

Alcohol Policy

Templum Tu'at Priory

Drinking alcohol can:

Affect the ability of members to perform tasks safely

Affect the ability of members to work efficiently

Cause damage to the liver and brain, exacerbate heart disease, promote high blood pressure and increase the risk of some forms of cancer.

Increase the risk of injury or death from vehicular accident, falls, and other misadventure

Lead to weight gain and obesity

Harm the developing fetus in women who are pregnant, or a breastfeeding baby

For this reason we promote moderation and restraint in the use of alcohol.

It is important that the information is communicated in a mature sense which emphasizes importance without being condescending or insulting the intelligence of the attendee.

1) Pre event counseling

As part of the preparatory talk for any event or ritual which involves consumption of alcohol, the following information will be explicitly conveyed to participants by a person in a position of authority.

Participants encouraged to be aware of the amount of alcohol consumed.

Refer to handout or wall poster regarding alcoholic content of various drinks.

Approximate alcoholic content of any unlabeled alcohol will be disclosed.

Participants encouraged to space drinks to one or less per hour.

Participants encouraged to alternate alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks.

Identify location of potable water, soft drinks, and drinking vessels.

Safe ride home and or crash space options are discussed.

2) Flyers/Posters outlining the Dangers of Excessive Alcohol Consumption and showing safe quantities will be displayed in the common space, or provided as handouts.

The sample posters below were produced by the UK National Health Service and by presenting facts about alcohol in a mature, non insulting, way they are more likely to be taken seriously by adults who may be “turned off” by more alarmist messages.

Units of alcohol in different types of drink - this provides a ready reference for consumption

Potential health risks

3) Keep alcohol in a secure storage area

Alcohol owned by the group will be stored in a secure or restricted area, and only be made available on an “as needed” basis.

4) Alcohol will be stored at appropriate temperatures

To avoid spoilage which might tend to cause sickness or promote overdrinking

5) Alcohol will be served in a measured fashion

When alcohol is served in punches or cocktails it will be served in measured amounts (shots, half shots) so that drinkers can easily keep track of the number of units of alcohol they have consumed.

Alcohol content calculator for punch

Estimating the amount of alcohol in cocktails

6) Alcohol served in open containers

Certain ritual contexts call for alcohol bottles to be made available in the open on common or altar tables, and in some contexts these may be available for consumption by celebrants.

If allowable drinking vessels will be provided to encourage tracking of consumption, and/or participants will be warned about the consumption of unmeasured alcohol

7) The Group does not serve alcohol to minors

At any event where minors are present

For small events the person serving alcohol will be made aware of the identity of any minors by the Group Leader or Master

For larger events, or events where older minors are present, some system of markings or wristbands will be used to determine who is an adult

8) The Group does not serve visibly intoxicated individuals

At any event where alcohol is served as a part of entertainment, visibly intoxicated individuals will not be served alcohol

7) Serve Food

At any event where alcohol is served, we will serve high-protein, non-salty food like cheese and meat which have been shown to stay in the stomach, moderating and slowing the absorption of alcohol into the bloodstream.

8) Safe Ride/Crash Space

While we wish to avoid anyone becoming intoxicated, safety is paramount.

When practical anyone who does become intoxicated will be allowed to remain at the venue, supervised by an Officer, until sober.

When appropriate supervision is not available, the responsible Officer will not leave until any intoxicated individual has been provided with a Safe Ride home

Group maintains and posts on the wall current information about Sober Ride home programs, or if these are not available, the best rated local cab companies.

Group Officers will call cabs or ridesharing services (e.g. Lyft, Uber) in order to allow people to reach home safely without driving.

9) Followup Counseling

Individuals who become intoxicated will receive counseling by the Group Leader or Master before attending any additional events