

Tall Pine Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
Policy Statement

Section: Health and Safety  
Policy 1  
Subject: Camper Behavioral Management  
Date Adopted: December 15, 2010  
Issued By: Council Executive Board  
Responsibility: Camp Director  
Review: Annually  
References: Department of Human Services  
Division of Child Welfare Licensing  
Children’s and Adult Foster Care Camps

Part 1 - General Provisions  
R 400.11113 (Rule 113)

- Rule 113. (1) A camp shall have and follow a written camper behavior management policy.**
- (2) A camp shall include in the policy, methods for the positive behavior management of campers.**
- (3) A camp shall include in the policy a statement that a camper shall not be deprived of food or sleep; shall not be placed alone without staff supervision, observation, and interaction; or shall not be subjected to hazing, ridicule, threat, corporal punishment, excessive physical exercise, or excessive restraint.**
- (4) A camp shall furnished a copy of the policy to all staff members.**

**Section A**

- 1. All campers shall have the Camp's behavioral and program policies discussed with them on opening day by the staff in the particular area and on the first day of program in that area. Emergency procedures will be given to the unit adult leadership to share with their Scouts and the entire camp will be briefed on the siren sounding procedure during orientation.
  
- 2. At the above mentioned times, consequences for not following expectations will be discussed:

Borrowing without permission	Inappropriate touching
Bullying	Issues of power and control
Campers seeking revenge	Leaving things a mess
Can't keep hands to self	Lighting matches
Destruction of property	Lying
Difficulty paying attention	Name-calling and unkind remarks
Difficulties with hygiene	Pushing and shoving
Doesn't want to try new activities	Refusing to cooperate
Fear	Sharing

Fear of failure	Smoking
Fighting	Staying up late
Fights over possessions	Stealing
Following rules	Swearing, profanity, "talking dirty"
Going into restricted areas	Temper tantrums
Hazing	Testing the limits
Homesickness	
Inappropriate comments to adults (talking back)	

3. Acceptable consequences for campers not following expectations are:
  - A. Time Out
    1. A camper will be asked to sit quietly for one to five minutes depending on the severity of the behavior.
    2. The camper is asked to think about why he earned the time-out during the quiet time.
    3. The staff person will come over and cognitively get the camper off the time-out by asking the camper two specific questions; what did you do to earn the time-out? What can you do differently in that situation to avoid earning time-outs from now on?
  - B. Restriction of activity
    1. If a camper continues to inappropriately behave after two time-outs, the camper consequence can include sitting out part-time or the whole length of the activity.
    2. The camper will be informed as to why he has been restricted before the loss of activity time.
    3. The camper will be talked to after the activity to help him cognitively understand, just like a time-out.
  - C. Clean appropriate designated facility
 

Instead of losing activity time, the same format as above shall be followed except the camper shall clean a designated area. Area Directors must approve this action.
  - D. Area Director conference with Scoutmaster
 

If the behavioral problems continue after instituting the above measures, a conference is to be held with the camper's Scoutmaster by the Area Director or his/her designee. The staff person is to become more aware of the camper's background and to try and develop a plan for working with the camper. **NO PART OF THIS PLAN WILL BE IN VIOLATION OF THE POLICIES AND/OR LAWS OF THE TALL PINE COUNCIL-BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA, MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, AND ANY OTHER APPLICABLE AGENCY.**

**E. Conference with Camp Director**

1. If behavioral problems continue and the consequences are not effective, the camper should be sent to the Camp Director.
2. Any major incident such as having contraband (weapons other than a pocket knife, alcohol, drugs, tobacco), refusing to participate in activities or meals, stealing, running away, slander, hostile action towards another person, or inappropriate touching of another camper must be reported immediately to the Camp Director.
3. The camper should be sent directly to the Camp Director, or, if the camper refuses to go, the Camp Director will go to the camper. The unit leader will be sent for at this time.
4. The staff member should immediately fill out a Major Incident Report and submit it to the Camp Director or his designee.
5. If the situation warrants, (abuse, legal action, and other reasons as determined) the Camp Director will notify the Scout executive.

**Section B**

The Area Directors shall inform the Camp Director, or his designee, of all Major Incident Reports immediately, and all other significant behavioral problems with campers.

**Section C**

Enforce all broken expectations at all times without malice. Be consistent in application.

**Section D**

Application of all consequences is to be done in a uniform and consistent manner.

**Section E**

At no time is discipline to include depriving a camper of sleep or food, placing a camper alone without supervision, observation, and interaction or subjecting a camper to ridicule, threat, corporal punishment, or excessive physical exercise or excessive restraint. Physical, verbal, and/or emotional abuse is not tolerated at any Tall Pine Council camp.

**Section F**

A periodic evaluation of program/staff/camper groups to insure that the camp environment is not contributing to behavior problems will be made.

**Section G**

**GROUP CONSEQUENCE:** Group discipline is to be used only when it is apparent that the vast majority of the campers/troop are involved in the infraction. The Camp Director (or designee) is to be informed of any group consequence before it begins. It is far better to keep the violators sitting to one side at the activity than to keep the whole group. **ONLY AREA DIRECTORS MAY INSTITUTE THIS CONSEQUENCE.**

**Section H**

Physical, Verbal or Emotional Abuse: No child is to be punished in **any** way. This includes striking the child, pushing the child, or directing something, i.e. water, etc. at the child.

**Section I**

Environmental concerns to minimize behavioral problems

1. Each tent is well ventilated and protects the camper from the elements.
2. Bunks, with clean mattresses, are provided along with the approved square footage needs for each camper.

I have received a copy of the Behavioral Management Policy.

Staff Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Return this signed page with your paperwork. Keep the copy of the policy for your records.