

**Secession Hill Park
Abbeville, SC**

**Rules and Regulations
For
Public Gatherings**

The following are rules and regulations for large group gatherings or events held at Secession Hill Park in Abbeville SC. The purpose of this document is to address all concerns pertaining to the use of the park while ensuring that the property remains good condition and continues to reflect its historic value.

1. Secession Hill is private property which is owned by The Secession Hill Memorial Trust (SHMT). All events must be approved by and coordinated through the SHMT. The SHMT reserves the right to refuse the use of Secession Hill to any persons or organizations as it sees fit. All events conducted on Secession Hill must conform to our values as Southern Men and Women and represent our organization in a positive manner.
2. Organizations wishing to use the Secession Hill Park must submit an application which is found on the web page secessionhill.scscv.com along with supporting documentation.
3. Applications for usage must be submitted at least 90 days in advance.
4. All organizations who are allowed to use Secession Hill must have a current liability insurance policy, a copy of which must be submitted with the event application.
5. "Event Insurance" will be required for ALL events hosted on Secession Hill. The event insurance will be applied for by the SHMT to our insurance company but the cost of the event insurance will be the responsibility of the event organization. Proof of the event insurance will be provided to the event organizer once it has been established by the SHMT.
6. All communication with the town of Abbeville, SC pertaining to any event shall be conducted by the SHMT or their appointed representative only.
7. Historically Secession Hill was used as an election "stumping" site however, the SHMT is a 501c3 and as such we cannot promote any political party. Should any political promotions take place, ALL parties must be represented and allowed an equal chance to address all who are gathered.
8. No camping, parking, or fires are allowed on the property without the express written permission of the SHMT.

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9. All events shall take place between sunrise and sunset. The property is off limits after dark.
10. Do not willfully damage or destroy park property. The event organizer will be held responsible for all damage to the property that occurs as a result of the event and its participants.
11. Climbing on trees or structures is not allowed.
12. Flags- Changing or adjusting the flags on the main flag pole is forbidden.
The United States Flag is not allowed on Secession Hill.
Flags representing any Nazi, Neo-Nazi, Black Lives Matter or any other hate group are strictly forbidden.
13. Amplifying music or using loudspeakers is not allowed without permission and coordination from the SHMT.
14. **Vehicle Regulations:** Park vehicles only in designated areas; do not operate vehicles outside parking lots without authorization. DO NOT allow vehicles to park at the bar/club located at the foot of the hill. Parking is allowed next to the bar at the abandoned grocery store. Additional parking may be available at other locations but must be coordinated through the SHMT.
15. Trash Disposal: littering is prohibited; All waste must be collected and removed from the site at the completion of the event.
16. Restroom Use: Lease and use of Port-O-Potties will be coordinated through the SHMT. All public gatherings must have Port-O-Potties onsite. The number of which will be based on the expected amount of event participants and the elapse time of the gathering. Do not defecate or urinate elsewhere.
17. Animal Entry: Animals are not permitted at events unless written permission has been granted by the SHMT. Animals that are allowed must be on a leash at all times. Animal owners must clean up after their pets.
18. Respect Nature: Do not cut or remove plants, soil, or rocks.
19. Personal Conduct: Maintain respectful behavior towards other park users, neighbors, and wildlife.
20. All alcoholic beverages and illicit substances are not allowed at any time on the property.
21. Infantry and Artillery Regulations-
 - a. The use of Rifle Squads or Artillery must be approved by the SHMT, NO EXCEPTIONS.
 - b. If approved, a safety officer for each group must be onsite and in command. The safety officer(s) must be approved by the SHMT and will have final authority on the firing/use of any cannon or musket/rifle on the field.

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- c. All typical safety regulations for reenactors must be used especially “safety zones”
 - d. All infantry or artillery rounds must be pre-rolled and stored in the proper manner. Infantry must use paper cartridges and are NOT allowed to “free pour” from flasks directly into musket/rifle barrels.
 - e. Infantry- The use of ramrods while loading is strictly forbidden.
 - f. All black powder rounds must be stored appropriately in cartridge pouches (infantry) or proper limber ammunition boxes (artillery).
 - g. The safety officer or event coordinator must contact the Abbeville Police Department prior to the start of the event to give notification of the expected rifle and cannon fire.
 - h. All spent paper or aluminum cartridges must be removed from the property after completion of the event.
 - i. NO SMOKING within fifty feet of artillery ammunition boxes or limbers. Artilleriest must enforce this rule.
22. At least one member of the SHMT must be onsite during the setup and the execution of the event. The SHMT board member will have final authority on all questions or problems that may arise.
23. The event will not be allowed to take place if no SHMT board members are available for the projected day(s) and times of the event.

Revision History-

June 29, 2026- Updated by P. Smith. Addition of web address in section 2, the addition of line i in section 21 and the addition of the Revision History section.