**BSA Troop 899**

**Behavior Expectation Code of Conduct**

Troop 899 sets high standards for personal behavior and follows certain rules and guidelines for all activities that are designed to provide opportunities for leadership development and teamwork. These rules are a critical component of delivering the optimum Scouting experience for everyone while camping, hiking, doing outside activities, and during regular meetings. All members of Troop 899 are expected to live by the Scout Oath and exhibit the qualities in the Scout Law at all times.

**Scout Oath**

On my honor, I will do my best

To do my duty to God and my country

and to obey the Scout Law;

To help other people at all times;

To keep myself physically strong,

mentally awake, and morally straight.

**Scout Law**

A Scout is: Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful,

Friendly, Courteous, Kind,

Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty,

Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

**Unacceptable Behaviors** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ We consider the following to be unacceptable behaviors under any circumstances. It will be at the discretion of the attending adult leaders to remove a Scout from any activity (by calling his parents to come and pick him up) for any instance of the following:

1. Physical Violence: We do not condone hitting, punching, kicking, or striking a person with any object. Restraining another scout against his will is unacceptable. Keep your hands to yourself.

2. Significantly unsafe actions.

3. Disregard for Fire Safety: No playing with matches, putting a stick into the fire & then taking it out with a burning ember on the end, or starting or feeding fires with potentially dangerous accelerants (such as bug spray, batteries, etc.). If you can't be safe around fire, you can't be at a Scout event; period. Good fire starting skills are a core Scout skill. Please request permission from an adult leader prior to starting a fire.

4. Hate Speech: There is no reason for profanity or for "insults" based on ethnicity, creed, or sexual orientation. There is no room in Scouts for threats of physical or verbal bullying.

5. Lying: Intentional lying to a leader is unacceptable. If you can’t be trustworthy, you can’t be at a Scout event.

6. Refusal to follow directives from adult leaders.

7. Destruction of any property.

8. Leaving designated areas without an adult leader’s permission.

**Contraband… If you’re in doubt; ask, or leave it out!**

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* Any items intended for the purpose of hazing or pranking other scouts, such as Saran/plastic wrap, shaving/whipped cream, silly string, excessive rope, etc.
* Alcoholic beverages, narcotics, and controlled substances not prescribed by a physician.
* Tobacco products such as cigarettes, chewing tobacco, vaping pens, e-cigarettes, etc.
* Adult magazines or any form of pornographic material.
* Fireworks, firearms, ammunition, and weapons such as bows and arrows, martial arts equipment, slingshots, water balloon launchers, or any other kind of “toy” weapon.
* Liquid fuels. Any Fire-starting tools except as approved by the Scoutmaster for program purposes only.
* Any other potentially dangerous item.

*\*Adult Leaders will have a phone available in the event a Scout needs to contact home or a parent wishes to contact a Scout while camping*. *Scout phones are permitted but must be left in the tent during non-quiet hour times.*

**Additional Troop Guidelines**

Troop 899 would like to have all Scouts and parents acknowledge the following:

* All medications that Scouts bring to camp are accompanied by a medication form turned in to the Lead Adult at drop-off. Adult leaders will remind Scouts when to take medicine. It is the Scout’s responsibility to administer their own medicine but they need to confirm with the Lead Adult that they have taken it.
* There is to be no sharing of medication.
* Scouts are expected to come to Scout events fully prepared.
* Closed-toe shoes are essential. Flip Flops, sandals, soft topwater shoes or any footwear that does protect and cover the toes is not permitted except for use as “shower shoes.”
* Scouts will respect the privacy of each other’s tents/hammocks. A Scout will ***never*** touch another Scout’s gear or enter his tent uninvited.
* Scouts are not allowed in the Adult Patrol camping area unless they have received permission from one of the adult leaders.
* Scouts follow the principles of “Leave No Trace.” During the camp event and prior to leaving camp, all scouts will “patrol” the campground to make sure all trash is picked up and the camp is left in a condition that is as good as or better than they found it.
* Scouts are expected to use the buddy system at all times.
* Scouts should not curse, use foul language, or offensive or indecent gestures

**Discipline**

For infractions or disciplinary issues not expressly defined above, the Adult Leadership will use the following steps to address misbehavior or disrespect. Adult leadership will utilize the level of discipline they deem appropriate, which may or may not involve progressing through the steps.

**Instruction** - The Scoutmaster or Adult Leader may request a Scout to stop or change his behavior or actions; because they are not acceptable for the current activity; or are unsafe. If necessary, the Scoutmaster or Adult Leader may instruct a Scout to cease participating in the current activity and be separated from the Troop, until the Scout is able to participate in an appropriate manner.

**Warning** - The Scoutmaster or Adult Leader may warn the Scout that: disregarding instructions, a recurrence of the discourtesy, or lack of self-discipline, may result in a Scoutmaster Conference.

**Scoutmaster Counseling** - The Scoutmaster, or another Adult Leader, accompanied by a second Adult Leader at the activity, will counsel a Scout who continues to disregard instructions and warnings that his behavior is unacceptable to the principles of Scouting and the leaders of his Troop. The Scoutmaster and Adult Leader will try to reach an understanding with the Scout as to why the behavior is unacceptable, and receive a commitment from him to change his behavior.

**Removal from Troop Function** – The Scoutmaster and Adult Leaders at camp have the authority to have the parent remove the Scout from the activity, if - in the Leadership’s opinion - the Scout cannot conform to the behavioral requirements and expectations.

**Note:** Depending on the nature of the infraction, the Scoutmaster or adult in charge may suspend the Scout from attending any future Troop activities pending a meeting with the Troop Committee. Additional appropriate discipline will be determined at this time. Possible actions can include temporary suspension from future activities, or expulsion from the Troop.

**Scout Acknowledgement**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, understand my responsibility as a Scout to demonstrate Scout Spirit and agree to conduct myself according to the Behavior Expectations stated herein, the Scout Oath, and the Scout Law.

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Scout Signature Date

**Parent Acknowledgement**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have discussed the Troop 899 Behavior Expectations with my son and agree that if contacted I will retrieve my Scout from an activity at an adult leader’s request.

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Parent Signature Date

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Parent Contact Number Secondary Contact Number