



Guidelines for use of the Rütli

Under consideration of the following points

1. The Rütli is held to be the "Cradle of the Confederation" and is a site of national importance and of great symbolic value for Switzerland. It stands for the oneness of Switzerland and its populace.
2. Visitors to the Rütli and in particular organizers of events on the Rütli are obliged to show respect and consideration towards the site and towards other visitors.
3. The Rütli may not be used for any purpose that questions the basic values of the Confederation. Particularly important among these values are tolerance and the willingness to work constructively with people of other beliefs for the benefit of the common good.
4. The Rütli may not be used for specific political objectives or commercial goals.

the Swiss Society for the Public Good (SSPG) issues the following Guidelines for use of the Rütli:

1 Authorization and restrictions

The following activities on the Rütli require authorization from the SSPG:

- a. Visits by groups of 50 people or more
- b. Events such as theatre performances, parties, assemblies, sporting events
- c. Other activities extending beyond the boundaries of normal use, e.g. extensive filming

Regardless of the number of people involved, no activities are allowed on the Rütli where the organizers:

- a. are unable to guarantee law and order and the safety of the public
- b. use the event for purely commercial purposes
- c. target specific people or groups or people in Switzerland
- d. polarize public opinion and refuse to accept social and cultural diversity
- e. address political issues which are due to be the subject of a referendum in the next three months
- f. campaign for certain people or groups less than six months before a Federal or Cantonal election

The SSPG allows only a certain number of large-scale events involving over 300 people to be held each year. If an event exceeds this limit the SSPG may decline the application without providing a reason.

2 Procedure

Anyone wishing to hold an event on the Rütli that requires authorization must submit a written application completed in full to the SSPG, using the SSPG form.

The application must be submitted:

- a. At least three months prior to the start of the event for activities attended by fewer than 300 people
- b. At least six months prior to the start of the event for activities attended by more than 300 people

If an application is submitted too late for all the elements associated with it to be dealt with in time, the application will be declined.

The application must contain the following information:

- a. Description of project
- b. Details of persons and organizations responsible for the event
- c. Event programme
- d. Names of speakers and subject matter, including summary of content if possible
- e. Number of visitors expected
- f. Details of any structures planned, e.g. stage or infrastructure
- g. Details of any sponsors
- h. Plans for transport, catering, sanitation, security, waste disposal, transport of materials and equipment
- i. Use or hire of buildings on the Rütli

The SSPG will discuss applications giving rise to security questions with the relevant security forces of the cantons affected.

Applicants will be notified by the SSPG in writing of its decision within 30 days.

3 Rules of use

As soon as the application is approved the event organizer must contact the leaseholder of the Rütli to discuss any proposed modifications to the site and the hire of any buildings and facilities as required.

Visitors to the Rütli must abide by the following rules:

- a. Due respect must be shown to other visitors, the buildings and facilities, and to the natural environment
- b. Footpaths should be used in order to preserve the meadowland
- c. Open fires may only be started in the special fireplaces provided
- d. All litter must be collected and disposed of properly
- e. Camping is not allowed on the site

The Rütli can be accessed either on foot or by boat. Motor vehicles are not permitted on the Seelisberg-Rütli road.

The Rütli tenant is responsible for ensuring orderly behaviour. Visitors to the Rütli must comply with his instructions.

The SSPG may agree additional rules of use with organizers of certain events.

4 Liability

Organizers of events requiring authorization are, regardless of personal culpability, liable for any personal or material damages sustained by the Confederation, the SSPG, participants in the event or third parties involved in the event. Organizers agree to restore the site to its original condition, dispose of litter and make good any damage to the grounds, footpaths and buildings.

5 Sanctions

If an activity is carried out on the Rütli without the required authorization, the SSPG reserves the right to:

- a. Take legal proceedings against the person responsible, and/or
- b. Ban them from the site for a fixed period of time

The SSPG will take any previous infringements of the requirement for authorization into account when considering applications.

Swiss Society for the Public Good, Zurich, 9 January 2014