



## Weapons Policy

### Expected Standards

There are 4 licensing objectives of equal importance:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm

It is the duty of security, managers, supervisors and staff to create a safer environment for patrons and staff and uphold the licensing objectives especially in relation to prevention of crime and disorder and public safety when considering offensive weapons.

The legal definition of an offensive weapon is “**any article made or adapted for use for causing injury to the person or intended by the person having it with him for such use by him or by another**”. It is an offence for any person to have in their possession in a public place a bladed or sharply pointed article; a bladed article excludes a folding pocketknife with a blade cutting edge not exceeding 3 inches.

In performing their duties, the security and duty staff should prevent customers entering the premises with any article they consider could be used as a weapon to cause injury to another person. This will include knives of any description; knuckle-dusters, clubs, coshes, any article made with a blade or sharp edge, certain tools such as Stanley knives, wood chisels, scissors and gas sprays, firearms, replica guns, etc.

Security should never retain any weapon; all offensive weapons should be transferred immediately to the responsible member of duty staff for safe storage in a secure place until the weapon is handed over to the Police. All details will be recorded carefully in an incident log.

### Dissemination of Policy to Staff

Managers have a responsibility to make known to all existing and new staff or security teams the existence of our weapons policy and advise staff what their responsibilities are in relation to it, including where relevant the search and seizure procedures of weapons.

### Prevention of people with weapons from entering the premises

Licensees have a duty to prevent people with weapons from entering the premises in order to protect their staff and other customers.

- Customers should be made aware of the weapons policy`.
- The Policy for searching customers for weapons should be advertised as widely as possible and displayed prominently in the entrance to the event.
- Any items found should be stored in a secure storage area and recorded before they are handed to the Police.
- Arrangements should be made for the Police to collect the items within 24 hours where possible.

**Date Created:**

**Date of last review:**