
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1996 No. 3159

The Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996

PART IV

CONDUCT OF REGISTERED CLUBS

Preservation of order

Drunkenness in registered clubs

35.—(1) A registered club shall not—

- (a) permit drunkenness or any disorderly conduct to take place on the premises of the club; or
- (b) supply intoxicating liquor to a drunken person knowing him to be such.

(2) If paragraph (1) is contravened—

- (a) the registered club; and
- (b) every official of the club at the time of the contravention; and
- (c) the person permitting the drunkenness or disorderly conduct or, as the case may be, supplying the intoxicating liquor,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale.

(3) Where any person is found drunk on the premises of a registered club he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

(4) In any proceedings for an offence by reason of a contravention of paragraph (1) it shall be a defence for a person to prove that he exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of such an offence.

(5) Where a person is charged under paragraph (2), with permitting drunkenness in contravention of paragraph (1)(a) and it is proved that any person was drunk on the premises of the registered club, the burden of proving that the defendant took all reasonable steps to prevent drunkenness in the club premises shall lie upon him.

Procuring drink for drunken person

36.—(1) If any person on the premises of a registered club procures intoxicating liquor for consumption by a drunken person he shall be guilty of an offence.

(2) If any person aids a drunken person in obtaining or consuming intoxicating liquor in premises as mentioned in paragraph (1) he shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) If any person without reasonable excuse brings a drunken person into premises of a registered club he shall be guilty of an offence.

Changes to legislation: *The Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, Cross Heading:*
Preservation of order is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 February 2023.
There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in
the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

(4) A person guilty of an offence under this Article shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

(5) A person shall not be convicted of an offence under this Article unless the court is satisfied that he knew or ought to have known the condition of the person in connection with whom the charge is brought.

Power to exclude drunken persons, etc., from registered clubs

37.—(1) Without prejudice to any other right to refuse a person admission to premises or to expel a person from premises, a registered club may refuse to admit to, or may expel from, the premises of the club any person who is drunken, or is acting in a disorderly manner, or whose presence in the premises of the club would subject the club to a penalty under this Order or under any other statutory provision.

(2) If any person liable to be expelled from the club premises as mentioned in paragraph (1) fails to leave the premises on the request of the club or a constable, he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale.

(3) A constable shall, on the demand of a registered club, help to expel from the premises of the club any person liable to be expelled from those premises under this Article, and may use such force as may be required for the purpose.

Changes to legislation:

The Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996, Cross Heading: Preservation of order is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 02 February 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- [art. 31B inserted by 2011 c. 18 \(N.I.\) s. 11](#)