

Prison and Probation Centre for Northern Finland

Prison rules for Sukeva Prison

Entry into force on 10 February 2025

## Contents

1 § General .....	2
2 § Moving within the prison area .....	2
3 § Clothing in the prison area .....	2
4 § Locking of the premises and checking the number of prisoners .....	2
5 § Work and free time activities .....	3
6 § Visiting the prison canteen .....	4
7 § Visits .....	4
7.1 § Supervised visits .....	4
7.2 § Visits by a child .....	5
7.3 § Unsupervised visits .....	5
7.4 § Communication via video connection .....	5
7.5 § Receiving goods during visits .....	6
8 § Use of telephone .....	6
9 § Sending post .....	7
10 § Smoking and cleanliness .....	7
11 § Possession of property .....	8
11.1 § Objects and substances the possession of which may be denied .....	8
11.2 § Other factors influencing the possession of objects or substances .....	10
12 § Prison wards .....	10
13 § Substance use and medication .....	11
14 § Entry into force .....	11

## **1 § General**

These prison rules contain more specific regulations than the Imprisonment Act and the Remand Imprisonment Act and the provisions and regulations issued under the Acts on the movement within the prison area and locking of the premises, wards, arrangements related to visits, telephone use and free time activities, possession of property, and other corresponding individual issues related to the maintenance of prison order and arrangement of activities in the prison.

Prisoners must comply with the prison rules. A prisoner may be imposed a disciplinary punishment for violating the prison rules provided that the prison rules expressly state that the violation of the rule may be punishable by a disciplinary punishment.

A prisoner may also be imposed a disciplinary punishment if the prisoner fails to obey a request or order issued by an official of the Prison and Probation Service within the official's authority to maintain prison order and security.

## **2 § Moving within the prison area**

Prisoners may move and spend time in their appointed activity and workplace, in their own accommodation ward, and in areas appointed for outdoor exercise, meals, and free time activities at times stated in the daily schedule of the ward.

Moving elsewhere in the prison or its area without a permission is forbidden. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed for violating this rule.

## **3 § Clothing in the prison area**

Prisoners must be properly dressed within the prison area. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed for violating this rule.

## **4 § Locking of the premises and checking the number of prisoners**

The cell doors are locked during the times determined in the daily schedule.

When the ward is locked, prisoners must be in their own cells or in other location marked in the checklist of prisoners. The checking of the number of prisoners has to be carried

out by opening the cell door so that the condition and state of health of each prisoner living in the cell can be visually observed. If necessary, the staff will discuss with the prisoners separately.

During the checking of the number of prisoners, each prisoner has to stand up facing the staff. Exceptions to this may only be made if the prisoner's state of health prevents the prisoner from standing up. The times, when the number of prisoners is checked, are specified in the daily schedule.

If the accommodation ward is open, when the number of prisoners is checked, the prisoners have to go to the corridor of the accommodation ward in a place specified by the staff.

Prisoners are obligated to close and lock the cell doors when they leave their cells. Opening or closing the safety latches on the cell doors is forbidden.

If a prisoner is not in his or her cell or other specified place, where the number of prisoners is checked, without an acceptable reason when the ward is locked, a disciplinary punishment may be imposed on the prisoner.

## **5 § Work and free time activities**

The work activities include metal industry, construction, real estate maintenance, cleaning, clothing maintenance and tent repair. Some work activities may include related studies.

The prison arranges different programmes. Motivation and change work is carried out individually and in groups. Prisoners can study and attend training.

In their free time, prisoners may, among others, exercise or attend religious events. More detailed information is in the daily schedules.

Prisoners may use the library services at least once a week at the times specified in the daily schedule.

## **6 § Visiting the prison canteen**

Prisoners can buy products from the selection of the prison canteen. If prisoners do not have an opportunity to go the prison canteen themselves, they can make their purchases by using the order form. Prisoners must pay with their prepaid cards via a payment terminal.

The precise times for visiting the prison canteen are in the daily schedule of the ward.

Prisoners who are imposed precautionary measures and disciplinary punishments and prisoners who are segregated from other prisoners use an order form to make their purchases.

## **7 § Visits**

### **7.1 § Supervised visits**

Supervised visits are arranged on Saturdays at a time agreed beforehand between 9.15 and 11.00 or between 12.30 and 14.15. The duration of a visit is 45 minutes. For a special reason, visits can also be arranged at other times. Visits are not arranged on Christmas Eve, Midsummer Eve or public holidays.

Prisoners have to book the visiting time beforehand and inform their visitors of it themselves. The visiting time is booked by using a separate form that has to be returned to the staff of the ward by 16.00 on Thursday. The form has to include the full name of the visitor and the desired date and time of the visit. Prisoners may book only one visit per day. The maximum number of visitors is three at a time. The number of children belonging to the same household is not restricted. The visitors can meet only one prisoner at a time.

The visitors must report to the prison 15 minutes before the booked visiting time. A visit may be denied if the visitor is late.

The visitor and the prisoner are not allowed to have any means to take notes or transmit written messages without the permission of the staff.

The prisoner and the visitor may not touch each other during the visit.

If a prisoner violates the terms of a visit laid down in the prison rules, a disciplinary punishment may be imposed on the prisoner.

### **7.2 § Visits by a child**

A prisoner may be granted permission to receive a visit from a child under 15 years of age in premises suitable for this, if the visit is necessary to maintain contact between the prisoner and the child and the visit is not against the best interests of the child. It is supervised.

The visits by a child are arranged both on weekdays and weekends. The visit usually lasts 45 minutes, but in a special situation, it can last up to two hours.

### **7.3 § Unsupervised visits**

Unsupervised visits (family visits) are meant for maintaining family relations.

Unsupervised visits have to be applied for at least three weeks before the desired visiting time by using a form, which the prisoners can get from the staff of the ward. The form has to be returned to the staff of the ward.

The prison has two rooms for family visits. Unsupervised visits are arranged on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays between 9.45 and 14.00 and on Wednesdays between 16.00 and 19.00.

### **7.4 § Communication via video connection**

Video calls (Skype) can be used to maintain social relations with people outside the prison. Prisoners may be given permission to communicate via video connection (Skype). Prisoners can apply for communication via video connection by filling in a separate form, which must be returned to the instructor responsible for communication via video connection. Communication via video connection lasts 30 minutes and can be arranged on weekdays between 8.00 and 16.00. Communication via video connection may also be arranged on weekends at times specified separately. A prisoner, whose family members live abroad or for some other corresponding reason cannot visit the prisoner in prison, may be granted a longer (one hour) communication once every two weeks.

Prisoners are not allowed to touch the devices, the connection is opened and closed by an official. The prison staff monitor the meetings and there may be recording security cameras in the room. Prisoners are not allowed to have any means to take notes at hand or transmit written messages without the permission of the staff.

A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner for violating this rule and for communicating or attempting to communicate with a person not included in the decision on permission.

### **7.5 § Receiving goods during visits**

During a visit, a visitor may bring a minor amount of goods to the prisoner. A small amount is about one normal plastic shopping bag (30 litres) of goods. Goods meant for a prisoner have to be handed over to the staff for inspection before they are given to the prisoner.

When assessing the quality and quantity of the property to be received, the provisions on the possession of property referred to in section 11 of these prison rules and the limitations of the storage facilities in the prison are taken into consideration.

### **8 § Use of telephone**

Prisoners can use the telephones at the wards daily when the cells are unlocked. The number of calls is limited by the number of available telephone devices and the time available according to the daily schedule. Based on individual consideration, prisoners may be allowed to make telephone calls also at other times than when the cells are open.

Prisoners in travel cell or isolation wards can make telephone calls by asking a prison officer of the ward directly.

All prisoners receive telephone codes that are for personal use only. The codes may not be given to the use of another person.

A prerequisite for the use of the telephone is that the prisoner tells the staff the numbers and the full names of the people receiving calls. There can be no more than 20 numbers, which are then stored in the telephone system.

A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner if the prisoner gives incorrect information about the telephone numbers or the receivers of the calls, gives the personal codes to the use of another person, or uses the personal codes of another person.

## **9 § Sending post**

If a prisoner tries to carry or gives another prisoner for the purpose of carrying a letter or other postal item or a message pass the inspection of the prison post, the prisoner may be imposed to disciplinary punishment.

## **10 § Smoking and cleanliness**

Smoking inside the prison is prohibited. The possession of tobacco product and lighting devices is prohibited at other times except during outdoor exercise. The smoking products of each prisoner are kept separately in a locked storage meant for that. Smoking is possible once a day during outdoor exercise. At other times, including when participating in activities, smoking is prohibited. The staff gives the lighting devices during outdoor exercise. Prisoners are not allowed to have their own lighting devices in their possession. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner for acting against this rule.

The order of the furniture in the cell cannot be changed without the permission of an official of the Prison and Probation Service. All goods have to be stored in the cabinets and other storage places.

Pictures, posters, and other objects may only be attached to the notice board hung on the wall in the cell.

Electrical devices must be switched off when leaving the cell.

A disciplinary punishment may be imposed for violating these rules.

## **11 § Possession of property**

### **11.1 § Objects and substances the possession of which may be denied**

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 1 of the Imprisonment Act (chapter 5, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 1 of the Remand Imprisonment Act), the possession of an object or substance may be denied if it poses a threat to the safety of a person. Besides firearms, edged weapons, blunt instruments, explosives and gas sprays, such objects and substances include also, among others, poisons and aerosol products with propellant gas. In addition, substances posing a threat include chemical compounds that can be used to make explosives, such as hair dyes containing hydrogen peroxide.

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 2 of the Imprisonment Act (chapter 5, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 2 of the Remand Imprisonment Act), the possession of an object or substance may be denied if it is especially suited for damaging property. These include, among others, tools suitable for damaging property.

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 3 of the Imprisonment Act (chapter 5, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 3 of the Remand Imprisonment Act), the possession of an object or substance may be denied if the possession of it is, when taking into account the conditions and the level of supervision in the prison or a prison ward, detrimental to general prison order. These include, among others, the following:

1. Devices that are suitable for recording information. These include, among others, computers, cameras, video cameras, MP3 players, and some game consoles. Separate memory devices and devices containing hard drives are prohibited.
2. Devices that enable communication via electronic communication. These include, among others, computers, mobile phones, and some game consoles. Objects used for establishing electronic connection and objects the use of which is closely connected to the devices used for electronic communication are also prohibited.
3. Devices that are suitable for intercepting and monitoring the radio traffic of authorities or otherwise observing the activities of authorities. These include, among others, radiotelephones and radio traffic detectors. Binoculars and other optical devices suitable for observation are also forbidden.

4. Objects that can cause a cleanliness, health, or fire hazard. These include, among others, tattoo equipment, animals, plants and candles.
5. Objects that are otherwise detrimental to the public order of the prison. These include, among others, objects used for fighting and escaping, replica weapons, and objects bearing the symbols of criminal organisations and groups.

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 4 of the Imprisonment Act (chapter 5, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 4 of the Remand Imprisonment Act), the possession of an object or substance may be denied if it cannot be inspected without unreasonable difficulty or without damaging it. These include, among others, hygiene and cosmetics products, foodstuffs, and tobacco products that are brought from outside the prison. If prisoners take these products with them outside the prison, the products will not be given back into their possession when they return to the prison. The structure of the objects that are given into the possession of prisoners must be such that they are not suitable for concealing prohibited objects or substances.

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 5 of the Imprisonment Act (chapter 5, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 5 of the Remand Imprisonment Act), the possession of an object or substance may be denied if it is used as a means of commission of an offence or there are reasonable grounds to suspect that it will be used as such. This may refer to, for instance, a situation where a prisoner uses a typewriter, which is in the prisoner's possession, to falsify documents or commit frauds.

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 6 of the Imprisonment Act (chapter 5, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 6 of the Remand Imprisonment Act), the possession of an object or substance may be denied if the prison has acquired a corresponding object for the use of the prisoner. These include, among others, objects already belonging to the furnishing of the accommodation room and other objects acquired by the prison for the use of prisoners if the prisoner has a real opportunity to use the object.

A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner if the aforementioned objects or substances are found in the prisoner's possession.

## **11.2 § Other factors influencing the possession of objects or substances**

Prisoners are only allowed to have a reasonable amount of private property in their possession. The amount of utility articles given into their possession must be such that they can be stored in the storage spaces of the cell in places reserved for them.

The prerequisites for the possession of an electrical device are that the device is type approved (CE marking), it is intact and it has an identification number.

The seals attached to the device during an inspection may not be removed or damaged. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner for removing or damaging the seals.

Modifying authorised objects so that they are more suitable for being used for acts of violence is prohibited. This refers to, for example, making an article suitable as a blunt weapon or sharpening a toothbrush. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner if such objects are found in the prisoner's possession.

A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner if the prisoner tries to bring unauthorised goods to a prison and avoid an inspection.

A maximum of 100 copies of all recordings (including CD, DVD, Blu-ray and game console games), 10 copies of books, and 20 copies of magazines are given into possession at a time.

The rules on the possession of property do not apply to objects and substances that have been given in the possession of a prisoner before the prison rules entered into force. If a prisoner is transferred to another prison, the prison rules in force there at the time of the transfer are applied.

## **12 § Prison wards**

The prison consists of the following wards: cell ward, new ward, contract ward and isolation ward.

In the cell ward, the wards on floors 1 and 4 are for prisoners who cannot be placed in daily activities. Floors 2 and 3 of the cell ward have wards with intensified supervision. Both floors are divided into two wards with separate daily schedules.

In the new ward, floor 2 is for prisoners who work or study. Prisoners who are not placed in activities can also be placed on floor 2. Floor 3 of the new ward has an arrival ward and a ward for prisoners participating in work activities.

Prisoners at the wards may use the telephone when the ward is open in accordance with the daily schedule of the ward. At other times, the telephone can be used when agreed separately with the staff of the ward.

### **13 § Substance use and medication**

A disciplinary punishment may be imposed for manipulating or attempting to manipulate a substance use test.

Prisoners are not allowed to use or possess medication without the authorisation of a physician of the Health Care Services for Prisoners. Medication must be kept in the pill dispensers or bags meant for them or other original packaging. Unused medication must be returned. Prisoners are not allowed to give medication prescribed to them to other prisoners.

A disciplinary punishment may be imposed for violating these rules.

### **14 § Entry into force**

These prison rules enter into force on 10 February 2025 and repeal the prison rules that entered into force on 22 July 2024.

Riitta Kari, Director of Core Operations Department

Jani Kotoaro, Lawyer