



The British Anglican Cursillo[®] Council

®Cursillo Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

Sponsorship

Revised 2018

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Introduction

These booklets, which form the Resource Manual or Handbook for British Anglican Cursillo (BAC), are revised versions of the original documents gifted to BAC from the Episcopal Church of the USA in 1989. In the early to mid-2000s and again in 2013/4 They had been revised for basic differences between the American ways of doing things and for language alterations, but it became apparent that the booklets were not being read or used effectively by Diocesan Cursillo.

This major revision and rewording of the booklets was made by a group of experienced Cursillistas in 2017/8 and is intended for use by Diocesan Cursillo in order to explain and guide such groups in the practicalities and use of the Cursillo method. We believe that this reflects best practice.

In line with recent legal requirements there are also attached Guidelines and Policy Documents, particularly in regard to safeguarding, insurance and financial matters.

It is recommended that any future reviews of these booklets refer back to the original documents received from the Episcopal Church of the USA (ECUSA), copies of which should be held by the BAC President.

February 2018

Introduction

Sponsorship is a great privilege and joy. It is also a considerable responsibility which requires thought, love and time.

Objectives:

Sponsors are Cursillistas who:

- want to empower and equip Christians to be effective witnesses for Christ
- have completed a weekend and are active in the fourth day
- are willing to support and encourage their participant at every stage of their journey

Participants are:

- baptised and communicant members of the Anglican/ Episcopal Church and over 18 years of age
- committed Christians seeking renewal and growth in their discipleship

Background

PRAYER is essential as we take on this work of the Holy Spirit. The founders taught "Speak to God of men before speaking to men of God, always loving and respecting the privacy of others". It is also useful to talk with other people who know the person well - especially their parish priest.

The participant should be free of stress and personal problems. In ideal circumstances Cursillo is offered as a gift to the participants and the diocesan movement should aim

to cover the initial cost of a weekend.

A participant may only attend Cursillo if their priest or clergy team member, signs the Application Form (or Area Dean in a vacancy).

General Responsibilities of Sponsors

A. - Pre-Cursillo

- Assure participants that they may ask anything they want to know about the weekend. Give them truthful answers and a chance to read the information leaflets for themselves. There are no secrets on Cursillo.
- Continue to pray for the participant
- Seek the agreement of their parish priest or clergy team member. Assist, as necessary, with completing the application form.
- If possible, encourage the participant to make their Cursillo in their own Diocese.
- Ensure the participant has everything required for the weekend, including necessary medication etc., that they have details of the venue and the means to get there. Sponsors can offer to drive them there or make other arrangements as necessary.

B. During the weekend

- Pray continually for the participant and send palanca - remembering that, first and foremost, palanca is prayer.
- Attend "Wake-up", where appropriate.
- It is essential that the sponsor attends the Closing Service of the 3-Day weekend to provide the link between the participant and the fourth day community.

C. After the weekend

- Contact the participant soon after the weekend assuring them of your continued prayer and concern. Listen to their experience!
- Consider sending a simple piece of Palanca in the week afterwards.
- Ensure the participant is introduced into a Group Reunion
- Offer to share transport to their first Ultreya after the Cursillo Weekend, making sure they are familiar with the format.
- Continue to support the participant

Sponsorship is a very special ministry. Sensitive applied, it is the key to a strong and active Fourth Day, which in turn is essential for the healthy development of an active Cursillo Movement.

General Guidance

- It is not advisable to sponsor a candidate and be on team at the same time. If this is unavoidable a co-sponsor should be chosen.
- Sponsors should not sponsor more than two people each weekend.
- Some ordained Clergy may prefer to make their Cursillo in another Diocese, but for other participants it is advisable to do this in their own Diocese.
- To comply with our Licensing Agreement both team and participants on a Cursillo 3-Day weekend should be composed of Anglican/Episcopalian members. The only exception is when members of another denomination are enquiring about the Cursillo Method for their own use. This request should be considered with great care and BACC should be consulted to ensure that the implications are fully understood by all parties.

