



# Templars' Park Scout Campsite



**Templars' Park Management Committee ('TPMC')**  
Detailed Guidelines & Rules

## **GUIDELINES FOR USERS**

Aberdeen District Scout Council welcomes you to Templar's Park Scout Campsite. The site is run with as few restrictions as possible but there are a number of rules and guidelines which are in place and must be followed to ensure the safety of all those using the site, to ensure child protection of our young members and for the smooth running of the campsite and its facilities.

The site does not have a permanent warden, but voluntary staff (Templars' staff) are on duty at weekends during the main camping season (March to October).

### **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

#### **Bookings & users**

All users must book prior to using the site (including day & evening visitors)

When the site is staffed, all leaders are asked to report to the Templars' staff at the reception office on arrival and before leaving the site

#### **Camp Fees**

Fees should be paid in advance; outstanding fees (camp, visits & activities) should be paid to Templars' staff on site, the shop or sent by cheque (made payable to ADSC Templars' Park) to the Treasurer (Jill Rafferty, 15 Highgate Gardens, Aberdeen, AB11 7TZ).

#### **Cars**

Vehicular access to the site is via the bottom road and not through the gates at the Avenue entrance.

For the safety of site users and to minimise deterioration of the tracks, speed must be restricted to 5mph and have hazard lights on.

To prevent unauthorised use, access is through a gate which is normally padlocked with a combination lock.

To preserve the amenity of the site and the safety of all site users, access to the site by vehicles is restricted, and cars are not normally allowed on site after 6.00pm on Friday evenings and before 3.00pm on Sunday afternoons.

Transport of heavy equipment to camping sites between these times can be organised by the warden staff by tractor and trailer. After dropping off camping equipment at one of the designated drop off points (either next to the GA Smith centre, next to the swimming pool or next to the top toilet block) all vehicles must be returned to the car parks.

Cars must remain on the tracks provided and at no time should cars be driven on the grass or to any of the camping fields.



# Templars' Park Scout Campsite



## **Templars' Park Management Committee ('TPMC')** Detailed Guidelines & Rules

### **Dogs**

Dogs are not permitted on the site (including the dunes) to ensure the safety of users.

Dogs may be exercised along the bottom track and the car park. All dog waste must be picked up and disposed of appropriately.

### **Waste Disposal**

All rubbish is the responsibility of the camper and should be bagged, secured and disposed of by users.

Rubbish bags can be disposed in the main bins available. These can be obtained from Templars' staff from the garage compound, and should be returned clean and empty after use.

All rubbish should be taken to the skips at the site entrance and not left on site. Trolleys are available on the site for the transport of rubbish and other equipment. As the site is charged for rubbish removal, please minimise the amount of rubbish to be disposed of, recycle as much material as possible and do not place un-bagged waste food directly into a wheelie bin or the skips at the main entrance.

There are no recycling facilities on-site, items for recycling (e.g. glass, plastic, paper) should either be taken home or there is a recycling facility at the Caravan Park next door to the campsite.

No wet pits are to be dug on-site, users should provide their own alternatives for collecting and disposing of liquid and food waste. Such waste should be disposed of appropriately.

### **Alcohol**

The site has an alcohol policy which must be strictly adhered to (see detailed policy which is available on site and on the website) in addition to the Scout Association alcohol policy.

Consumption of alcohol is the responsibility of the designated party leader who must take full responsibility for ensuring that rules are followed.

Anyone failing to follow these simple rules will be asked to leave the campsite.

### **Toilets & Showers**

Toilets & hot showers are available on site.

Please ensure that these are left in a clean and tidy condition after use.

At present, the site has only one unisex shower block. When mixed parties are using the site, different time slots for use of the showers may be allocated to males and females.



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## **Templars' Park Management Committee ('TPMC')** Detailed Guidelines & Rules

### **Pot Wash**

Hot water and sinks for washing dishes and cooking equipment is provided adjacent to the shop.

Please leave this facility in a clean and tidy condition after use.

### **Fires (including ground fires & altar fires)**

#### ***General***

No ground fires are allowed other than in designated marked areas (see Templars' staff for details if unsure).

All fires should be fully extinguished at the end of use and cleaned up appropriately.

All ashes should be removed and disposed of appropriately, unburnt wood returned to appropriate wood piles and sites left tidy.

#### ***Fire Wood***

Wood for cooking and for camp fires is available from the wood pile.

The supply of wood is limited, and Groups are asked to be economical in its use.

Any dead wood lying around the site can be used for burning (no live trees or branches should be cut).

#### ***Altar Fires***

Altar fires are available across the site or can be obtained from Templars' staff, and should be returned at the end of the visit.

Fires should not be lit on the ground, and ashes should be placed in the ash cans provided

#### **Camp Fire Circles**

There are two campfire circles (one small and one large camp fire circle) which are available on site.

Users should check with all other groups and encourage joint campfires. Depending on demand and availability of staff, Templars' staff may be willing to run camp fires.

As with all fires, the fire should be fully extinguished and left tidy before leaving site.

#### **Wet Weather facilities**

The Barn is available as wet weather activity area.

The Barn will be available on a first come first served basis and can be used through prior arrangement with a member of the Templars' staff (subject to bookings & activities).



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## **Templars' Park Management Committee ('TPMC')** Detailed Guidelines & Rules

### **Shops**

The campsite has a small, well stocked providore providing drinks, confectionery and souvenirs.

This is open at various times during weekends and can be opened at other times by prior arrangement with Templars' shop staff.

The Lower Deeside Caravan Park (next door to the campsite) has a small shop which stocks items of foods and Calor gas.

Other shops are available in Peterculter and Cults and there are main supermarkets along the South Deeside Road at the Bridge of Dee, six miles from the site.

### **Gates**

All gates must be closed at all times after use (including when coming into and out of the site, even if only for a short period of time) in order to avoid unauthorised access.

### **Fireworks**

The site has a fireworks policy which must be strictly adhered to (see detailed policy which is available on-site and on the website).

Use of fireworks is the responsibility of the designated party leader who must take full responsibility for ensuring that rules are followed and permission sought from Templars' staff.

Anyone failing to follow these simple rules will be asked to leave the campsite.

### **ACTIVITIES**

A number of instructor-led and leader-led activities are available on-site for either hire or use.

These can be arranged by prior booking through the Activities Organiser ([activities@templarspark.org.uk](mailto:activities@templarspark.org.uk)).

The Activities Organiser will arrange appropriate session times and instructors.

Activities may be available at short notice if appropriately trained Templars' staff are on-site and available.

Archery, Crate Climbing and use of the Abseiling and Climbing tower depend on the availability of our voluntary instructors.



# Templars' Park Scout Campsite



## **Templars' Park Management Committee ('TPMC')** Detailed Guidelines & Rules

### **INSTRUCTOR-LED ACTIVITIES**

#### **General**

All instructor-led activities are provided as sessions by the hour and numbers are restricted for a session.

The costs of activity sessions are available on the website, displayed on site, or can be advised by the Activities Co-ordinator.

The instructor-led activities can only be provided by trained Templars' activities staff or by appropriately qualified leaders (through prior agreement and upon production and checking of qualifications).

Outside qualified instructors must also adhere to Templars' Park activity operating procedures.

#### **Archery**

The site has a permanent outdoor archery range, or can be run indoors if the weather is inclement.

Archery sessions must be booked in advance by any party.

The group size per session is limited to a maximum of 12 people per hour (groups of young people must be accompanied by an adult).

#### **Climbing/Abseiling Tower**

The site has a permanent Climbing & Abseiling Tower.

Climbing & Abseiling sessions must be booked in advance by any party.

The group size per session is limited to a maximum of 10 people per hour (groups of young people must be accompanied by an adult).

In addition, the Climbing Tower incorporates a low level boulder wall which is available to all provided the tower is not being used for climbing or abseiling, but the activity must be supervised by a competent leader.

#### **Crate Climbing**

The site has a permanent crate climbing facility.

Crate climbing sessions must be booked in advance by any party.

The group size per session is limited to a maximum of 10 people per hour (groups of young people must be accompanied by an adult).



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## **Templars' Park Management Committee ('TPMC')** Detailed Guidelines & Rules

### **LEADER-LED ACTIVITIES**

#### **General**

There are a number of leader-led activities available which are either run on a first-come, first-served basis, or can be arranged in advance with Templars' staff.

All leader-led activities must be supervised by a competent leader.

#### **Pioneering Poles**

These are available on site for use and are situated in the pole store (next to the small campfire circle).

Users should supply their own ropes and other equipment (although a small amount of equipment is available on site through prior arrangement).

All pioneering projects should be dismantled and the equipment returned to the pole store when finished and before leaving the site.

Check with Templars' staff for availability and prior bookings.

#### **Sand Pit/Sand Dunes**

The sand pit can be used by Groups on a first-come first-served basis for activities such as sand castle building, volleyball, etc.

The sand dunes at the west end of the site are available for a wide variety of activities such as wide games, backwoods activities, etc.

When using the sand dunes care must be taken when the area is being used by the Segway activity (should be using the outskirts of the Dunes area and the overflow car park).

#### **Orienteering**

The site has a semi-permanent orienteering course, with three levels of routes available (Easy, Medium & Hard).

Maps and instructions are available either from Templars' staff, or the latest maps can be downloaded from the website.

Maps & instructions borrowed from Templars' staff must be returned after the activity.

Courses will change periodically so please check with Templars' staff or the website to ensure that you have the latest courses and information.



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## **Templars' Park Management Committee ('TPMC')** Detailed Guidelines & Rules

### **Adventure Obstacle Course**

An adventure obstacle course is available on-site (situated near the main wood pile).

Use of the adventure obstacle course must be supervised by competent leaders. All leaders should carry out a risk assessment before allowing their party to use the course.

### **Trampoline**

A trampoline is situated by the crate climbing area and is available to all.

Please adhere to the instructions by removing foot wear and having no more than one individual using the equipment at one time.

The activity should be supervised by competent leaders.

### **Other Activities**

Groups that erect aerial runways, swings and other pioneering structures or activities should ensure that they are only used under the supervision of a suitably qualified or competent leader, and that they follow Scout Association guidelines.

All activities must be dismantled before leaving the site.

Please note that there are no authorised rope swings on site, and any unauthorised tree/rope swings will be removed by Templars' staff.

### **External Activities**

The surrounding area is suitable for a wide range of leader-led activities including mountain biking, hillwalking, water activities, visits to local places of interest and other activity centres.

A range of activity & leisure centres and swimming pools are accessible from the site, either in Aberdeen or the surrounding towns and villages.