

38th/40th Cork - Ballinlough Scout Group

Conflict of Interest Policy

Scouting in Ireland is a voluntary, uniformed, non-formal educational movement for young people. It is independent, non-political, open to all without distinction of gender, marital status, family status, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, race and membership of the Travelling Community, in accordance with the purpose, principles and method conceived by the Founder, Robert Baden-Powell as stated by the World Organisation of the Scout Movement.

The main object for which our Scout Group is established is for the purpose of benefit to our community to encourage, the social, physical, intellectual, character, emotional and spiritual development of young people so that those young people may achieve their full potential and, as responsible citizens, improve society.

This policy applies to the members of the 38th/40th Cork Ballinlough Scout Group Council

The members of the Scout Group Council have a legal and moral obligation to act in the best interests of this Scout Group and in accordance with the Constitution and the policies and procedures of this Scout Group and Scouting Ireland.

Conflicts of interest may arise where an individual's personal or family interests and/or loyalties to some other individual or group conflicts with those of the Scout Group and Scouting Ireland. Such conflicts may create problems.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to protect the Scout Group and its members from any appearance of impropriety.

What to do if you face a conflict of interest.

All conflicts of interest, whether actual or potential, should be declared promptly at the earliest possible opportunity.

Any member of the Scout Group Council who has a financial interest in a matter under discussion should declare the nature of their interest and withdraw from the discussion.

If a member of the Scout Group Council has an interest in the matter under discussion, which creates a real danger of bias, they should declare the nature of the interest and withdraw from the discussion.

If a member of the Scout Group Council has an interest in the matter under discussion, which does not create a real danger of bias, but which might reasonably cause others to think it could influence their decision, they should declare the nature of that interest, but may remain in the discussion, participate in the discussion, and vote if they wish.

If a member of the Scout Group Council is in any doubt about the application of these rules, they should consult with the chairperson.

If you fail to declare an interest that is known to the chairperson, the chairperson will declare that interest at the meeting.

Members are asked to list any possible conflicts of interest in a register using this policy and the text box below. The conflict of interests register needs to be updated annually and also when changes occur. If you are unsure whether what to declare you should seek advice from the chairperson.

In the event of the Group Council having to decide upon a question in which a member has an interest, all decisions will be made by vote, with a simple majority required. A quorum must be present for the discussion and decision. Interested parties will not be counted when deciding whether the meeting is quorate.

Interested Group Council members may not vote on matters affecting their own interests. All decisions under a conflict of interest will be recorded and reported in the minutes of the meeting. The record will show the nature of the conflict and the Group member involved.

Conflicts of Interest that are currently within the Group Council

As at 13th May 2026 no conflicts of interest were noted.

It was agreed to add a standing agenda item to declare conflicts or potential conflicts of interest at the beginning of every Group Council meeting. In the event that a conflict of interest is declared at a Group Council meeting, the relevant member will recuse themselves from any applicable vote.

This policy was reviewed and approved at the Group Council meeting on 13th May 2026