

# BOY SCOUT TROOP #305

## Code of Conduct

The following Code of Conduct is established to provide a safe and fun Scouting environment for all Scouts. All Troop 305 Scouts and adult volunteers are expected to exhibit “Scout Spirit”... the daily living of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

All Scouts and adult volunteers should help build Troop unity and an effective, enjoyable program. Scouting should be fun and challenging, while providing a safe and supportive environment in which Scouts can learn and grow.

The “Spirit of Scouting” establishes high expectations for the behavior of all Troop 305 Scouts. All Troop 305 Scouts and adult volunteers are asked to abide by the rules and guidelines set forth here, and are expected to lead by example, and conduct themselves in a courteous and professional manner.

Adults should be ever mindful that Boy Scouts is a boy-run/adult supervised organization. In order to ensure these privileges are observed, I agree to the following:

- 1) I will follow all directions from an adult or junior leader promptly and respectfully.
- 2) I will observe lights out as scheduled and will be courteous to my neighbors.
- 3) I will follow the “Outdoor Code”.
- 4) I will treat all others with proper respect at all times.
- 5) I will respect the personal equipment and property of others.
- 6) I will respect Troop equipment.
- 7) I will demonstrate good Scout Spirit, follow the Scout Oath, Law, Motto, and Slogan.
- 8) I will become quiet when the “sign” goes up. This applies to all Scouting events.
- 9) I will wear my Scout uniform at every meeting, unless told otherwise by the Scoutmaster/PLC.
- 10) I will follow these fire rules:
  - Place fires only in designated locations.
  - I may bring matches as part of my essentials, but will only use them for their intended purpose such as starting camp fires, lanterns, etc.
  - No fires of any kind are permitted inside tents, which include candles, lit matches, stoves, heaters or lanterns. Only battery-operated lanterns or flashlights are permitted.
  - I will not play in, near, or with the fire.
  - No burning of leaves.
  - I will not wave burning sticks in the air, or any device used for cooking over the fire.

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- 11) I will not threaten or intimidate other Scouts or Leaders by words and/or actions including hazing, “put-downs”, ridiculing or name-calling.
- 12) I will not swear or use profanity, offensive language or gestures.
- 13) I will not display unruly, loud, disrespectful or disobedient behavior.
- 14) I will not carry or use a knife until I have received the proper training, and not until I have in my possession a valid “Tote’N Chip” card.
- 15) I will not bring a sheath knife, spring assisted knife, or any knife with a blade of more than three and a half (3 1/2) inches to any Scout outing.
- 16) I will not borrow or use another individual’s and/or Troop equipment or property without prior consent.
- 17) I will not perform practical jokes such as hiding someone else’s gear, sabotaging tents, stuffing sleeping bag with leaves, etc.
- 18) I will not use MP3, CD, iPods, tape players, portable TV’s, radios, portable games, or any other type of electronic device on campouts. However, use of these items is allowed during long travels to and from an event, but only with prior permission from the driver.
- 19) I will not bring or use firearms, firecrackers, fireworks, ammunition, black powder, sling shots, bows and arrows, paint ball guns or any other weapons. These items are prohibited.
- 20) I will not use tobacco products of any kind, use alcohol or any other controlled substances that are not prescribed by a physician.
- 21) I will not lie under any circumstances. Lying has no place in Scouting.
- 22) I will utilize the “buddy system” at all times and during all applicable activities.
- 23) I will be active and willingly implement my position of responsibility within my Troop when attending Troop meetings and outings.

### **Non-compliance with ANY of the above obligations will result in the Scout facing one or more of the following actions:**

- 1) Any Code of Conduct violations or any other unacceptable behavior will be brought to the immediate attention of the Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) or Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster or adult leader.
- 2) The SPL will try to resolve the issue first. The SPL will have a discussion with the Scout about the unacceptable behavior. If the Scout’s behavior does not change, coaching, or if necessary, a **first verbal warning** will be issued. Behavior problems will be handled by these individuals, in this order: SPL, Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, adult leader.
- 3) If a verbal warning is given and the Scout fails to comply, a **second verbal warning** will be issued. **The Scout will then be issued a warning by TWO adult leaders in the form of a verbal counseling session.** The session will be in full view and within hearing distance of additional adult leaders. The adult leaders will ensure the Scout understands

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the nature of the offense, discuss appropriate behavior, and together with the Scout, seek ways to correct the issue that resulted from the Scout's action. After the counseling session, **the Scout will be temporarily removed from the activity** which will consist of a time-out for a minimum of ten (10) minutes. This can include, but is not limited to, being sent outside from a Troop meeting, being sent to a tent during a campout, or sitting away from the rest of the Troop/Patrol.

- 4) If the unsatisfactory behavior continues, a **meeting will be conducted** with the Scout, Scoutmaster or Assistant Scoutmaster, and the SPL. A **“Written Counseling Report” will be issued**, stating what violation occurred and why it has resulted in Written Counseling. The Scoutmaster will maintain a file of all Written Counseling sessions.
- 5) If misbehavior continues, or if the Scout's actions are continually distracting or disruptive to the operation of the Troop, or the violation is more severe in the judgment of the Scoutmaster AND a minimum of TWO additional adult leaders, **the Scout will be asked to leave the activity**. If a parent cannot be immediately contacted, the Scout will sit out of the activities under supervision until such time the parents can be contacted and the Scout sent home.
- 6) If a second incident occurs within three (3) months of the first Written Counseling Session, the Scout will have a meeting with the SPL and Scoutmaster, and will be **written up a second time**. The Scout will be **required to attend a Scoutmaster Conference with a parent** before he can attend another Troop function.

**6.1** In addition to the above, action may include the following:

**Essays** – Require the Scout to write an essay about their behavior.

**Apology letter** – Apology letter may be assigned when deemed appropriate.

- 7) If the Scout continues to misbehave, and there is a third incident within three (3) months of the first write-up, the Scoutmaster shall inform the Committee Chair.

**7.1 Probation** – A period of time may be given for the Scout to continue with Troop activities, in order for the Scout to prove the incident was isolated.

**7.2 Suspension** – If the terms of the Scout's probation are not met, the next course of action will be suspension for a specified period of time.

- 8) Should the behavior persist, the Committee Chair will meet with the parent/guardian(s) to inform them about a **final suspension that will lead to the dismissal of the Scout from the Troop**.

**8.1** A Scout can be dismissed from the Troop by the Scoutmaster, with the approval of the Troop Executive Committee.

When I follow these rules, my fellow Scouts and leaders will benefit from and enjoy the Scouting experience.

