



Initiations Policy, Procedure and Guidelines October 2008

The Students' Union believes that;

A ban on initiations would not stop them from happening but would send them 'underground' and into the local community where sports, clubs and societies can not be monitored nor controlled and this would lead to poor community cohesion and would be detrimental to the Unions image as well as the safety of its members.

By hosting the ceremonies within our venues we are able to co-ordinate and facilitate them in a secure and controlled environment. If any complaint is made to the Students' Union by any parties involved in/affected by Initiations or similar activities the Students' Union may hold the committee members of the club involved to account which may lead to the club incurring a penalty (at the discretion of the Students' Union.)

Procedure and Policy:

Bucks Students' Union does not condone Initiations or similar activity taking place outside of controlled Union premises where such activity must be approved in advance by the Students' Union.

Proposals

Organisers of Initiations must submit a detailed written proposal to the Student Activities Co-ordinator 10 working days prior to the ceremony.

Detail

This proposal should include:

Theme, beverages required (to be purchased from the SU Bars exclusively), any activities including games/ challenges etc. and food stuffs to be used along with additional materials required from the Students' Union e.g. chairs and tables.

The proposal is subject to rejection/ amendments by the Students' Union. On approval (by the Students' Union) of the proposal a time slot and date for the initiations will be allocated by the Students' Union along with guidelines which must be adhered to.

Responsibility

There must be a delegate from each Initiation who is to be the main point of contact for Union Staff. This person must remain sober and competent

Approved by the executive Committee 15/10/08

throughout the ceremony and absence of such delegate may result in the cancellation of the Initiation ceremony.

Initiations will not be:

- Physically dangerous to the individual or others involved
- Disrespectful to the community
- Discriminatory
- Compulsory: under no circumstances should a member be penalised or discriminated against for not participating in Initiations or similar activity. Initiations and similar activity are voluntary and will not hinder members' participation level.

Initiations will be:

- Conducted in a safe and secure environment
- Stewarded and monitored throughout
- Inclusive
- Accessible
- Advertised appropriately by the Students' Union

Students' Union Bar Rules and Regulations

Standard Students' Union Bar procedures such as eviction and bans will be enforced throughout the event. The management has the right to refuse entry (including to anyone who is deemed drunk) in accordance with our entry policies. Any activity conducted which has not been approved by the Students' Union may result in eviction from the premises and may lead to the club/society incurring a penalty.

NOTE:

If any club/society fails to comply with the policy, procedures and guidelines they will be disciplined accordingly by the Students' Union.