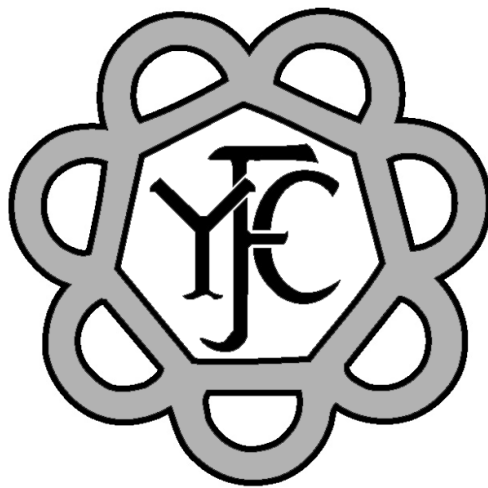


Yorkshire Federation of Young Farmers' Club

Alcohol Policy



Approved by Executive Committee
25th January 2024

Regional Agricultural Centre, Great Yorkshire Showground, Railway Road,
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ALCOHOL POLICY

YFC Members have a great tradition of looking after their own and this policy is to assist with that, whilst reminding senior members (i.e. those over 18 years of age) of the law and our duty of care.

Alcohol is freely available in the great wide world and indeed in many areas of Britain, anti-social behaviour brought on by its abuse by underage drinkers has become a real problem. To minimise the risk within YFC it is important to ensure that all our membership is aware of the law and the dangers of alcohol abuse.

The YFC programme lends itself very well to this in many areas. Firstly, many of our members may well have their first experience of alcohol within a YFC environment, whether in the pub after a meeting or at one of our many social functions. Also, through our varied programme of speakers and visits, it is possible to involve members with talks from the likes of Alcohol Awareness, The Police, Alcohol Concern etc, and matching in a balanced manner with a trip to a brewery or a talk by a winemaker. See also the NFYFC curve training modules 'know your limits' for over 18 year olds and a training session for 16–18 year olds. 'Drive It Home', is another Curve module which focuses on Road Safety and includes activities on dangerous driving and the affects of alcohol. So, as you can see YFC Alcohol Education can be fun and informative.

THE LAW

Licensing Law 2003:

The 'protection of children from harm' is one of the four licensing objectives of the Licensing Act 2003. Under this act it is illegal for children under 18 years old to:

- Be sold alcohol anywhere.
- Be given alcohol.
- Drink alcohol in a licensed premises, (unless they are aged 16 or 17 year having a meal with an adult in which case they can drink beer, wine, cider or perry).
- Try to buy alcohol (unless the child has been asked to test-purchase alcohol from a relevant premises by a police officer or a trading standards officer).
- Under 18's may NOT be employed (or volunteer) in a bar or licensed premises.

Under 16 year olds:

- It is an offence to allow children under 16 on premises that are used exclusively or primarily for the supply of alcohol, or premises open for such supply, if they are not accompanied by an adult. This applies to premises with a premises licence, a club premises certificate, or a permitted temporary event notice.
- It is an offence for any person to allow an unaccompanied child under 16 to be on relevant premises between the hours of midnight and 5am when the premises are open for the supply of alcohol for consumption there.

- It is not an offence if the unaccompanied child is on premises solely for the purpose of passing to or from some other place where there is no other convenient means of access.

Persistently Selling alcohol to children:

- An offence of 'persistently selling alcohol to children' can be committed if, on two or more different occasions within three months, alcohol is sold on the same premises to a person aged under 18. The penalty for this offence on summary conviction will be a fine of up to £10,000 and, where the offender is a premises licence holder, the premises licence to sell alcohol could be suspended for up to three months.

Legal Consequences:

- The maximum fine for selling or supplying alcohol to children is £5,000.
- Personal licences can be suspended or forfeited at first offence.

YFYFC GOOD PRACTICE:

- i) Wherever Young Farmers are hosting an event and alcohol is available always try to have the bar in a separate room.
- ii) It is recommended to use a wrist band system; this both ensures that those aged under 18 are not served by the bar staff as well as ensuring that all those present have paid or should be there. Double check with County Office for the list of known banned members from all YFC areas.
- iii) Always consider using registered door staff (SIA Security), this can have many benefits as they are trained to handle large volumes of exuberant young people, can deal with most eventualities and are very often First Aid trained.
- iv) Always consider having a chill out room where members who are over exuberant can be monitored by a steward and possibly a responsible person from their club. Should the member not respond in a favourable manner to the chill out period then consideration should be given to either taking them home or contacting their parents with a view to taking them home.
- v) Consider having trained medical staff (i.e. St John, Red Cross etc) on hand to deal with both drunkenness and any other medical emergency.
- vi) Always refer to the YFYFC Behaviour Policy if you are unsure as to what action to take against a persistent offender.
- vii) The YFYFC operates a ZERO Tolerance policy on Drink Driving, REMEMBER if members lives are placed in danger by the actions of a drinking member it is your duty to use the officers of the law to deal with the situation.
- viii) Do not allow members to bring their own drink on to the premises.

- ix) Encourage the practice of sensibly priced or even free soft drinks for drivers. Encourage members to drink water by providing free tap water or buying bottled water.
- x) Ensure that those clearly unfit to continue drinking are denied access to further alcohol.
- xi) All members aged under 18 (preferably aged 16-18 years) must have a signed Parental Consent Form and their membership card which is kept on their person at all times and not collected in by the Stewards.
- xii) The Chief Steward or Events, Finance and General Purposes Chairman will give all bar stewards and door stewards an updated copy of the YFYFC Stewards Guidelines prior to the event.

A Responsible Approach to selling alcohol:

YFYFC, understand we have a responsibility to consider issues under our control such as pricing, promotions and advertising at our events. As such we comply with the revised section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 which includes that:

- a) We will abide by the conditions of the licence and operating schedule regarding opening times methods.
- b) There will be an appropriate number of SIA registered security personnel hired for the event who will monitor behaviour and assist in the peaceful operation of the event.
- c) Consideration will be given to the provision of drinking glasses and glass bottles and where possible plastic glasses will be used (recyclable if possible).
- d) A robust and secure cash management system will be in place involving secure cash handling, with any cash registers or cash boxes placed at the rear of the bar and frequent banking with security stewards.
- e) Stewards will not be allowed to arrange or participate in any irresponsible drink's promotions in relation to the premises.
- f) YFC will not run 'irresponsible promotions' which is an activity which encourages the sale and consumption of alcohol in a manner which carries a 'significant risk of contributing to crime and disorder, prejudice to public safety, public nuisance or harm to children' (the licensing objectives). Irresponsible promotions would include:
 - Games or other activities which encourage individuals to drink alcohol within a time limit or drink as much as possible.
 - The provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol for free or for a fixed or discounted fee (other than any promotion in relation to alcohol consumption at a table meal).
 - The provision of free or discounted alcohol or any other thing as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol over a period of 24 hours or less.

- Dispensing alcohol directly into the mouth. For example, this may include drinking games such as the 'dentist's chair' where a drink is poured continuously into the mouth of another individual.
 - For further information for drinks packaging and promotions, please check out: <https://www.portmangroup.org.uk/>
- g) If anyone is discovered buying alcohol for someone who is underage, they may be ejected from the site, or reported to the police.
 - h) Bar stewards are required by law to refuse to serve anyone they suspect of being intoxicated.
 - i) Free tap water/bottled water should be available on request.
 - j) A "cooling off" room/safe space should be provided, where members can sober up, be given water to drink, monitored by the Chief Steward especially if they appear vulnerable.
 - k) The bar stewards will ask for proof of age, if they cannot provide suitable proof then they will not be served, ie check YFYFC membership cards with cut corners. Proof includes passport, photo driving licence and accredited ID card schemes.
 - l) As part of the government 2012 reforms to encourage greater community involvement in local alcohol licensing decisions, licensing authorities are required to publish locally key information about new licensing applications, including details of the address of the relevant premises and guidance on how to make representations to the licensing authority.

Drinks Service Policy:

YFYFC will consider the following drinks service policy in liaison with the venue's management:

- a) We will not sell spirits in quantities greater than a double normal serve measure (max. 50ml) in one glass.
- b) We will not mix spirits in the same glass other than as part of recognised cocktails.
- c) We will not serve spirits into draught alcohol products e.g. pour a measure of whisky into a pint of lager.
- d) We will not stock any product over 50% ABV.
- e) Bar Stewards will be specifically reminded of their legal obligation not to serve those who appear to be excessively under the influence of alcohol.
- f) We will refuse the service of alcoholic products to those who have already drunk too much.
- g) We will always have free water available at the bar.
- h) We will serve reasonably priced hot food alongside alcohol trade whenever reasonably possible.

Incident Follow Up:

In the case where an incident has occurred this must be followed up using the appropriate Incident/Near Miss Form which should be forwarded to the County Chairman at the earliest opportunity. All serious incidents will be discussed with the Designated Safeguarding Officer.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, YFYFC is about “fun, learning and achievement” and it can be as much fun learning to drink sensibly with your friends and fellow members as anybody, this can lead to good nights out, with good people for many years to come. We aim to follow this policy whilst providing Young Farmer Members and their guests a safe and welcoming social environment.

Concern:

Should you be concerned about your own drinking habits or those of your friends or peers, please do not hesitate to seek help from the following helplines and websites:

Alcoholics Anonymous 24/7 hrs	https://www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk/	Helpline: 0800 9177 650
Alcohol Change UK	https://alcoholchange.org.uk/help-and-support/get-help-now	
Al-Anon	https://www.al-anonuk.org.uk/	0800 0086 811
NACOA	https://nacoa.org.uk/	0800 358 3456
Drink Aware	https://www.drinkaware.co.uk/	0300 123 1110
Release	https://www.release.org.uk/	020 7324 2989

Signed:

Kirsty Chapple, County Chairman

Dated: 25th January 2024

To be reviewed in January 2027