



BURGMANN COLLEGE

Affiliated with The Australian National University

Alcohol Guidelines

Preamble

These guidelines have been developed by the Burgmann College Community. They represent the combined initiative of the Burgmann Residents Association and the Principal and were approved for adoption by the College Board in November 2009; they are reviewed and updated as needed. It is accepted that the responsible consumption of alcohol is the responsibility of all members of the Burgmann community.

Introduction

Burgmann College (ANU) is an adult academic community where all but the very few are of legal drinking age. Interestingly, as a multi-denominationally sponsored college, it was the first ANU Hall or College to open a Bar for its residents in 1971.

However, the College applies a strong duty of care in the provision, distribution and promotion of alcohol related events and venues in consideration especially of two things. Firstly, the average age of residents including our postgraduates is 20 and the greater majority of undergraduates are teenagers drawn together at a range of social opportunities and venues where alcohol is available. Secondly, the College has an educational role in promoting a healthy lifestyle among its youthful residents and especially in advocating a sensible, moderate and *maturing* approach to alcohol consumption.

Fundamentals

Burgmann College, then, is a community for young adults who require an appropriate social milieu for a successful student life and a successful study life and the College is licensed to sell and control the consumption of alcohol under an ANU statute. The College supports initiatives taken by ANU Accommodation Services relating to the supply and distribution of liquor in university residences and strongly endorses RSA (Responsible Service of Alcohol) principles.

Under the University's regulations, the Principal has sole responsibility for the supply of alcohol within the College and is the licensee of the Bar and the ultimate custodian of good order within the College. At College formal and special dinners wine is served along with non-alcoholic drinks, and pre-dinner drinks include beer, champagne and juice. The College will respond to the needs of any residents with alcohol-related problems with appropriate support and referral.

Please refer to the College Handbook for further details.

Guidelines

- 1 Burgmann College encourages moderation and a responsible attitude towards the consumption of alcohol aiming to create an environment free of peer group pressure to drink alcohol through the following initiatives:
 - a health and education campaign on alcohol consumption commencing in Orientation each year,
 - the distribution of the College alcohol guidelines to all residents prior to Commencement each year,
 - an annual meeting with BRA and residential leaders to establish their role as potential organizers where the supply of alcohol may be requested,
 - a training session for leadership team members prior to Orientation that focuses not only on the guidelines but also their application in the daily life of the floors and blocks.
- 2 There will be no service of alcohol to underage persons noting especially the arrival of first year students under the age of 18 years.
- 3 The consumption of alcohol in residential rooms is a **private activity** and should not be loud or disturb other residents. Individuals or small groups may consume alcoholic drinks in their own rooms and are subject to normal requirements of pro-social behaviour.
- 4 Group drinking of alcohol on College grounds or in common areas should be appropriate to the venue and not affect other residents. [See 3 above: a **private activity**]
- 5 Promotion of moderation and times of abstinence should be seen as a responsibility through the provision of education, *dry* events and an enlightened approach to liquor. Moderation and appreciation of quality (eg genuine wine appreciation) as distinct from quantity should be seen as more fitting college learning component for life; in short, the development of a healthy attitude to the place of alcohol in our lives.
- 6 It is unacceptable to be drunk and disorderly at Burgmann College or to engage in drunken behaviour which causes harm or disturbance to people or property.
- 7 It is unacceptable to take part in *drinking games* where the aim is to encourage over consumption, *binge drinking* or peer group pressure to drink.
- 8 Personal or group supplies of alcohol must not be taken into the Dining Hall.
- 9 Gatherings where alcohol is supplied should not encourage excessive drinking. Functions that promote *as much as you can drink for the price*

or *all-inclusive* tickets or *free drinks* are not appropriate in the College environment.

- 10 Sponsorship that actively encourages the irresponsible consumption of alcohol should be rejected. The College acknowledges that residents tend to patronize particular licensed premises and receive group benefits for doing so. However, these group benefits should not encourage the excessive consumption of alcohol.
- 11 The quantity of alcohol supplied will be in keeping with the nature and size of any approved function.
- 12 Where alcohol is served at a College function, food and non-alcoholic drinks will be provided.
- 13 The time and the time span (*when* and *how long*) for the distribution of alcohol is also in keeping with the nature and size of any approved function.
- 14 There shall be no BYO to the College Bar or events where alcohol is sold or provided by the College.
- 15 The organizers of an event will uphold RSA (Responsible Service of Alcohol) principles in practice and take appropriate action in response to unwelcome behaviour.
- 16 Removing alcohol (or other provisions) provided for a function will be seen as a serious offence.
- 17 Except for the express approval of the Principal for recognized college events, alcohol will not be supplied for free or be *heavily* subsidized. Prices for alcohol should be set at acceptable discounted *student* rates only.
- 18 Drunkenness is not an excuse for bad behaviour or for diminishing one's responsibility as a member of the College community.
- 19 The Principal will take action where contravention of any these guidelines occurs.

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