

Court of Honour

1st Eltham Venturers



“ On my honour, I promise ...”

A Court of Honour is an official meeting of the Unit Council constituted to determine various questions of social protocol, breaches of etiquette, and other allegations of breaches of honour. The Unit Constitution states that a Court of Honour is the mechanism to be used for determining penalties for breaches of the Code of Conduct, or for continual disregard of instructions.

A Courts of Honour will be established to address matters of a Unit member(s) acting in contravention of the Unit constitution, Scouting policies or the Code of Conduct.

Courts of Honour will operate under the basic principles of fairness, dignity and confidentiality, which shall apply to all participants. Most affairs of the Court of Honour are confidential, and the Unit Council will only report to the Unit only those matters which impact them.

All members of the Court of Honour should have no actual, or perceived, conflict of interest. Should such a situation arise then the panel member should disqualify himself/herself/theirself from the Panel.

PROCEDURE:

- The complaint or issue to be addressed should be in writing.
- The person who is the subject of the Court of Honour (individual(s)) should be advised as soon as practicable that the matter will be addressed by a Court of Honour and be provided with appropriate documentation.
- The Chair of the Court of Honour will, in consultation with the complainant(s), individual(s) and other members, set a time and location for the Court of Honour.
- At the hearing, the individual(s), may bring a support person who may not act as an advocate for the individual(s) but may clarify matters raised and discuss with the individual(s).
- The individual(s) should advise the Chair if a support person is to be in attendance.
- The Court of Honour should then interview the individual(s), again allowing sufficient time for an uninterrupted presentation. Items requiring clarification should be addressed as they arise – if not appropriate to leave until the end of the individual's presentation.
- At the conclusion of the formal hearing, Panel members should then discuss the information provided and meet with any other persons and/ or review documents as per above, in order to reach a conclusion.
- The Court of Honour Leader In Charge (LIC) will provide advice and guidance to the Panel members and may ask questions of the complainant(s) and individual(s) to clarify matters.
- When the Panel is satisfied that they have all relevant information available they should then discuss the matter and determine an outcome.
- The decision of the Panel shall be conveyed to the individual(s) and complainant(s) in writing and remain confidential. The Unit should retain records.