

Irene Residence Alcohol Rules

2024

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Preamble

Irene Residence recognizes the traumatic effect of binge-drinking and an irresponsible drinking culture that seems to be present on Stellenbosch campus. We therefore commit ourselves to cultivating a residence space where Ireners are encouraged to take ownership of their drinking habits in a safe and responsible manner, by giving effect to our values of integrity, respect, ubuntu, humility and empathy. Through this document we aim to normalise healthy drinking habits throughout the residence space by encouraging safe drinking practices and preventing binge drinking at the Residence and Irene events.

Further objectives include:

- To mitigate and prevent a binge drinking culture.
- To promote a positive drinking culture and responsibility in the consumption of alcoholic products.
- To educate residents on the importance of responsible drinking.
- To promote safe and responsible use of alcohol.

1 Definitions

- (1) "Bedroom" includes single and double rooms in the residence.
- (2) "Binge Drinking" refers to more than 5 units of alcohol in a 2-hour period for males and more than 4 units of alcohol in a 2-hour period for females.

A unit of alcohol is a simple way of estimating the amount of pure alcohol in a drink and stands around 10ml or 8g of pure alcohol:

Standard glass of wine: 2.1 units (1 unit: ±90ml white wine, 75ml red wine)

"Draught glass" of low strength beer: 2 units

"Draught glass" of high strength beer: 3 units

Beer: 1.5 - 1.7 units (340ml)

Cider: 1.5 - 2 units (340ml)

Single spirit/hard liquor with mix: 1 unit

- (3) "Communal Spaces" refers to a shared area within the residence.
- (4) "CSLL" refers to Centre for Student Living and Learning
- (5) "Drinking Culture" refers to the set of traditions and social behaviours that surround the consumption of alcohol recreationally.
- (6) "Drinking Games" are any social activities that centre or involve drinking or getting drunk, and may promote drinking more than the recommended amount according to the units mentioned in above.
- (7) "Event" refers to bigger functions planned by an Irener in an official capacity to serve as a gathering for a group of Ireners and/or visitors. Examples include Housewarming, Irene Dances etc.

- (8) "Extreme Transgressions" refer to any actions that disrupt or alarms other Ireners and/or visitors or poses a liability or causes harm to Ireners and/or visitors or Irene.
- (9) "Group" refers to six (6) or more Ireners and/or visitors.
- (10) "Hard Liquor" refers to distilled beverages with an alcohol content of 35% or higher. Examples include brandy, whiskey, vodka, and tequila.
- (11) "Tranquillity Area" refers to an area set up at an event where residents can relax and socialise. Alcohol consumption won't be allowed within these areas. This area will have water available and places to sit which will be located away from the busyness of the event.
- (12) "Residence" / "House" refers to Irene Residence.
- (13) "Responsible use of alcohol" refers to the consumption of alcohol where the Blood Alcohol Content stays at 0.08% or below. This is 5 units of alcohol in a 4-hour period for males and 4 units of alcohol in a 4-hour period for females.
- (14) "Simple Majority" refers to the option that had the most votes out of all the options.
- (15) "The University" refers to Stellenbosch University.

2 Amendments

- (1) Amendments to these rules may be made:
 - (a) At the behest of the CSLL representative and Resident Head.
 - (b) By the House Committee once approval has been obtained from the CSLL representative.

3 Operation of the policy

- (1) The Irene Alcohol Policy:
 - (a) Will come into operation after it has been approved by the Resident Head, the CSLL representative and subsequently by a simple majority of the Residence during a House Discussion.
 - (b) Will apply to all Irene members and visitors. Ireners will be held liable for their visitors' behaviour.
 - (c) Will not come into effect before the second week of the undergraduate year of classes.
 - (d) Will be reviewed annually by the House Committee.
 - (e) Will be active until two (2) weeks before every examination period, as determined by the university.
- (2) The CSLL shall in extraordinary circumstances be allowed to suspend this policy.

4 Default rules

- (1) If the above provision in Section 3 is not given effect to, the following rules apply:
 - (a) No alcohol may be stored or consumed in the residence.
 - (b) No containers that are recognizable as alcoholic beverages may be displayed in the residence.

- (c) Any of the above-mentioned actions will lead to the confiscation of the alcohol and leave the resident subject to the relevant internal procedures of the residence.
- (2) If the provisions in Section 3 are complied with, the Irene-specific Alcohol rules will apply.

5 Irene-specific alcohol rules

- (1) If a group and/or individual wants to consume alcohol, consent must be obtained from the respective House Committee Member referred to in this policy below.
- (2) Alcohol may only be consumed in the following communal spaces in the residence:
 - (a) Consent needs be obtained from either the Primaria or Vice Primaria for the use of:
 - (i) The Quad
 - (ii) The Old Rec Hall
 - (iii) The New Rec Hall
 - (iv) Dinning Hall (only for the use of Irene functions with the consent of the Resident Head)
 - (b) Consent needs be obtained from either the Pegasus or Draco House Committee Member for use of:
 - (i) The Rooftop
 - (c) Consent needs be obtained from the Lyra House Committee Member for the use of:
 - (i) The Lyra Balcony
- (3) Application for consent for a group:
 - (a) Consent must be obtained by the individual by submitting Annexure A to the respective House Committee Member by 10:00 A.M. the day prior to the date being applied for.
 - (b) Consent has only been granted upon receiving the approval and signature from a House Committee Member.
- (4) Application for consent for an individual:
 - (a) Consent must be obtained by individuals by sending a message to the respective House Committee Member, informing them of their alcohol use, before consuming alcohol on the specified date.
 - (b) Consent has only been granted upon receiving a message of approval from the respective House Committee Member.
- (5) Restrictions relating to spaces:
 - (a) No loud music may be played when consuming alcohol in the communal spaces mentioned in Section 5.1.1, 5.1.2 and 5.1.3 of this Alcohol Policy and the same rules for games and activities for functions are applicable (5.4.1. and 5.4.2.)
 - (b) Under no circumstances may alcohol be consumed in residents' bedrooms.
 - (i) Alcohol may be stored in bedrooms, out of sight.
 - (c) Under no circumstances may containers that are recognizable as alcoholic beverages be displayed in the residence.

- (d) Alcohol may not be consumed in:
 - (i) Section areas,
 - (ii) Bedrooms,
 - (iii) Any other space not mentioned in this policy.
- (6) Restrictions relating to times:
 - (a) Alcohol may be consumed in communal spaces of the residence as specified in section 5.2:
 - (i) No earlier than 10:00 and no later than 23:00. Thus, no alcohol consumption will be allowed between 23:00 and 10:00.
 - (ii) For special functions, the Resident Head may apply for an exception to section 5(6)(a)(i).
 - (b) No alcohol may be used during examination times, including 2 weeks leading up to the examination period.
 - (c) No alcohol may be used during recess. Exception can be made by the Resident Head.
- (7) Alcohol restrictions for events and functions:
 - (a) No alcohol-related games will be permitted at functions or events either within Irene or at external venues.
 - (b) Any activity that may encourage binge drinking, intoxication as its main goal, requires alcohol consumption to participate or results in the swift and/or high-volume consumption of alcohol is prohibited in the residence.
 - (i) These activities include, but are not limited to, drinking games, funnelling and 'shot gunning'.
 - (c) No alcohol may be sold at functions or events in Irene without a certified liquor license. This includes serving of alcohol included in the price of the ticket for the function/event.
 - (d) The responsible use of alcohol may be permitted during events hosted by and in Irene.
 - (e) At all events organised by Irene, provision will be made for non-alcoholic drinks and sufficient food to empower Ireners to exercise responsible drinking habits.
 - (f) For events hosted by Irene at external and internal venues:
 - (i) Alcohol will be limited to the amount stipulated in the Annexure B Alcohol Application Form for events.
 - (ii) The committee planning the function must complete an Alcohol Application Form in accordance with Annexure B, as well as an Alcohol Calculation Form in accordance with Annexure C, and these forms must be:
 1. signed by the House Committee Member responsible for the committee and
 2. submitted to and approved by the Residence Head, seven (7) days prior to the event. Failure to do so may result in the alcohol application form not being approved.

- (iii) “Tranquillity Area”: Area away from where alcohol is served and where only water is available. Will be set aside at every event.
- (iv) Two (2) Ireners must be appointed to act as alcohol monitors at the function. Their responsibilities include, but are not limited to:
 1. Monitoring the entrance of an event to ensure that prohibited alcohol is not brought into the event.
 2. Monitor the cash bar to oversee consumption of alcohol.
 3. Being mindful of the Tranquillity Area and the attendees in that space.
 4. Working with the Safety House Committee member/Vice Primaria as safety officers that attendees in need can use as a point of contact.

6 Education on safe drinking and substance use

- (1) During Welcoming Week, a session on Safe Drinking must be presented to the Newcomers.
- (2) The session should be an introductory conversation on the topic in which “Safe Drinking”, “Binge Drinking” and “Substance Abuse” are discussed with the Newcomers.
- (3) The discussion should also emphasize the importance of knowing one’s limit. If possible, peer pressure and the bystander effect with regards to the drinking culture in Stellenbosch must also be addressed to bring awareness to subtle behaviours that enable the drinking culture.
- (4) This discussion may also include which steps to take in caring for intoxicated friends, such as providing them with enough water, sleeping on their side, etc.
- (5) An annual Let's Talk session will also take place outside of the Welcoming period to also educate and encourage seniors regarding the above-mentioned points.

7 Transgressions of this policy

- (1) The following behaviours will, along with the other provisions of the policy, be considered as transgressions of the policy and are therefore not to be tolerated:
 - (a) Extreme and disturbing noise as a result of alcohol consumption,
 - (b) Any conduct or behaviour related to alcohol consumption that threatens the safety and well-being of the individual that has consumed alcohol or others around them.
 - (c) Alcohol consumption that disrupts the academic atmosphere within the residence.
 - (d) Drinking behaviour that alarms others due to irresponsible alcohol consumption.
- (2) Any alcohol consumed outside the designated spaces or not in line with the provisions of this policy may be confiscated and discarded of.
- (3) Transgressors of this policy will be dealt with in terms of the values and internal disciplinary procedures of the residence. While the storage and consumption of alcohol in student accommodation are dealt with as a residence matter, repeated offences will become a disciplinary matter.

- (4) Extreme transgressions by an individual or group may lead to the suspension of alcohol for that individual or for the entire residence.

**ANNEXTURE A
REQUEST FOR ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IN IRENE**

Ireners are to obtain consent from the respective House Committee Member, as stipulated in Section 5(2) of Irene’s Alcohol Policy, before the consumption of alcohol will be permitted.

The completed Annexure A document is to be emailed to the HC member for approval **by 10:00 A.M. the day prior to the date being applied for**. Failure to meet this timeline will result in the request being declined.

Annexure A is to be signed by the Irener and will be sent back to the Irener with the HC’s signature upon approval.

Name of Irener: _____

Student number: _____

Date requested for drinking: _____

Time requested for drinking: _____

Venue requested for drinking: _____

Will the Irener be accompanied by a visitor: _____

If “YES”, provide the name of the visitor: _____

Name of HC member: _____

Irener’s Signature: _____

HC’s Signature of approval: _____

Date: _____

ANNEXTURE B
APPLICATION FOR THE USE OF ALCOHOL FOR AN EVENTS

Name of Applicant: _____

Contact Details: _____

Name and date of event: _____

Time duration of event: _____

Attending the event: _____

HC Member: _____

Residence Head: _____

Beverage Terms are as follows:

Drinks contain the following number of units:

- Single serving of hard liquor (25ml of for example gin): 1 Unit
- A beer/cider (440ml): 2 Units
- A glass of wine (175ml): 2 Units

The above is in line with the units used in South Africa.

Assumptions:

- The alcohol limit for men is 5 units in 4 hours
- The alcohol limit for women is 4 units in 4 hours
- 25% of people attending will not be drinking alcoholic beverages.

Amount of alcohol allowed at an event:

Annexure B is to be presented along with Annexure C: *Calculation Of Alcohol Units Allowed.*

Approval:

Resident Head: _____

Primaria: _____

Vice Primaria: _____

Date: _____

ANNEXTURE C

CALCULATION OF ALCOHOL UNITS ALLOWED AT EVENTS

Annexure C is to be submitting along with Annexure B upon obtaining consent for alcohol to be served at any Irene event, hosted in or outside of Irene.

If wine will be served:

A glass of wine (175ml): 2 Units

Number of persons expected	
Non-drinkers (25%)	
Number of alcohol users	
Number of men drinking	
Number of women drinking	
Duration of event	
Number of tables	
Number of persons per table	
Number of wine bottles per table	
Total number of wine bottles provided	
Total amount of wine provided	mL
Amount of wine per person	mL
Amount of units in 175 mL wine	2 Units
Units provided:	-
Total amount of units	Units
Total units allowed:	-
Men (5 x number of men)	Units
Women (4 x number of women)	Units
TOTAL	Units

If hard liquor will be served (For example gin):

Single serving of hard liquor (25ml of for example gin): 1 Unit

Number of persons expected	
Non-drinkers (25%)	
Number of alcohol users	
Number of men drinking	
Number of women drinking	
Duration of event	
Number of tables	
Number of persons per table	
Number of hard liquor servings per table	
Total number of hard liquor servings provided	
Total amount of hard liquor provided	mL
Amount of hard liquor per person	mL
Amount of units in 25 mL hard liquor	1 Unit
Units provided:	-
Total amount of units	Units
Total units allowed:	-
Men (5 x number of men)	Units
Women (4 x number of women)	Units
TOTAL	Units

If beer/ciders (440ml) are served:

A beer/cider (440ml): 2 Units

Number of persons expected	
Non-drinkers (25%)	
Number of alcohol users	
Number of men drinking	
Number of women drinking	
Duration of event	
Number of tables	
Number of persons per table	
Number of beers/ciders per table	
Total number of beers/ciders provided	
Total amount of beer/ciders provided	mL
Amount of beer/ciders per person	mL
Amount of units in 440 mL beer/ciders	2 Unit
Units provided:	-
Total amount of units	Units
Total units allowed:	-
Men (5 x number of men)	Units
Women (4 x number of women)	Units
TOTAL	Units

Ireners can use the above tables to calculate precise amounts of alcohol that will be provided. Approval will

be obtained under the condition that the amount of served units adheres to the accepted amounts stipulated in Addendum A.

Name of Applicant: _____

Contact Details: _____

Name and date of event: _____

Time duration of event: _____

Attending the event: _____

HC Member: _____

Residence Head: _____

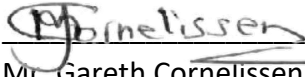
Residence Head signature: _____

Primaria signature: _____

Vice Primaria signature: _____

Date: _____

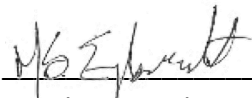
Approval



Mr. Gareth Cornelissen
Deputy Director: Operations
Centre for Student Life and Learning
CSLL representative

25 July 2024

Date



Resident Head

26 July 2024



Primaria



Vice Primaria

Ratified by the House on the 11 day of April at 19:00.