

BSA Troop 160 **Code of Conduct**

All Scouts and Scouters of Troop 160 are always expected to exhibit "Scout Spirit", which is defined as the daily living of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Scouting should be fun and challenging, while at the same time providing a safe and supportive environment.

The "Spirit of Scouting" dictates high expectations for the behavior of all Scouts in Troop 160. All Troop members are required to abide by the rules and guidelines set forth here and are expected to show appropriate self-control and self-discipline at all times. Failure to comply with this policy may jeopardize the Scout's rank advancement sign-off for "Scout Spirit".

Code of Conduct

The following rules of conduct have been adopted for purposes of health, safety and behavioral conduct:

1. Failure to follow reasonable directives from an adult or junior leader is unacceptable.
2. Unruly, loud, disrespectful or disobedient behavior will not be tolerated. The Scoutmaster or leader in charge is responsible for each boy's safety and must be obeyed to the fullest extent.
3. When the "Scout sign" goes up, everyone must be quiet. This is true not only at our Troop meetings, but also at every Scout event. Failure to stop talking when the sign is raised cuts into time allocated for our Troop activities.
4. Swearing or use of offensive or use of unfit language is unacceptable.
5. No fires or open flames of any kind are permitted inside tents. This means no lit candles, matches, stoves, heaters, lanterns or open flames of any type are allowed in tents. Only appropriately used chemical light sticks or battery operated lanterns or flashlights are permitted inside tents.
6. Fire safety rules will be enforced at all times. Scouts must not play in the fire or wave burning/smoldering sticks in the air. Scouts may be allowed to have matches as part of their "10 essentials", but, under normal circumstances, they may only be used under adult supervision.
7. No Scout may carry or use a knife, until he has had the proper training and is in possession of a valid "Tote 'N Chip" card. No knives should be brought by Scouts to Troop meetings held at school facilities, museums or Government Buildings.
8. Sheath knives and knives with blades of more than three (3) inches may not be carried. Any knife deemed unacceptable will be confiscated and will be returned to the Scout's parent at the conclusion of the Scout activity.

9. Lights out must be respected. Be considerate of your neighbors.
10. Respect other people's property. No one may borrow any person's or the Troop's equipment or property without prior consent. Practical jokes, such as hiding someone else's gear, sabotaging tents, etc. have no place in this Troop, and will not be tolerated.
11. Use of any alcohol or other controlled substances by Scouts is prohibited (except for medication the adult leadership is appropriately made aware of).
12. Use of any tobacco products by Scouts is prohibited. Adults may use tobacco products with discretion in designated areas per BSA Policy.
13. Cellular phones, CD players, pod's, portable televisions, radios, portable games, etc. are prohibited from use during Scout activities. Cellular phones must not be used (e.g., phone calls, texting, internet use, etc.) during Scout activities including camping trips, except in the event of an emergency or with the permission of the Scoutmaster or other supervising adult. Items, such as personal CD players, pod's and radios, with headphones, may be allowed during prolonged travels to and/or from a Scouting event, but requires prior approval of the driver and Scoutmaster. Inappropriate use of cameras is strictly prohibited.
14. Firearms, rockets, fire crackers, fireworks, ammunition, black powder, sling shots, bows and arrows, paint ball guns or any other weapons are prohibited. Exceptions may be made only for use at such activities as Troop-approved rocket, archery and rifle ranges.
15. Caffeinated, carbonated, "energy" and coffee drinks are prohibited for Scouts on Troop campouts. Exceptions may only be made by the Scoutmaster.
16. Food, candy, snacks and soft drinks are not allowed in tents.
17. Horseplay or inappropriate physical roughness will not be tolerated. Never restrain another Scout. Shoving, punching, kicking or stick fighting is prohibited.
19. Respect other people's feelings. Threatening, intimidating, or degrading another person by words or actions, including such in social media, is prohibited. No hazing, "put-downs", ridiculing, hurtful comments, name-calling or jokes at other people's expense is allowed. Use nicknames only if the Scout does not object.
20. No Scout may leave an activity and/or designated area without the Scoutmaster's or Leader(s) in Charge express permission to do so.
21. Never venture off alone. The "buddy system" must be used at all times to provide support and safety. Scouts are required to have another person or buddy with them when swimming, meeting with a Merit Badge Counselor, traveling

through camp and during other Scout specified activities. The two-deep leadership concept must always be followed by all adults.

22. The intentional destruction of or damage to natural or man-made areas, as well as to personal or troop property is forbidden.

23. Lying. This type of behavior is inconsistent with the goals and ideals of Scouting and will not be tolerated.

24. No fighting is allowed.

25. The Scoutmaster (with advice and counsel from his Assistant Scoutmasters/Troop Committee) reserves the right to determine other forms of unacceptable behavior as they occur.

26. When in doubt, let the Scout Oath and Scout Law be your guide.

Adult Behavior

All adults working with the Troop are expected to conduct themselves according to the Scout Oath and Law, in a courteous and professional manner. Adults are expected to lead by example and not be disruptive or distracting during Troop meetings or activities.

Adults must be ever-mindful that Boy Scouts is a boy-run, adult-supervised organization. Corporal punishment is prohibited. No adult may ever knowingly strike or inappropriately touch a Scout.

Adult behavior problems will be dealt with by the Troop Committee Chairman in consultation with the Troop Committee in a professional and timely manner.

Discipline Policy

There are times when it is necessary to discipline a Scout for not abiding by the Scout Oath, Law or the Troop's Code of Conduct. Discipline and conduct must be treated as an individual matter, realizing the best discipline is preventive in nature rather than regulatory and restrictive. The Scoutmaster/ Leader in Charge will ultimately be responsible for the proper behavior of Scouts and, therefore, will be expected to enforce a fair and consistent disciplinary plan.

BSA Troop160
Behavior Contract

I, _____, understand that I must be on my best behavior during all Boy Scout activities. I further understand that misbehavior and inappropriate activities will not be tolerated. I will remember that a Scout is courteous, kind and friendly. The Troop will always work as a team.

1. Live by the Scout Oath
2. Live by and practice the Scout Law
3. Live by and practice the Outdoor Code

Behaviors that are not allowed at any Scout functions include, but are not necessarily limited to:

Disobeying junior or adult leaders (This includes Troop Committee members)

Hazing or bullying of other Scouts is unacceptable

Foul or inappropriate language of any kind

Hitting, fighting or similar actions

Refusing to follow Troop uniform policy

Use of cell phones or smart phones without permission of Scoutmaster/Leader in Charge.

Leaving a designated area without an adult leader's permission

Lying, cheating, stealing and any form of inappropriate activity

Being uncooperative or disrupting activities

Use or possession of tobacco/alcohol/pornography in any form.

Intentionally damaging property or equipment

Refusing to take prescribed medications

Doing anything that would be considered dangerous/abusive to myself or other persons/animals

Abuse or inappropriate posting of pictures/comments of other Scouts/Leaders on any social media platform.

Violation of Fireman chit or Totem Chit policies.

Anyone found in violation of the above as well as any Part of the Troop 160 Conduct and Discipline Policy will be disciplined according to said Conduct and Discipline Policy
Furthermore, I fully understand that the consequences of misbehavior will vary depending upon the severity of the offense. I understand that these consequences can include warnings, sitting out during an activity, parent conferences, having a parent take me home from a Scout activity, suspension and expulsion from the Troop.

Signature of Scout Date

I have discussed the behavior expectations and misbehavior consequences with my son.
Furthermore, I agree to pick my son up from a Scout activity, if necessary, even if the activity is out of town, at any hour.

Signature of Parent Date