Team meeting to ensure that everyone is comfortable with the process outlined above and applying consistency, also providing an opportunity for the system to be reviewed and amended as appropriate.