

# SOMERVILLE ARMORY

## Rules and Code of Conduct Policy

The Somerville Armory is dedicated to providing services, materials, and space that meet the entertainment, cultural, educational, recreational, and civic needs of all people in Somerville. The Armory and its tenants support cultural enrichment and civic engagement for all members of the community.

In order to maintain an environment that supports these activities, we ask all Armory users to respect the following rules so that all may feel safe and undisturbed in the building. Failure to comply with these rules may result in suspension of Armory visitation and use privileges.

### RULES:

1. All patrons must wear a shirt and shoes in the Armory common areas (defined below).
2. Children under the age of 7 must be accompanied by someone age 14 or older at all times. If a problem arises with a child of any age, and Armory tenants or City staff are unable to locate a parent or guardian, police may be called at the discretion of the staff.
3. Parents or guardians are responsible for the behavior and supervision of their young children. Parents may be held liable for damage done by a child under 18 (M.G.L . c. 231, § 85G).
4. Food and drinks in enclosed containers are permitted in common areas of the Armory. Eating and drinking are prohibited in the common areas including hallways.
5. In order to prevent theft and enhance the security of the Armory and its tenants City of Somerville staff and the City's contracted security staff may check all backpacks, knapsacks, and other items used for carrying or transporting items, including weapons, whether or not an alarm has been triggered. Tenants may additionally subject visitors to searches when entering their spaces.
6. The public must use authorized entrances to and exits from the Armory.
7. Armory users are expected to comply with Somerville 's Hate Speech Policy.
8. The use or possession of alcohol or smoking of marijuana is prohibited in the common areas of the Armory.
9. For the purposes of these Rules, "common areas" shall include, but not be limited to, hallways, stairwells, front steps, basement, sidewalks, parking areas, and outdoor areas within twenty-five (25) feet of the Armory building. Anyone found to be violating these rules may be asked to comply with the rules or to leave. The Somerville Police Department may also be contacted to enforce compliance.

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### PROHIBITED CONDUCT

The following acts and behaviors are not appropriate and are prohibited in the Somerville Armory common areas (as defined above):

- Creating a disturbance by making noise, talking loudly, yelling, or engaging in disruptive behavior after being asked by City staff (including Somerville Police) or by a tenant, as applicable, to stop.
- Prolonged visiting or socializing in public areas of the Armory that disrupts the use of the building by Armory tenants or other Armory visitors.
- Threatening the safety or rights of Armory users, tenants, patrons or City staff, or interfering with Armory tenants, patrons, users and/or City personnel in the performance of their duties. This includes harassment or intimidation by means of disorderly behavior, abusive, obscene, threatening, or profane language, or by the possession of weapons.
- Indecent exposure and lewd speech or behavior (MGL Ch 272, Sec. 53).
- Loitering near or obstructing public entrances and exits or aisles.
- Running or jumping in the Armory common areas.
- Entering areas designated “Staff Only” or tenant spaces without authorization.
- Throwing, bouncing, or playing with a ball or other object in the Armory common areas.
- Using or storing wheeled devices in the Armory common areas, including bicycles, roller blades, scooters, skateboards and other devices. Collapsible wheeled carts for shopping, wheelchairs, walkers and strollers are welcome. These items may be brought on Armory premises but at no time may they be left unattended anywhere in the Armory building, or obstruct public entrances, exits, or aisles.
- Bringing animals into the Armory common areas except those needed to assist persons with disabilities (MGL Ch. 272, Sec. 98A, ADA Requirements: Service Animals) or for Armory programming.
- Misuse of the public restrooms, for example, as a laundry, bathing facility, or for phone calls. Flushing of any materials other than waste and toilet paper is strictly prohibited.
- Smoking or vaping: lighting cigar, cigarette, pipe or other tobacco or non-tobacco product designed to be combusted and inhaled (MGL Ch. 270, Sec. 22).
- Spitting, except in receptacles provided for the purpose.
- Theft or defacement of, or damage to any portion of the Armory property.

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### ENFORCEMENT:

Failure to comply with the Armory's Rules, regulations, and policies may result in removal from the Armory property by the Somerville Police Department and suspension of Armory use privileges for a period of time. In addition to calling law enforcement, appropriate legal action may follow including arrest, a trespass order, and/or prosecution.

Please note the list of prohibited acts and behaviors is not exhaustive. City staff may address any other behaviors which interfere with the use and enjoyment of the Armory by other users and/or interfere with City staff, Armory tenants, or their employees in the performance of their duties.

Determinations regarding suspension of Armory privileges will be made based on the severity of the violation. City staff, at their sole discretion, may issue one or more warnings to violators before suspension of Armory privileges, based on the severity of violation.