

PLEASE READ
Boy Scout Troop 428
Code of Conduct

Each Scout in Troop 428 is expected to live by the Scout Oath, the Scout Law, the Scout Motto, and the Scout Slogan in his daily life and at all Troop functions. Any situation that is not covered below will be decided upon by the present Scoutmaster or Committee Member and discussed with a parent and the Scout.

I, as a member of Troop 428, agree to the following:

1. I will behave in accordance with the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Scout Motto, and Scout Slogan.
2. I will show respect to Scoutmasters, my fellow Scouts, parents and guests at all times.
3. I will consider the feelings of my fellow Scouts and adult leaders and I will not do anything, either physically or verbally, that will put them in an uncomfortable position or in a situation which will make them feel threatened.
4. I will take care of all Troop equipment and any personal equipment entrusted to my care.
5. I will use proper language at all times.
6. I will not be disruptive and I will show the attention, cooperation, and respect expected of me.
7. I will not do anything that will endanger another Scout, an adult leader, or myself.
8. I will bring to the attention of an adult leader or SPL any situation with which I am not comfortable.
9. I will use the Buddy System at all times.
10. I will treat knives, fire, and axes as tools and use them in accordance with BSA and Troop 428 policy.
11. I will use any form of technology (smartphone, laptop, cameras, drones, etc.) in a way that is aligned to the Scout Oath and Law. The use of smartphones, cameras, mirrors, drones, etc., in places or situations where privacy is expected is strictly prohibited. I will read and attest to the Troop 428 Technology Policy (see addendum A on next page).
12. I will abide by the principles of Scouts BSA Youth Protection.

I understand that verbal reminders of the Code of Conduct will be given for more minor infractions. I also understand, however, that the Scoutmaster may decide that my behavior is inappropriate enough that a call will be placed to my parents and that my parents will have to remove me from the Troop event. This is to be done for my safety and/or in the best interest of the other Scouts attending the event. In such a case, a meeting will take place with my parent(s), a Scoutmaster, and a Committee Member to discuss my future behavior and participation in future events. I understand that as circumstances dictate, at the discretion of the Scoutmaster, the following general process will be adhered to (in addition to any legal obligations to report):

- Initial offense: If a Scout hits another Scout, uses profanity, violates the Troop 428 Technology policy, or violates Youth Protection Training guidelines, his parents will be called immediately. Depending on the seriousness of the offense, a parent may need to pick up their Scout and leave the event.
- Repeat offense: Depending on the circumstances of the infraction, additional actions may need to be taken, including, but not limited to:
 - May require the Scout's parents to attend EVERY activity with him for a period of 6 months.
 - May result in the Scout being dismissed from the Troop.

By signing your name (on next screen), you agree to all the following stated above.

Addendum A: Technology Policy

Troop 428 Technology Policy

General guidelines

1. Use the technology to build relationships with the troop, find useful information, communicate and share excitement about Scouting.
2. Updates to social sites using appropriate, (non-embarrassing), photos or clips can share and build excitement about Scouting.
3. Don't let technology detract from the outdoor experience, the program experience, or the Scouting experience for the troop or patrol.
4. I will abide by the principles of the Cyber Chip requirements and internet safety pledge.

Trustworthy

- A Scout is truthful with others online and is careful of the information shared.
- He does the right thing when sharing and makes sure to have permission to share the words or pictures of others.

Loyal

- A Scout uses his phone or device in a way that adds to his troop or patrol.
- A loyal Scout is careful to post only appropriate photos or clips and would never want to embarrass others with his updates or communication.
- A loyal Scout would not use a phone to exclude some Scouts from the conversation, for example with secret messages.

Helpful

- A Scout could use applications that can add to the outdoor experience, such as a star-map, first aid or GPS.
- A Scout should alert others to scams, cheats, and suspicious sites and point them to reliable sources of information. Encourage people to report bad online behavior.
- A Scout may use a phone to take appropriate photos of events or situations for the troop or for personal memories.

Friendly

- A Scout could use his phone to assist someone else with information or access to communication.
- A Scout could use his phone to invite others to join Scouting or to remind his fellow Scouts of important events and activities.

Courteous

- Ringers and alert messages should be muted — beeps, rings, and recorded music take away from the outdoor and Scout experience.
- A device should not be a distraction. Scouts should pay attention to the program and fellow Scouts. In a program or troop situation, a Scout should avoid checking his phone for incoming messages or emails, unless messages related to the program are expected. Consider using “airplane mode” and wait to check at designated free times.
- A courteous Scout does not interrupt a conversation with others to stop and check for inbound messages. The courteous Scout focuses his attention on his personal interactions, such as conversations in which he is engaged.
- A phone should not be used to insulate a Scout from the outdoors or others. For example, a Scout should not use headphones during a Scouting activity. During a Scout outing a phone should not be used for entertainment such as playing solo electronic games, idle web surfing, shopping, etc.
- A phone should not be used to play music or videos — for himself or for others — at an outdoor experience. Phone music at a campsite or campfire will take away from the outdoor experience for others.

Kind

- Not everyone can afford a smartphone. A Scout needs to be sensitive to others and avoid using his phone in a way that looks like boasting and makes other Scouts disappointed that they cannot afford such a device. This is no different from any other piece of gear.
- A Scout always treats people with respect while on social networks, playing games, talking, texting or in other digital activities.

Obedient

- When using digital devices, a Scout follows the rules and examples set by parents, guardians, teachers, and Scout leaders.
- A Scout abides by the rules on websites, services, devices and games.
- A Scout is aware that different settings, events or locations will have different rules for use of electronics.

Cheerful

- A Scout uses games, messaging tools and social forums to build relationships with others while having fun.

Thrifty

- A Scout recognizes that his phone may run out of power, and learns to take measures to conserve power in his device such as by turning it off when not in use or by switching to “airplane mode” to conserve his battery.
- A Scout should not become overly reliant on his device. For example, a Scout should be ready with his map and compass rather than rely on his smartphone GPS.
- A Scout is a smart consumer. He knows his voice, text, and data plans and uses them wisely, careful not to run up charges on apps and sites.

Brave

- The Scout should not normally be calling home, or sending text messages back and forth with home. If the Scout thinks there is an urgent need to contact home, he should consult an adult leader first.
- Parents need to understand and agree that they are normally not to send messages or call their Scout while he is out with the program. Communication from home should be routed through an adult leader.
- Stand up for what is right. Do not participate in mocking or bullying others, even if others are doing it. Report suspected abuse to a trusted adult, like a parent or leader or call 911 as appropriate.

Clean

- A Scout uses clean language and only discusses appropriate topics when using digital devices to communicate with others.
- A Scout needs to take responsibility and take care of his device against damage from dirt, drops, water or other hazards. He may want to keep it carefully packed away against damage. He keeps his gear in good, working order.

Reverent

- A Scout respects the feelings of other people and would never use digital devices to spread irreverent ideas.