

Criminal Sanctions Region of Southern Finland

Jokela Open Prison Ward

Prison rules

Entry into force on 1 December 2019

Prison rules for Jokela Open Prison Ward

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1 § General

These prison rules contain more specific regulations than the Imprisonment Act and the provisions and regulations issued under the Act 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 Criminal Sanctions Agency 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 and the attached map.

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.

4 § Checking the number of prisoners

Prisoners in the prison must report to the office of the open prison ward at times stated in the daily schedule.

When the checking of the number of prisoners is carried out in the accommodation facilities, prisoners must immediately go to their own accommodation rooms for the duration of the check.

5 § Work and free-time activities

In Jokela Open Prison Ward, the available work activities include assembly, packing, cleaning, real estate maintenance, construction, and carpentry work.

An outside educational institution arranges both preparatory and vocational education and training for prisoners. In addition, it is possible to complete basic education or general upper secondary education studies, open university courses, or other courses. Studies can also be combined with work activities.

As free-time activities, the prisoners can use the gym or exercise outdoors within the allowed area. Religious events are also arranged. The free-time activities of the ward are included in the daily schedule.

Prisoners can visit the library once a week according to the daily schedule.

6 § Procuring goods

It is possible to purchase foodstuffs and other goods from the grocery shops and kiosks in Jokela during the time stated in the daily schedule. Prisoners must sign up for shopping beforehand in the office of the open prison ward on the day of shopping at the time stated in the daily schedule.

Prisoners working or studying outside the prison may do their shopping during the time and in the grocery shops specified in the conditions of permission if they are not able to do their shopping during the time stated in the daily schedule.

In addition, prisoners may bring foodstuffs and other goods when they return from a prison leave.

7 § Visits

7.1 § Supervised visits

Supervised visits are arranged on Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays.

The visiting hours are the following:

9.00–10.15 AM

12.30–13.35 PM

Visits are not arranged on Christmas Eve or Midsummer Eve.

Prisoners can be visited by their spouse and children belonging to the same household or at most two other adult visitors.

Prisoners can reserve a visiting hour for the following weekend by filling in a separate application form on the preceding Wednesday at the latest (or two weekdays before a public holiday). The form must be submitted to the office of the ward by 11.45. An official of the Criminal Sanctions Agency confirms the time of the visit and returns the form to the prisoner. Prisoners are obligated to inform their visitors of the visiting time. In addition to the visiting hours referred to above, the officials may also appoint other time for a justified reason.

The visitors must report to the office of the open prison ward before the visit.

7.2 § Unsupervised visits

Prisoners can apply for an unsupervised visit in writing by filling in a separate application form. The application must be left in the office of the ward in good time before the applied visiting time.

Unsupervised visits are arranged in a separate visiting room on Wednesdays, weekends, and public holidays at 9.00–13.35.

7.3 § Communication via video connection

Permission to communicate with close relatives, other close people, or other person important to the prisoner via video connection must be applied for at least one week before the desired time by using a separate form. The application must include the email or Skype address of the person to be contacted.

The video meetings are arranged on weekends and public holidays between 16.00 and 18.00 and, if possible, at other times. The duration of a video meeting is at least 30 minutes. Prisoners are told the exact time of the video meeting when they are given the notification of the decision. Prisoners are obligated to inform their visitors of the time of the video meeting.

7.4 § Receiving goods during visits

With the permission of an official of the Criminal Sanctions Agency, prisoners may receive a small amount of property in connection with a visit. A small amount is about one normal plastic shopping bag (30 litres) of goods. The property refers to foodstuffs and other objects intended for personal use. When assessing the quality and quantity of the property to be received, the prison rules on the possession of property and the limitations of the storage facilities in Jokela Open Prison Ward are taken into consideration.

The property must be left in the office where the visitors report to before the visit. An official of the Criminal Sanctions Agency delivers the property to the prisoner after the visit.

8 § Smoking and cleanliness

Smoking is forbidden in all other areas except for those specifically assigned for smoking. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner for acting against this rule.

The order of the furniture in the accommodation room cannot be changed without the permission of an official of the Criminal Sanctions Agency. All goods must 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 accommodation room. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner for attaching objects elsewhere in the accommodation room.

Electrical devices must be switched off when leaving the accommodation room.

9 § Possession of property

9.1 § Objects and substances the possession of which may be denied

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 1 of the Imprisonment Act, 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, 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, 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 enable photography or filming. These include, among others, cameras and video cameras.

2) 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.

3) Objects that can cause a cleanliness, health, or fire hazard. These include, among others, tattoo equipment, animals, plants, and candles.

4) 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, the possession of an object or substance may be denied if it cannot be inspected without unreasonable difficulty or without damaging it.

According to chapter 9, section 1, subsection 1, paragraph 5 of the 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, 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.

9.2 § 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 accommodation room in places reserved for them.

A prisoner may be given a mobile phone and/or a computer if the prisoner has been given permission to use and possess them. Otherwise, such devices are prohibited, as are add-ons and accessories that can be used to connect to the Internet. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed on a prisoner for an unauthorised possession of the aforementioned objects.

An Internet connection may not be established on game consoles or other devices, even if the device could enable it. A disciplinary punishment may be imposed for unauthorised Internet access.

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

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.

When a prisoner brings goods to prison, they must be shown to the prison staff. 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 50 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 into 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.

10 § Prison wards

Jokela Open Prison Ward has no separate wards.

11 § 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 Prisoners' Health Care Unit. Medication has to be kept in pill dispensers and bags meant for them or other original packaging and unused medication has to 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.

12 § Entry into force

This prison order enters into force on 1 December 2019 and repeals the prison order that entered into force on 26 February 2016.

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