



club gan ainm!

The No Name! Club

Alcohol Policy

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Person Responsible for	Policy Committee Chairperson			
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No Name! Club Mission Statement

'No Name! Clubs respect the dignity, value and uniqueness of all young people by supporting, advocating and helping to safeguard their right to enjoy life, feel respected and to mature without a reliance on alcohol and other drugs'.

"One of the key arguments for policy action to address harmful use of alcohol is that harmful use of alcohol results in a significant health, social and economic burden on society at large"
World Health Organization 2014

Introduction

No Name! Club is a National Volunteer led Youth Organisation founded in 1978 with clubs throughout the country. No Name! Clubs are run by and for young people aged 15 years- 18 years who come together in a safe and lively environment where there is fun, friendship and enjoyment without the pressure of alcohol or other drugs.

No Name! Club is currently funded through: The Department of Children & Youth Affairs and The Health Service Executive.

Background

The No Name! Club was formed in Kilkenny in 1978. It was founded by Fr. Tom Murphy, Eddie Keher and Eamonn Doyle. It sought to provide an alternative to the pub culture and to give young people an opportunity to enjoy themselves in a social setting without the dutch courage which some people believe is given by alcohol.

The format of an evening centred on cabaret, dancing and a disco in comfortable surroundings with a wide range of non-alcoholic cocktails and drinks.

Central to the idea was the significant involvement of young people in planning and running the events of the night in co-operation with the adult committee – all of them working on a voluntary basis.

The provision of cabaret was an early idea so they tried a competition format based loosely on the Tops of the Town and this became very successful. Immense crowds turned up each night and many had to be turned away because there was no room. Companies began to pour more and more money into the preparation of the cabaret acts.

The club became, in a sense, a victim of its own success, eventually only those groups who spent a lot of money on their acts could hope to win. The Tops of the Town idea had to be abandoned and the club had to take a new direction so in the 1980's the focus changed entirely to young people and the organisation as it is today began to evolve.

The Work Done with Hosts and Hostesses in No Name! Clubs complements their formal education using a combination of character building and personal developments models of Youth Work.

Context

Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: National Policy Framework for Children and Young People sets out the Government's agenda and priorities in relation to children and young people aged under 25 years up to 2020.

This Policy Framework has adopted an outcomes approach, based on five national outcomes for children and young people. These outcomes state that they:

1. Are active and healthy, with positive physical and mental wellbeing.
2. Are achieving their full potential in all areas of learning and development.
3. Are safe and protected from harm.
4. Have economic security and opportunity.
5. Are connected, respected and contributing to their world.

No Name! Club will continue to work with all agencies to support and complement this policy and to provide our Hosts and Hostesses with the best possible positive options while safeguarding our unique ethos and approach.

Alcohol Policy

- Hosts and Hostesses have the right to enjoy a dignified lifestyle, free from pressure created by undue influences of alcohol or other drug substances.
- All people, especially Hosts and Hostesses, who do not wish to consume alcohol not only have a right to be safeguarded from pressures or encouragements to drink, but to be supported in their non drinking behaviour.
- The organisation is non censorious of drink and has respect for a person's legal right to drink alcohol. It has equal respect for the person's right not to drink should he/she so chose and encourages society generally to demonstrate actively that it also carries that respect.
- It seeks that society show, by its actions, the unacceptance of any behaviour, which adversely affects the dignity of the person or the common good.
- It believes in the innate goodness of Hosts and Hostesses generally and the enormous potential and great capacity they have to live honourably and to positively influence the lives of others without the use of alcohol. Peer pressure and peer pull can, and does, work for good.
- The No Name! Club believes in accompanying our Hosts and Hostesses towards these objectives.
- It further recognises the potential and capacity of a local adult community, in tandem with its youth, to address an adverse drink and drug culture and create a vibrant youth community.
- In all it does, the organisation will strive to adopt a positive approach and avoid negativity of any kind. The meaningful involvement and inclusion of Hosts and Hostesses in opportunities to engage, learn and develop in a safe environment is at the core of No Name! Club actions.
- No Name! Club will promote respect, sobriety and dignity in all its activities and endeavours

Fact	Source	No Name! Club
<p><i>“Early initiation of alcohol use (before 14 years of age) is a pre-indicator of impaired health status because it is associated with increased risk for alcohol dependence and abuse at later ages “</i></p>	<p><i>(Grant & Dawson), 1997</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delaying the onset of drinking alcohol can have a positive effect on the lives of Hosts and Hostesses. • Providing a safe positive environment where Hosts and Hostesses can socialise without the need to use alcohol/ drugs. • By demonstrating positive alternatives • Allowing Hosts and Hostesses an opportunity to grow and develop their strengths, resilience and competencies in a holistic and positive way
<p><i>“3 in 4 (76%) Irish people aged 15 and over have drunk alcohol in the past 12 months.”</i></p>	<p><i>Healthy Ireland Survey 2015</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise harmful effects on Hosts and Hostesses. • Accepts that alcohol and drug use is a complex, multi-faceted phenomenon. • Recognises Hosts and Hostesses vulnerability to and capacity for effectively dealing with alcohol and drug-related harm. <p>Does not attempt to minimise the harm and devastation associated with alcohol and drug use.</p>
<p><i>“Informal learning is enhanced when humans participate in interactive experiences.”</i></p>	<p><i>Allen (2004; Birchfield et al. 2008)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion/talks • Presentations • Information/Advice/Guidance • Carried out in a flexible and informal way. • Respond to the needs of individuals and groups. • Learning through experience. • Learning through reflection on doing. <p>Positive experience of an alcohol and drug free setting.</p>

Fact	Source	No Name! Club
<p><i>My World Survey highlights the positive influence that One Good Adult can have in the lives of young people. 70% of young people growing up in Ireland today said they receive high or very high support from One Good Adult. These young people in turn are more connected to others, more self-confident, future looking and better able to cope with difficulties than those young people who reported that they did not have the support of One Good Adult</i></p>	<p><i>My World Survey (Dooley & Fitzpatrick, 2012)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Leaders in No Name! Club provide a positive role model for our Hosts and Hostesses in demonstrating that alcohol and drugs are unnecessary for a fulfilling and happy life. <p>No Name! Club supports our Adult Leaders and our Hosts and Hostesses in becoming Positive Role Models.</p>
<p><i>Self-esteem and self-efficacy are important traits for advancing both personal and career goals. Self-efficacy increases the effectiveness of oral communication and promotes civic participation</i></p>	<p><i>(Verba and Nie 1972; Verba, Schlozman, and Brady 1995).</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive self-esteem gives our Hosts and Hostesses strength and flexibility to take control of their lives and grow from their experiences. <p>No Name! Club promotes positive self-esteem and confidence in all our interactions with our Hosts and Hostesses and encourages our young people to do the same.</p>
<p><i>“At least part of the excess risk among young people is related to the fact that, typically, a greater proportion of the total alcohol consumed by young people is consumed during heavy drinking episodes. Also, young people appear to be less risk-averse and may engage in more reckless behaviour while drunk</i></p>	<p><i>(US Surgeon General, 2007).</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Name! Club encourages positive peer pressure to be a positive influence, helping our Hosts and Hostesses to challenge and motivate themselves.

References

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