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## **Scouting Ireland**

### **Safety Advisory Committee**

Dear Scouter,

'Fire Safety is your responsibility'.

Introduction.

The first part of the [Fire Safety Guidelines](#) is now on the [scouts.ie](http://scouts.ie) website. Click [HERE](#) for the document which covers the following:

1. The legislation in both jurisdictions.
2. The minimum requirements for fire safety in Dens/ meeting places to comply with the regulations.
3. The interim requirements for Dens/ meeting places leading to full compliance.

#### 1. Legislation

It is important that Scout Groups, Scout Group Council and Scouters are aware that the following minimum requirements are based on the legislation in both jurisdictions and not requirements proposed by persons in Scouting Ireland. It is very important for Scouters to be aware as failure to comply could result in criminal prosecution and/ or a compliance notice served by the local fire authority.

#### 2. Minimum Requirements

These have been set by a Fire Consultant in collaboration with the Risk Management Advisory Team and others. The resultant Fire Safety Guidelines bear in mind that Scouting Ireland is a voluntary body whose Groups generally have a hard time raising finance. Most Groups generally apply surplus funds, after paying membership fees, to providing resources to the sections within the Group.



Member of World Organisation of the Scout Movement

### 3. Interim requirements

There are Scout Groups whom are in full compliance with these guidelines, and more with the minimum requirements. Most Groups are not but many are nearly there with compliance. For those not there the Interim Requirements are absolutely necessary to implement forthwith to cover existing deficiencies.

Running a Scout Group/ section takes up a lot of time but fire safety in your Den/ meeting place must be given priority.

You are not being asked to abandon Programmes but take whatever steps are necessary to install the interim requirements. If your Den/ meeting place does not meet the minimum requirements you are required to prepare a plan within 6 months with a view to achieving full compliance within a reasonable timeframe.

There are Programme materials already available to you in relation to Fire Safety. These should be used to give young people an appreciation of Fire Safety. These are Fire Safety on Camp; Escape Plan for Dens; Youth programme – Fire Safety.

We understand that these guidelines might seem onerous but our focus is in helping you the Scouter to provide safe Scouting for all.