

## TROOP 31 CODE OF CONDUCT

All Scouts in Troop 31 are responsible for living up to the Scout Oath, Law, Motto and Slogan. The following Code of Conduct has been adopted by the Troop and **must be signed by each Scout and parent and returned to the Scoutmaster**. Any situation that is not covered below will be decided by the present Scoutmaster or Troop Committee and discussed with the parent and Scout.

1. A Scout will take care of all Troop or patrol gear issued to him or his patrol and any personal property belonging to others. A Scout will be responsible for all negligent damage he causes. It is important to show respect for equipment and location of events. Keep your personal area clean and help clean the general group area. Remember to "Leave No Trace."
2. Printed material or pictures which a Scout would not want his parents to see is not acceptable and will not be brought to Troop or patrol meetings or on Troop campouts or other activities. Using language that a Scout would not use in front of his parents is not permitted either.
3. Engaging in unsafe acts is not acceptable. Unsafe acts include improper use of knives or axes, sharp sticks, ropes or other materials, the use of fireworks of any type, and other activities as proscribed by the *Guide to Safe Scouting*. Your personal safety is our greatest concern. If you observe someone else behaving in an unsafe manner, you have a responsibility to report it to the adult leadership.
4. Be on time and participate in as much as you are able, including regular meetings. Events run on a schedule and being late disrupts the fun for everyone involved. Keep in mind that the adult leadership reserves the right to change plans and scheduling based on the needs of the group and circumstances beyond our control.
5. Scouts will maintain a positive attitude and remember that "cheerful" is the eighth Scout Law. Fighting with or striking another Scout is not acceptable under any circumstances. Hazing of new Scouts is not permitted.
6. Respect all adult and youth leadership. We count on our volunteer adults to serve as chaperones and mentors and the youth holding positions of leadership must count on all Scouts to respect their decisions.
7. Any Scout who has a problem with another Scout or an adult leader will immediately inform two adult leaders of the problem and seek a solution.
8. Scouts will utilize the "buddy system" on Troop outings. As well, an adult leader must know where a Scout is at all times so keep the adult informed.
9. Scouts will always maintain the "Rule of Three" -- individual Scouts will not be alone with an adult leader to which he is not related but will always seek to be in the presence of a second adult leader or Scout. For example, two Scouts should work on a merit badge at the same time with a counselor.
10. Scouts will only use pocketknives (having completed their Totin' Chip requirements) -- no hunting knives, switchblades, gravity knives, sheath knives or butterfly knives will be permitted.
11. Scouts are not permitted to have in their possession on campouts any electronic devices including but not limited to radios, electronic music, game devices, cell phones, etc. When the Troop goes on an outing it is expected that Scouts will focus on the theme of that outing.
12. Scouts who indicated they would be going on an outing but change their minds and do not inform the adult leadership that they cannot go for whatever reason within two days before the beginning of the outing must share in the cost of the food and other Troop expenses incurred.

13. The Troop adult leadership will determine if a Scout's conduct requires his removal from or prevents his participation in a Scout outing. When this occurs the parents will remove the Scout as soon as possible from the situation and no fee reimbursement will be made.
14. Know the rules. You are expected to be familiar with the rules and behave accordingly. If you are unfamiliar with a rule or believe that a rule is unfair, seek out adult leadership and share your concerns with that person.
15. Have fun! Within these rules, you are challenged to have a great time! We feel confident that if everyone abides by these rules, fun is a guarantee, for everyone. Laugh and be enthusiastic, it's contagious. Relish this opportunity to make new friends and have a positive, memorable time.

Any Scout or parent who believes the Scout was treated unfairly should contact the Scoutmaster or Troop Committee to discuss and reconcile.

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Scout's Signature

Date

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Parent's Signature(s)

Date