

4.1 Consent Policy

All activity taking place at Capital PAH sponsored or attended events must follow the accepted principles of Safe, Sane, and Consensual as defined here:

- **Safe:** reasonable attempts should be made to identify and prevent risks to health
- **Sane:** activities should be undertaken in a sane and sensible frame of mind
- **Consensual:** all activities should involve the full consent of all parties involved, as described below. Note, though, that legal consent may not create a defense to criminal liability for any injuries caused; furthermore, this is not necessarily limited to physical injury.

With that in mind, we will implement the following standards:

- Capital PAH fully supports and enforces the use of house Safewords.
- **“YELLOW”** = Caution, slow down, or take a break
- **“RED”** = Stop this activity now
- **“SAFWORD”** = I require outside assistance and all scene activities must stop.
- Negotiation is encouraged before any type of interaction to clearly define roles and expectations. It is the right of any participant to choose whether or not to participate in any interaction.
- Affirmative consent must be obtained prior to participation (only “yes” means “yes,” and “no” means “no”). Consent by any party may be withdrawn at any time.
- Force, coercion, intimidation, or threatening behavior may not be used to gain consent.
- Negotiated consent is only valid for the specific interaction or scene. Additional or subsequent interactions or scenes must be renegotiated.
- Consent is not valid if made under an altered state. Examples of altered states include:
 - Under the influence of alcohol
 - Under the influence of any drugs, legal or illegal
 - When not in control of one’s physical capacities
 - When not in control of one’s mental capacities
 - While unconscious
- Consent should not be renegotiated in the middle of or directly after an interaction or scene.

If you experience unacceptable behavior or witness an incident, please inform any member of the Board or appropriate venue staff. Any request for anonymity/confidentiality will be granted and protected. We will listen to your report, intervene if necessary, gather information, and help determine what are the best actions to take. Typically “action” takes the form of immediate intervention, if possible; safety is paramount. Further action may range from:

- Having a private conversation about minor offending behavior.
- Conflict mediation, if appropriate and requested.
- Requiring the offending individual to leave the premises for the evening.
- Temporarily banning the offending individual from all Capital PAH events.
- Permanently banning the offending individual from all Capital PAH events.

Further details are given in the Capital PAH Consent Incident Policy and Safe Reporting section. Due to the nature under where consent may be given, Capital PAH will have their events split into two separate categories – to be specified upon each announcement.

Socials: these events are primarily geared towards socializing. In addition, these events may have moshing occur. Because this is the extent of interaction allowed, alcohol may be acceptable at the venue. This does not validate violations of consent while under an altered state (see standards above).

Play Parties: these events take place at venues that are setup to allow for scenes beyond moshing and allow for a greater range of interaction. Due to the nature of these events, no alcohol will be allowed at the space.

Good Samaritan: While in attendance of any Capital PAH event, if you think you or someone else needs emergency services *due to overdose* (or any other medical emergency) call 911.

Section E – Consent Incident Policy and Safe Reporting Terms:

- Reporting Party: The accuser, harmed, or aggrieved person.
- Alleged Offender: The accused, harming or aggrieving person.

If there is any incident or perceived incident of a consent violation at Capital PAH sponsored or attended events, we want to do our best to understand the situation, document the details, address the needs of the Reporting Party and inform the Alleged Offender.

Any individual who feels another has crossed the boundaries of acceptable or negotiated behavior may bring this incident to any appropriate venue staff or manager on duty. Their signifiers and location will vary depending upon the space. The incident should be brought up to the Board as soon as able, regardless of if venue staff is available .

Appropriate venue staff and Board members trained in psychological first aid will manage further interactions for the incident. Any interaction or interview with any party or parties regarding the incident will be held in a quiet area that provides a safe, comfortable space with a reasonable expectation of privacy.

Parties may include an additional representative to facilitate understanding. All information will be kept confidential except in response to criminal or civil complaint requests where information must be provided to criminal investigators

or legal representatives. Only the Board will have access to this information, with the exception of anonymous reporting to the Master of Arms as described in the Bylaws. In this case, the identity of the Reporting Party will be kept confidential fully. Any Capital PAH member or guest with questions regarding the Capital PAH Consent Incident Policy should discuss them with a member of the Board.