SCOUTING AMERICA
TROOP 581
CODE OF CONDUCT AND STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

Statement of Understanding: All youth participants and the parents or guardians are asked to sign this Code of Conduct and Statement of Understanding as a condition of participation in all troop-sponsored events, with the further understanding that serious misconduct or infraction of the Code may result in expulsion. Ultimately, we want each participant to be responsible for their own behavior, and only when necessary, will the procedure be invoked to send a Scout home from an event.

All youth and adult participants are expected to abide by the **Code of Conduct** as follows:

1. The Scout Oath and Law will be my guide throughout all events.
2. Event adult leaders are responsible for the supervision of the Scouts participating in maintaining discipline and security.
3. I will keep myself neatly dressed and presentable: The official Scout uniform or activity uniform, when authorized.
4. I will attend all scheduled programs and participate as required in cooperation with other members and leadership.
5. In consideration of other event participants, I agree to follow the lights out and bedtime schedule of an event. I will not bring portable electronic equipment of any kind to any event without the prior approval of the Scoutmaster.
6. I will be responsible for keeping my tent and personal gear labeled, clean, and neat. I will observe the Outdoor Code and will do my part to prevent littering. https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/outdoor-ethics/outdoor-code/
7. It is clearly understood that serious and/or repetitive behavior violations may result in expulsion from an event, as well as serious disciplinary actions and loss of privileges. Inappropriate behaviors include use of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs; tobacco; cheating; stealing; dishonesty; swearing; fighting; cursing; unsafe use of propane, knives, butane lighters (no Zippo styles allowed); incorrect use of fires, stoves, and lantern; bullying and harassment; and possession of pornographic material.
8. Gambling of any form is prohibited.
9. Possession or detonation of fireworks is prohibited.
10. I will respect for troop and Church property and be personally responsible for cleanliness and any loss, breakage, or vandalism of property.
11. Neither the event leaders nor Troop 581 will be responsible for loss, breakage, or theft of personal items. I will label all my personal items and check items of value at the direction of troop leaders. Theft will be grounds for expulsion.
12. While participating in any event, all Scouts and leaders will obey the safety rules and instructions of unit leaders.
13. Adult leaders and youths are prohibited from having firearms and weapons in their possession that are not in accordance with BSA regulations and local and state laws.
14. Registered adult leaders must accomplish Youth Protection Training (YPT) or Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT) and follow all guidelines therein. All other adults attending events are strongly encouraged to take the online YPT / SYT (my.scouting.org).
15. All troop members, both adult and youth, will avoid confrontation with groups, demonstrations, or hecklers and assume a passive reaction to name-calling from individuals or groups. Leaders will remove the Scout group from the area of potential conflict immediately.
16. Violations of this Code may result in actions depending on the severity and frequency of the violation(s), including expulsion at the participant's own expense from an event, approval of the Scout Spirit requirement for rank advancement for a "to be determined" timeframe; troop equipment privileges suspended, removal from leadership position, suspension from the Troop, and notification of law enforcement. All decisions of the Scoutmaster, Committee Chair, and/or Chartered Organization Representative (collectively these three are known as the Troop Key-3) will be final.

I certify that I have read this **Code of Conduct** [and if an adult, the **BSA Scouter Code of Conduct** (https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/bsa-scouter-code-of-conduct/)] and agree to abide by the conditions in this **Code of Conduct** as a participant in Troop 581 membership, gatherings, and all events.

Signature of Scout / Scouter_____Date_____

Signature of Parent or Guardian_____Date_____
(if the participant is under 21 years of age)