

**Boy Scouts of America - Troop 939**  
**Discipline Policy and Procedure**  
**(November 2008)**

**I hereby have received, read and agree to abide by the provisions of the Troop 939 Discipline Policy and Procedure.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scout Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scout Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**NOTE:**      **A copy of this form with original signatures must be on file with Troop 939 prior to a scout's participation in any scouting activity.**

# **Boy Scouts of America - Troop 939**

## **Discipline Policy and Procedure**

**(November 2008)**

### **1- Discipline**

#### **1.1- General**

It is the goal of Boy Scouts of America to provide a safe haven for boys to learn and grow, while presenting a positive image and service to the public. It is not the purpose of this policy to eliminate boys from the opportunities that Boy Scouting offers. The policies sole purpose is to make clear to everyone that aggressive, disrespectful actions towards others, inappropriate and illegal behavior is unacceptable.

Inappropriate behavior includes but is not limited to: Hazing, insubordination, general mischief, shouting, cursing, ridiculing, name calling, initiation activities or demeaning activities of any kind.

Discipline needs to be positive rather than negative whenever possible, and it must be applied using common sense and fairness. Troop 939 does not permit corporal punishment, nor does it allow disciplining through pushups or other punitive physical exercise.

#### **1.2- Time Out**

This may take the form of being sent outside from a troop meeting, taking a time out in a tent on a campout, or sitting away from the rest of the troop. Time outs shall be given in five-minute intervals with additional time added if the negative behavior continues. In order for time to be credited, the scout must do the time out quietly where asked.

#### **1.3- Essays**

The scoutmaster (or designated adult leader) may require that a scout write an essay about his behavior.

#### **1.4- Apology Letters**

The scoutmaster (or designated adult leader) when deemed appropriate may assign apology letters.

#### **1.5- Service to the Troop as a consequence**

The scoutmaster (or designated adult leader) may require the scout to provide a service to the troop.

#### **1.6- Restitution**

A scout or his family may be asked to pay if property is damaged.

#### **1.7- Removal from Activity**

The scoutmaster (or designated adult leader) may require the parent(s) to pick up their scout from the activity.

### **1.8- Probation**

Probation is a period of evaluation both by the troop and by the scout under probation to determine fitness or desire to remain in the troop. A scout under probation may not normally hold any troop leadership position, and is generally barred from certain "special" troop activities, at the scoutmaster's discretion.

### **1.9- Suspension**

Suspension is the temporary loss of all membership privileges in the troop, typically for 3 or 6 months. A scout is not eligible for any advancement during the suspension period. A suspended scout may be readmitted at the conclusion of the suspension period only after he has submitted a letter to the troop committee, signed by himself and his parents, stating his pledge to meet all troop standards fully.

### **1.10- Expulsion**

Expulsion is the permanent loss of all membership privileges in the troop. The scoutmaster and troop committee, acting in concert, may permanently expel any member for any of the following:

Illegal conduct, in or out of scouting.

Elicit use of drugs or alcohol, in or out of scouting.

Bullying, hazing, or harassment of another scout.

Stealing from another scout.

Misbehavior or refusal to abide by troop policies, which is seriously detrimental to the welfare of the troop.

Willful disregard of the Scout Law or Scout Promise; especially by an adult in a position of trust.

## **2- Alcohol, Tobacco, and Illicit Drugs**

### **2.1- General**

As required by Boy Scouts of America policy, the troop will make every possible effort to provide a completely alcohol-free, tobacco-free, and drug-free environment for our scouts.

### **2.2- Alcohol**

No scout and no adult may possess or consume alcoholic beverages at any time during any scouting activity. Violators will be dismissed from the activity and suspended from the troop until they appear at a troop committee meeting (with a parent, if a scout). The committee will determine any further actions, including the possibility of permanent expulsion from the troop.

### **2.3- Tobacco**

Use of tobacco products is not consistent with the Scout Law and Promise. No scout may possess or use tobacco products at any time on any scouting activity, regardless of parental consent. Adults who smoke or chew must do so completely away from the scouts. Violators will be dismissed from the activity and suspended from the troop until they appear at a troop committee meeting (with a parent, if a scout). The committee will determine any further actions, including the possibility of permanent expulsion from the troop.

### **2.4- Illicit Drugs**

Troop 939 bans the possession or use of illegal drugs (marijuana, etc), other abusable substances (glue, prescription drugs, etc, except when used for their intended purpose), and drug paraphernalia (roach clips, pipes, etc). Adult violators (age 18 & up) will be turned over to the

police. Police involvement for scout violators will be at the discretion of the scoutmaster (or designated adult leader) based on individual circumstances. All violators will be dismissed from the activity and suspended from the troop until they appear at a troop committee meeting (with a parent, if a scout). The committee will determine any further actions, including the possibility of permanent expulsion from the troop.

## **2.5- Caffeinated Beverages**

The troop discourages but does not ban the consumption of caffeine-containing beverages (coffee, tea, caffeinated pop) by scouts. If necessary, the adult leaders may limit consumption by scouts who drink excessive amounts.

## **3- Searches**

### **3.1- General**

Scouting is based on trust, and we prefer to trust our scouts. Unfortunately, a very few dishonest boys have abused this trust to bring contraband or to steal from other scouts. It is sad that the honest majority must pay the price for the unethical few. In view of our obligation to protect our scouts from harmful influences, and recognizing the difficulty of learning about such influences in a timely manner, we must reluctantly reserve the right to ask a scout to show the contents of his pockets, pack, or tent, or to call in the police to assist. We especially want those few who may be goaded by the temptations of dishonor to know that they may be checked at any time. At the same time, we want to maintain an environment based on trust where we are not tempted to search anyone. Only the scoutmaster (or designated adult leader) is empowered to conduct a search of a scout, his pack, or his tent, upon reasonable suspicion. A minimum of two adults and the scout must be present during any search. The adult leader in charge has the responsibility to determine if police involvement is required.

## **4- Attendance**

### **4.1- General**

Each scout is expected to come to all scheduled events and support the troop in its activities. Scouts who attend every meeting for any calendar year will be awarded a perfect attendance pin in accordance with Boy Scouts of America guidelines. Any scout who misses a meeting because of illness, family conflict, or other happenstance can "make up" that meeting by attending any other scheduled event or meeting held by the troop (patrol meetings will not be considered a troop meeting). It is the scout's responsibility to let the troop scribe know what events he has attended to "make up" unattended troop meetings.

## **5- Scout Spirit**

### **5.1- General**

During Boards of Review, each scout shall be prepared to answer questions regarding their participation in actions that promote good citizenship within the troop and/or the troop's relationship with the community.

## **6- Grievance**

## **6.1- Grievance Procedure**

A basic philosophy of Boy Scouts of America is to respect the interest and concerns of its members. To maintain open communication, scouts and parents are encouraged to discuss questions or concerns. The following policy has been established:

A scout or parent with a concern is encouraged to bring the matter to the attention of the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, or Troop Committee Chairman. Any of these adults can offer suggestions or speak to the parties involved. If discussion with a resolution is needed, the Troop Committee Chairman will bring the matter before the troop committee. If needed, the matter will be brought before the troop/council liaison for final discussion and recommendation.

Our troop charter representative and liaison is directly responsible to council in areas that might be deemed necessary. It is strongly recommended that matters be brought forth to the troop committee before being brought to council.