

## Boy Scout Troop 692

### **Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy**

The Troop expects all Scouts to behave in accordance with the Boy Scout Law. Scouting events happen in a friendly, safe and supportive environment where Scouts have fun, learn, and grow. Scouts come in different sizes and shapes, at different levels of emotional maturity, and with different physical capabilities. As Scouts, we respect those differences.

As a member of Boy Scout Troop 692, I understand that my behavior at all scouting events and functions is expected to conform to the **Scout Motto, Oath and Law**. I understand that **Scout Spirit**, as mentioned in the requirements for every rank in Scouting, includes behavior that exhibits these standards. **At the minimum, this means:**

**A Scout is Trustworthy.** I will **respect the privacy of Scout's personal property and their tents**. I will not take anything that is not mine without the permission of the owner.

**A Scout is Loyal.** I will **not hurt, threaten, tease, harass, bully**, or put down anyone. Practical jokes are unacceptable. I will help my patrol to meet its objectives.

**A Scout is Helpful.** I will do my assigned **chores** and help others with their chores when asked.

**A Scout is Friendly.** I will include all other Scouts in activities and discussions. I will make a point of **inviting new Scouts** to join the fun.

**A Scout is Courteous.** I will not talk about rude, crude, or socially unacceptable topics including sex or sexual behaviors. I will be careful in my manners.

**A Scout is Kind.** I will call people only by the name the person wishes to be called. I will teach and encourage other Scouts so that they too can live the Scout Oath and Law.

**A Scout is Obedient.** I will follow the instructions of youth and adult leaders, counselors, and camp staff. If I don't understand the instructions I will ask questions. If I believe the instructions are against the Scout Oath or Scout Law I will go to another adult for help. **I will never ignore instructions.**

**A Scout is Cheerful.** I do not know everything there is to know. I will respect the opinions of others. I will show Scout Spirit.

**A Scout is Thrifty.** I will take care of my personal belongings. I will use borrowed equipment gently and return it in good repair.

**A Scout is Brave.** If I feel I am being abused, sexually harassed, or treated unfairly, or that someone else is, **I will tell an adult** immediately.

**A Scout is Clean.** I will wash my hands before eating. I will wear clean clothing each day. I will shower at least every other day at camp. I will keep my tent clean and free of food. **I will not swear.**

**A Scout is Reverent.** I will speak as I if am in the presence of my parents, my school principal, and my pastor. I will not blaspheme or take the Lord's name in vain. I will be respectful of others' beliefs.

Safety and fairness to all scouts in Troop 692 is of primary concern and must always be considered over the attention given to just one Scout. Any scout who observes a violation of the Scout Law by another scout should bring that inappropriate behavior to the attention of their Patrol Leader or SPL, who will then initiate the progressive disciplinary process.

The Troop discipline will be in accordance with the "Safe Guide to Scouting" and will be positive rather than negative and applied with common sense and fairness. The purpose of the disciplinary process is character building and it is hoped that through interaction with an adult role model, a Scout will change his behavior. The next step involves the parents in the process, who are expected to help the Scout understand that negative behaviors will not be tolerated.

**Troop 692 has a zero tolerance with regard to ANY type of Abuse, Hazing, Drugs, and Alcohol by both youth and adult leadership including all parents and participants at any Scouting activity. Smoking by underage youth will not be permitted. Any offender of this policy will be asked to leave the event. Based on the policies and guidelines of the BSA and Central Florida Council the Scout and/or parent will be referred to Central Florida Council for further action up to and including termination of membership in the Boy Scouts of America. If needed, the Scoutmaster or adult leader in charge may involve the police.**

Adults who smoke will do so "out of sight" of all activities and Scouts.

The Code of Conduct for Troop 692 includes the following inappropriate behaviors which will NOT be tolerated at Troop 692 meetings, activities, events or campouts:

- Failure to follow reasonable directives of a youth or adult leader
- Unnecessary or inappropriate physical roughness
- Threatening or intimidating another person by word or action
- Foul language that offends or degrades, as well as negative and derogatory banter
- Actions or language offensive or discriminatory with respect to race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation
- Behavior that displays disrespect for other persons, personal property, equipment or the environment
- Play where teasing and goofing can cause physical injury or emotional damage
- Smoking or use of tobacco products by minors, or by adults in the presence of scouts
- Possession or the use of fireworks
- Unauthorized lighting of fires
- Use or possession of sheath knives (or any knife with a blade longer than the 3" standard scout knife blade), axes or hatchets without permission of the Scoutmaster or other responsible adult leader
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances (except medication of which the adult leadership has been made aware) by minors, or by adults at any scouting activity
- Leaving a scouting activity without permission, straying from the group, or failure to use the Buddy System while in the out-of-doors
- Unfair treatment of any scout or adult, regarding discipline or any activity
- This list is not exhaustive. Both youth and adult leaders must judge cases as they arise, and those under their leadership must respect their authority to make judgments. A scout should obey any directive from an appropriate leader.

The expectation of Troop 692 is that any Scout Leader, Committee Member, or parent who observes unacceptable behavior on the part of a Scout will immediately intervene and talk to the Scout. It is through this diligent supervision and mentoring that our Scouts can be molded into upstanding adults. Any scout who feels that another scout has behaved inappropriately may report that scout to the Scout Leader or the nearest available adult or in writing via an email to the Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader and the Scoutmaster. A response to the report should be given within 3 business days.

The Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters reserve the right to exclude any Scout from an activity who, by reason of his behavior, fails to conform to these standards from any and all Troop activities. The disciplinary process is progressive in nature, giving scouts every opportunity to change their behavior patterns. A record will be made and kept by the Troop any time Steps 5-7 below are invoked. ***An adult leader may also deem it necessary to skip steps, depending on the seriousness of the observed behavior.*** The progressive steps and consequences in the process are:

1. ***Warning.*** The Scout will receive a verbal warning from his Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, or an adult about his behavior and be reminded of the area of the Scout Law that he has violated. ***Consequence(s):*** Verbal apology to a scout, a leader, a patrol or the Troop.
2. ***Momentary removal from current activity.*** If the warning does not alleviate the behavior, the SPL or an adult leader may remove the scout (by appropriate means) from the activity temporarily for a quick conference or a time out. Once the SPL or adult leader feels the scout is ready, he may rejoin the group. ***Consequence(s):*** Loss of privileges of participating in an activity.
3. ***Patrol Leader Council intervention.*** If the inappropriate behavior continues, the SPL or an adult leader may ask 3 members of the PLC (the SPL, the scout's PL and the scout's ASPL) to meet with the scout. These 3 PLC members may choose one or both of the consequences listed here. This meeting will occur on the spot with an adult leader to observe and assist (this adult will not be the adult who requested the meeting or the parent of any scout involved). ***Consequence(s):*** A written apology and a one-page essay about the inappropriate behavior and its effects.
4. ***Suspension from the activity/trip/meeting.*** If the inappropriate behavior continues, or if the seriousness of the behavior warrants, the scout will be asked to leave the particular activity. His parents will be contacted by the Scoutmaster or adult in charge and be asked to remove the scout immediately. It is expected that the scout's parents take an active role when this occurs to hold the scout accountable for his actions. ***Consequence(s):*** Loss of privileges of participating in an activity **AND** a written apology **AND** a one-page essay about the inappropriate behavior and its effects.
5. ***Formal meeting with the Scoutmaster and Committee Chairperson.*** If other disciplinary measures have failed, or if the seriousness of the behavior warrants, the Scout and his parents will meet with the Scoutmaster and Committee Chairperson. This meeting will involve pointing out the behavior which has violated the Scout Law, making sure the scout understands why he was unable to participate and a follow-up consequence. The scout may then rejoin the activity/trip/meeting if agreed upon by the parents, the Scoutmaster and the Committee Chairperson. Failure to comply with the consequence chosen will lead to the next level of the process. ***Consequence(s):*** Repair or replace anything that may be damaged **AND/OR** service project time to the Troop, without receiving credit **AND/OR** adult leaders may determine that the behavior is not consistent with the scout spirit necessary for each rank advancement and decide not to sign-off the advancement requirement for a period of one month.

6. Parental Supervision and Probation. A meeting will be scheduled with the scout, his parents, the Scoutmaster and the Committee Chairperson. At this meeting the scout and his parents will be notified that the scout is on probation for a period not to exceed 90 days. Probation means that the scout can attend Troop meetings only with their parent present, but cannot attend other Troop activities. **Consequence(s)**: Required parent or guardian attendance at meetings, functions or trips/campouts **AND/OR** suspension of leadership position for a specified period of time (suspension time will not count toward rank advancement).
  
7. Suspension or Dismissal. The Committee Chairperson, in conjunction with the Scoutmaster, may convene with the Troop Committee for the purpose of determining to suspend or terminate the scout's membership in the Troop (not in Boy Scouts of America). A majority vote of the Committee will be required to dismiss a scout from Troop 692. Suspension means that the scout may not attend any Troop activity. The scout will not be eligible for advancement while on suspension. The scout may be readmitted at the conclusion of the suspension period only after he has written and submitted a letter to the Committee and Scoutmaster, signed by himself and his parents/guardians, stating his pledge to fully abide by the Troop Code of Conduct. If a scout is dismissed from the Troop, a detailed letter stating the progressive steps taken will be sent to the scout's parents/guardians, to the Seminole Springs District, and to the Central Florida Council. **Consequence(s)**: Suspension from meetings, activities or trips for a period not to exceed 180 days **AND/OR** dismissal from Troop 692.

If a scout has reached step 3 in this process and believes he has been disciplined unfairly by either an adult or a youth leader, he must go to the Committee Chairperson with his allegations as soon as possible. Based on the seriousness of the alleged infraction, the Chairperson will then determine if the committee members should convene to hear the scout's concerns.

Every scout and their parent will be given a copy of the *Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy* for Troop 692. Each scout and their parent must sign and return a completed copy to the Troop Committee Chairperson.

**Agreement:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to abide by the rules and member responsibilities of the Boy Scouts of America and Troop 692, respecting the rights and property of others. I promise on my honor as a Boy Scout that I will do my best to live up to the Scout Oath and Law, as well as this Code of Conduct. I have read and understand the Discipline Policy of Troop 692.

Scout: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I, the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy of 692.

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Record of Occurrences for:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Scout Name)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Scoutmaster/Adult: \_\_\_\_\_

Incident: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Consequence(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Next Step(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Scoutmaster/Adult: \_\_\_\_\_

Incident: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Consequence(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Next Step(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Scoutmaster/Adult: \_\_\_\_\_

Incident: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Consequence(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Next Step(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Scoutmaster/Adult: \_\_\_\_\_

Incident: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Consequence(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Next Step(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_