



COMMUNITY GUIDELINES AND POLICIES FOR REGIONAL YOUTH EVENTS

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In an attempt to create a Christian community during Youth events, the following guidelines are to be used as an orientation for our lives together. The success and enjoyment of this experience in Christian Fellowship will largely depend upon our mutual respect to ourselves, to one another and to God. Participants who do not abide by the following guidelines will be sent home from the event. Event Directors will notify authorities when necessary for illegal activities or when youth leave the specified boundaries.

It is the responsibility of the Congregation Pastor & Youth Events Registrar that these guidelines, policies, and expectations are understood by the community.

1) **Registration for Events**

- a. *Late Registration Forms will not be accepted.*
- b. *All registration forms must be signed by congregation Pastor.*
- c. *All registration forms must be processed thru church office including the receipt of registration fees.*
- d. *Churches send one check to the Regional Office that includes fees for all event attendees.*
- e. *Personal checks are not accepted.*

2) **Arrival/Departure of Events**

Arrival and Departure times are scheduled to keep disruptions from happening when youth join late or leave early. It is important that everyone honor the stated beginning and ending times in order to enable the bonding of the community, to build trust in one another, and to ensure that all youth have the opportunity to participate in the entirety of the program and curriculum.

3) **Camp Staff Selection**

Camp Staff, including Directors, Counselors, and Camp Nurse, are selected by the Regional Staff, not the individual Camp Directors. The Camp Staff is selected after review of all Camp Staff applications and recommendations, as well as consideration of individual camp needs, diversity of the camps, rotation of new/upcoming leaders, evaluations from previous year's camps, membership in Disciple congregations, and variety of gifts each individual offers.

4) **Dress Code**

Campers' dress and personal appearance or conduct shall not disrupt or distract the program.

The following is a list of prohibited dress:

- a. Clothing which immodestly exposes the chest, abdomen, genital area or buttocks
- b. Clothing that does not cover the torso on the front, back, and/or sides
- c. Halter Tops or Spaghetti Straps
- d. Shirts that reveal cleavage
- e. Clothing worn beneath the waistline exposing underpants
- f. Visible undergarments (bra straps, underpants)
- g. Clothing which presents a risk to health, safety or general welfare of youth and/or leaders
- h. Clothing which interferes with or disrupts the spiritual environment
- i. Clothing which is counterproductive to curriculum goals and/or program objectives
- j. Clothing which displays obscene language or symbols
- k. Clothing which creates an atmosphere of threat, intimidation or undue pressure, or displays or advocates the use of illegal substances
- l. Shirts must be worn at all times unless exceptions are made for water activities.
- m. Shorts must be fingertip length when arms are stretched down by sides.

5) **Geographical Boundaries & Respect of Property**

- a. Know the geographical boundaries of the event and stay within them.
- b. Those attending events have a responsibility to one another, God, the land, animals and structures.
- c. Therefore, treat them all with respect and consideration.

6) **Personal Electronics**

- a. Radios, iPods, and CD players are not allowed at Youth events unless Directors communicate approval; then items are allowed at your own risk and are to be used during scheduled rest time only. Other items such as electronic games will be taken & kept for the duration of the event.
- b. Cell Phones are prohibited at all Youth Events. If you bring a cell phone to an event, you must turn it into Event Director at the beginning of Event. Cell phones will be returned at the end of Youth Event.

- 7) **Lights out and silent times are to be respected each night.**
- 8) **Attendance is required at each meal and all scheduled activities at the event unless ill.**
- 9) **Damaged property must be paid for by the responsible party.**
- 10) **All areas must be clean when you leave.**
- 11) **Weapons of any kind will not be allowed at the event.** If found, they will be kept for the duration of the event and further action may be taken if deemed necessary by event staff.
- 12) **Participants are not allowed inside opposite sex cabins or assigned areas during the event.**
- 13) **All cars must remain locked and car keys turned into an assigned adult. Skateboards and Bicycles are not allowed on the camp premises.**
- 14) **Non-emergency phone calls will not be made (either to or from events).**
- 15) **No camper will be released prior to the close of camp without a parent signing a release form when they come to pick up the camper.** If question of legal guardianship arises, consent is required from both parents.
- 16) **Campers are required to be at camp for the entire time.** The Director must approve circumstances that affect less than total participation at least one day prior to the start of camp.
- 17) **Sexual Relations are prohibited at Regional Youth Events.** Engaging in graphic or inappropriate behavior that excludes participants from fully maintaining covenant with the whole camp community including kissing, making out or close dancing is not allowed.
- 18) **All Regional Camps are drug, alcohol & tobacco free.**

**Participants who break the following guidelines will be sent home immediately.
It will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide transportation home.**

1. There is no smoking or chewing tobacco products during youth events by youth or adults.
2. Possession of alcohol, marijuana or other illegal substances is not allowed.
3. Leaving the grounds without permission from the event staff is not permitted.
4. Sexual relations are not acceptable at events.
5. Behaviors disruptive to the overall event are grounds for dismissal from event.

Additional guidelines may be given by the event leadership during the event. The Regional Office, Youth Leadership team, staff and retreat/camp site are not responsible for lost or stolen items.