**Troop 312**

**Behavior Code of Conduct &**

**Disciplinary Policy**

**Background/Objectives**

The Scout Oath and the Scout Law provide the guidelines and expectations for the behavior and actions of all Scouts at all times. A Scout is expected to honor his uniform, displaying exemplary behavior whenever he wears it. Any action that is not consistent with the Scout Oath, or that violates any aspect of the Scout Law will be addressed by Scout Leadership.

The 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.*

The Scout Law: *A scout is: trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.*

The objective of the Troop Behavior Code of Conduct & Disciplinary Policy is to ensure that the aims and goals of Scouting are achieved. This written policy ensures that any violation of the Scout Oath or Scout Law is handled in a consistent and fair manner, and ensures that Scouts who consistently violate the Policy do not disrupt the function, operation, morale, well-being or activities of the troop.

**Scout/Troop 312 Policy**

The Boy Scouts of America places great importance on creating a secure and positive environment for its members. *All members of the Boy Scouts of America are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the principles set forth in the Scout Oath and Law. Physical violence, hazing, bullying, theft, verbal insults, drugs, and alcohol have no place in the Scouting program, and may result in revocation of a Scout’s membership in the unit.*

Further, any violation of the Scout Oath or Scout Law may be grounds for discipline, up to and including revocation of a Scout’s membership in the Troop.

**Disciplinary Responses**

Troop leadership reserves the right to take corrective disciplinary actions based on the severity and magnitude of the infraction, and considering the number of times a violation has occurred. In all cases, it will be made clear to the Scout which aspect of the Scout Oath, Law or Troop Policy has been violated.

Scout leadership has at its disposal the following progressive or nonprogressive remedies:

* **Discussion with Boy Leadership**. Troop 312 aspires to be boy-led. To the extent possible, disciplinary and behavioral issues will be handled by trained boys in leadership positions.
* **Discussion with Adult Leader**. The adult leader or leaders will discuss the behavior with the Scout, explain how the Scout Oath, Scout Law or Scout/Troop Policy was violated.
* **Discussion with Signature/Documentation**. The adult leader or leaders will discuss the behavior with the Scout, explain how the Scout Oath, Scout Law or Scout/Troop Policy was violated, document the violation, and have the Scout sign documentation of the discussion.
* **Assignment of Service Project**. Based on the Scout’s behavior, adult leaders may assign additional chores, duties or responsibilities to the Scout. Those duties would be activities that Scouts would typically perform.
* **Withholding of Privileges**. The Scout may have privileges withheld for some period of time. This would typically occur when a Scout’s participation in games, activities or celebrations would reduce enjoyment of that activity by other Scouts or endanger any Scout. The action might also be taken in response to behavior not related to a specific activity.
* **Parental Notification**. When a Scout does not respond appropriately to adult leaders, a leader may contact the Scout’s parent(s)/guardian(s). The conversations with the Scout and his parent(s)/guardian(s) will be documented, and the Scout and his parent(s)/guardian(s) will be asked to sign and return a copy of the documentation within two (2) weeks.
* **Exclusion from Scout Events**. A Scout may be denied participation in Scout events on a one-time basis or more frequently based on the judgment of Scout leaders. The action will be documented and signed by the Scout and his parent(s)/guardian(s).
* **Removal from Campout or Outing**. Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be called by a Troop Committee Member or adult leader, and will be required to come to the outing location (regardless of time, location or distance) to remove the Scout from the Campout or Outing if it is deemed necessary. Further, the Scout will not be permitted to participate in the next scheduled troop Campout, Outing, or Outdoor Event. **Failure of the parent(s)/guardian(s) to retrieve the Scout from the event may result in immediate expulsion from Troop 312.**
* **Requirement of Parent Participation**. The Troop may require a parent or guardian to participate in Scout events with their son. If the parent/guardian does not attend or participate, the Scout may not attend Campouts, Outings or other events, as determined by the adult leaders. This action will be documented and signed by the Scout and his parent or guardian.
* **Appearance before Troop Committee Disciplinary Committee**. A Scout may be brought before the Troop disciplinary Committee with his parent(s)/guardian(s) to discuss infractions and possible solutions. The meeting will be documented and signed by the Scoutmaster (or his designee), the Scout and his parent or guardian.
* **Probation**. A Scout may be placed on probation for a period of time or indefinitely. The Scout may be expelled from the Troop if any infractions occur during the probation period.
* **Suspension from Troop**. A Scout may have his Troop membership suspended for a period of time at the discretion of adult leaders. This action will be documented and signed by the Scoutmaster (or his designee), the Scout, and his parent or guardian.
* **Expulsion and Revocation of Membership**. This is a serious for serious offenses, and would be taken after repeated, serious misbehavior or one-time egregious or life-threatening behavior. This action requires a recommendation by at least three adult leaders, including the Scoutmaster or acting Scoutmaster. The Scout and his parent(s)/guardian(s) will appear before the Troop Committee, where the Scoutmaster or his designee will explain the situation, including the Scout’s behavior, any discipline that has been applied to date, and justification for expulsion from the Troop. The Scout’s parent or guardian will be invited to speak on behalf of their son.

After the adult leader(s) and parent(s)/guardian(s) have spoken, the Troop Committee will discuss the issue. It the majority of the Troop Committee agrees with the recommendation for expulsion, the Scout’s membership in the Troop will be revoked. The Scout’s parent/guardian does not participate in the vote.

If the Scout’s account shows a credit balance, only money paid into the Troop will be refunded. Money earned through fundraising events will be deposited in the general fund.

In the event that membership is revoked, the Troop Committee must inform the council office. Any Scout who leaves the Troop either voluntarily or involuntarily is entitled to his Troop records.

Proper behavior expectations are the responsibility of every Scout, parent/guardian and adult leader in the unit, and are to be followed during participation in every Scouting activity, whether these activities are troop, district, council or national. All participants should acknowledge that they represent not only Troop 312, but also the Indian Waters Council and the Boy Scouts of America during all Scouting activities, and each time they wear their uniforms.

The adult leaders and the Troop Committee have adopted this Behavior Code of Conduct & Disciplinary Policy as a benchmark for expected behavior and corrective action. The Troop committee expects all leaders, parent(s)/guardians(s), and all Scouts to follow this policy.

The Troop Committee requires every Scout, parent/guardian, and adult leader to show their intent to follow this policy by signing and returning the attached sheet to the troop Committee Chair, O’Neal Clamp. Membership in Troop 312 requires acceptance of the behavior Code of Conduct & Discipline Policy.

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**Signature Page**

I certify by signing below that I have received, read and have access to a copy of the Troop 312 Behavior Code of Conduct & Disciplinary Policy and that I agree to abide by the policies set herein while participating in all Scouting activities.

Scout’s Name

Parent/Guardian Name

Scout or Adult Leader Name

Scout’s Signature/Date

Parent/Guardian Signature/Date

Scout or Adult Leader Signature/Date