

The Troth Frithstead Policy

Purpose:

To provide an actionable policy for the allowance or disallowance of weapons at all Troth sponsored events.

History:

The Troth recognizes the longstanding holy proscription across Heathen traditions that weapons were prohibited in holy steads. Whether it was the procession of Nerthus as described in Tacitus, or the Althing described in the Icelandic Sagas: the proscription against weapons in holy space is consistent through the ages. And so it is today: we state this preference in order to promote the inclusion of all Troth members and to foster a welcoming, safe, holy and nonviolent environment.

Definitions:

For the purposes of this policy a “weapon” will be defined as “any device or instrument used for attack or defense, often with the intention to cause harm, damage, or kill.”

Examples of objects falling into this category can be, but are not limited to: firearms, knives, swords and brass knuckles.

Firearms:

No firearm will be allowed at Troth Sponsored events.

Ranged Weapons:

No ranged weapons (e.g. Bow and arrows, sling shots, spears) will be allowed at Troth sponsored events.

Melee Weapons:

Melee weapons (e.g swords, knives, axes, maces and staffs) will not be allowed at Troth events. This covers all weapons sharpened or not.

Mobility issues:

Any item that may fall into the category of a mobility assistance device such as canes or walking sticks will be allowed. It is expected that these items will be used as intended, and any use outside of its purpose as a mobility aid may result in those items being disallowed.

Exceptions:

The Troth recognizes that there are times when an item designated as a “weapon” may be used for a ritual, sport (i.e. archery contest) or demonstration purpose. In these events the owner of such a weapon should reach out prior to the event and discuss its inclusion. The allowance of such a device will be at the sole discretion of The Troth’s representative(s) in charge of said event. Any permitted weapons at an event must be clearly announced in the event description.