

Wet Mess Procedure

Purpose

This procedure provides guidance for the implementation of wet messes to leaders and executive teams of programs implemented at Lord Somers Camp by Lord Somers Camp and Power House (LSC&PH).

The aim of this procedure is to minimise the risk associated with wet messes whilst also minimising damage to the mess hut.

Scope

This procedure applies to all people who work, volunteer, are members of, or represent Lord Somers Camp and Power House.

Definitions

Duty of Care	A common law concept that refers to the responsibility of the organisation and individual to program participants, volunteers and members with a level of protection against harm. It is the duty of the organisation and its individuals to protect participants, volunteers and members from reasonably foreseeable risk of or real injury.
Employee	Any person employed by Lord Somers Camp and Power House.
Executive Team	The leadership team for a specific LSC&PH program or activity. Specific members /roles of an Executive Team are at the discretion of the Program or Activity Leader.
Leader	Any person (paid or unpaid) over the age of 18 who is responsible for the control and safety of members /volunteers placed in their care whilst holding a formal position in Lord Somers Camp and Power House. A leader could include but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp Leaders • Deputy Camp Leaders • Executive Officers • Programs Leader • Slushie King & Slushee Queen • Heads of Departments
LSC&PH Management Team	Persons employed by Lord Somers Camp and Power House, holding positions of management including: Chief Executive Officer, Camp

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	Manager, Programs and Activities Manager.
Member	Any person who has a current membership subscription to LSC&PH, including various life memberships, term membership or honorary life membership.
Participant	Any person who attends an LSC&PH program as a participant or a grouper.
Safety Officer	An employee, volunteer, or member who has undertaken suitable training, who is appointed to the role at each program or activity.
Volunteers	Any non-member who attends LSC&PH activities as a member of the camp's staff under the direction of a Camp Leader.
Wet mess	A whole camp experience where the camp dances to music in the mess hut and involves water.

Responsibilities

Board	<p>Satisfy their primary duty of care by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision and maintenance of a safe work environment • provision and maintenance of safe systems of work • provision of any instruction, training, information, and supervision • monitoring of workers health and conditions at the workplace, and • maintenance of any accommodation owned or under their management and control to ensure the health and safety of workers occupying the premises.
Leader	Camp Leader, Slushie King and Slushee Queen assume responsibility for implementing the wet mess after consultation with the Safety Officer.
Safety Officer	The nominated Safety Officer has ultimate responsibility during a wet mess and is required to stop a wet mess in the event of a safety concern.
Executive teams and employees	Ensuring that this procedure is communicated and applied within their programs and activities.
Volunteers, members,	Follow all reasonable instructions provided by LSC&PH employees and

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and participants

avoid take any actions that could reasonable be viewed as placing themselves or others at risk of injury or harm.

Procedures

Decision to implement a wet mess

The Camp Leader (in consultation with the Safety Officer) is responsible for determining if a wet-mess will be implemented. A key deciding factor is the outdoor temperature and weather conditions. If it is raining, or very cold weather, reconsider the purpose of the Wet Mess for the camp and whether it needs to be run, or be run at a reduced length or scale.

The nominated Safety Officer has ultimate responsibility during a wet mess and is required to stop a wet mess in the event of a safety concern.

Wet mess procedure

For a standard wet mess the procedure is as follows:

- Inform any visitors about the wet mess and provide a dry option if required.
- Ensure any members with injuries or physical disabilities are accounted for and in safe locations.
- Ensure any temporary electrical equipment is removed from the mess hut prior, e.g. Equipment or lighting used during a theme mess.
- Close the 'tech box' at the Hadden Hall end of the Mess Hut. (NB. The projectors do not need to be covered as long as this procedure is followed)
- Block the kitchen and scullery doors and cover gap under doors with towels to stop water going through. Do NOT use tea towels.
- Ensure all tables and chairs are cleared before starting a wet mess.
- Open the doors on the Lawn side of the Mess Hut to allow for easy exits.
- Hook a hose up to the sprinkler system (located on the roof between the Mess Hut and the Kitchen on the Lawn side of the building).
- Do not turn the hose on more than halfway.
- Water can run for up to 10 – 12 minutes (3 - 4 songs). The hose does not have to run for the entire duration, especially if the weather is cool.
- No extra hoses are to be used.
- When the music has stopped, move everyone out of the Mess Hut.
- Once the Mess Hut is clear, use the squeegee brooms, towels and mops to get the floor as dry as possible, as quickly as possible. If it is cooler weather, consider putting the floor heaters on to help.

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It is important to get all the water off the floor as quickly to minimise damage. Extra helpers should be recruited to help this process.

Station points during the implementation of a wet mess

The following station points should be in position during the implementation of a wet mess:

- At the hose (to turn it off if needed)
- Outside the Mess Hut on the Lawn Side (to watch the amount of water, to tell the hose controller when to turn it off, to watch people exiting and entering through the side doors safely)
- In the kitchen (to make sure no one tries to go through the door)
- In Scullery (to make sure no one tried to go through the door, to stop people from getting jugs of water)
- Outside Hadden Hall on the Creek side of the Mess Hut (to make sure no one goes to use the hose by the steps to the bridge)

Lord and Lady Somers Camps

Due to the nature of the Lord and Lady Somers Camps and availability of Slush to rapidly remove water from the mess hut, the length and implementation of the above procedure for a wet mess can be modified.

Damage to the mess hut

In the event that the Mess Hut floor is damaged due to the inappropriate implementation of wet mess, the cost of repair may be charged to the program.

Other relevant policies and procedures

- Code of Conduct
- Child Safety and Client Protection Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Risk Management Procedure
- OHS Policy

Procedure review

This procedure will be reviewed every two years by the Programs and Activities Committee or sooner if warranted by internal or external events or changes.

Changes to the procedure will be recommended to the LSC&PH Board for approval.