

A-2 RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Alton Bay Campmeeting Association is a year-round Christian Conference Center, which exists to promote the cause of Christ through the proclamation, study, and application of God's Word. As a specialized ministry, the Association seeks to fulfill this purpose in a relaxed atmosphere that provides opportunity for fellowship, reflection, prayer, rest, recreation and participation in a wide variety of activities geared to spiritual life and growth. (Article II, Bylaws). These objectives shall be the rule for life and conduct for all who are on the grounds, whether cottage owners, renters, or visitors.

COMMUNITY COVENANT

We are a community of Christians who live according to holy obligations which we believe are true to the character of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are called to humility, purity, justice and truth because Jesus modeled these for us. Along with the privileges and blessings of membership in such a community come responsibilities. The members of the Alton Bay Campmeeting Association take these responsibilities seriously. We “freely and joyfully choose to live in the light of His holiness and hold each other accountable”.

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.” (2 Timothy 3:16)

The biblical foundation of Christian community is expressed in Jesus' two great commandments: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind,” and, “Love your neighbor as yourself” (Matt: 22:37-40). Jesus himself perfectly demonstrated the pattern: love for God, acted out in love for others, in obedience to God's Word. Acknowledging our dependence on the power and grace of God, the members of the Alton Bay Campmeeting Association humbly covenant to endeavor to live according to this ideal.

The purposes of this community covenant are as follows:

- to cultivate an atmosphere that encourages spiritual, moral and intellectual growth.
- to integrate our lives around Christian principles and devotion to Christ.
- to remove whatever may hinder us from our calling as a Christ-centered community.
- to encourage one another to see that living for Christ involves dependence on God's Spirit and obedience to his Word, rather than a passive acceptance of prevailing practices.

We believe that biblical standards will show themselves in a distinctly Christian way of life. This lifestyle involves practicing those attitudes and actions the Bible portrays as virtues, and avoiding those the Bible portrays as sinful.

Refusal to conduct oneself in harmony with the objectives and the rules of the Association as herein set forth shall constitute cause for termination of the privilege to occupy the grounds.

AFFIRMING BIBLICAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Rules of the Association

Our community covenant is built on basic biblical standards for godly Christian character and behavior. We evidence our commitment to God, first, by doing what is enjoined in the Word of God, which is our rule of both faith and practice.

We acknowledge the Lordship of Christ over all of life and thought. This involves a wholehearted obedience to Jesus and careful stewardship in all dimensions of life: our time, our possessions, our God-given capacities, our opportunities (Deut. 6:5-6; I Cor. 10:31; Col. 1:18, 3:17).

1. PERSONAL CONDUCT:

- a) We love God with our whole being, including our heart, soul, mind and strength, and love our neighbor as oneself (Exodus 20:3-6; Matt. 22:37-40; Rom. 13:8-10; Mark 12:28-31; I John 4:7-12). **The use and/or promotion of astrology, palm reading, fortune telling, occult practices and gambling are strictly forbidden anywhere on the grounds. No person without permission from the ABCA leadership shall conduct a business or distribute literature on the Conference Center grounds.** (Lev.20:6,27; Gal.5: 19-20; Eph. 5: 1-18; I Tim. 6: 6-11; Heb. 13: 5-6).
- b) We pursue holiness in every aspect of our thought and behavior.(2 Cor. 7:1; I Thess. 4:7, 5:23-24; Heb. 12:14; I Pet. 1:15-16). **Modesty in dress is required of all men, women and children. Bikinis, bikini trunks and other abbreviated swimwear are not appropriate for our beach. A covering over bathing suits is required when away from the beach area.** (I Pet. 3: 3-4; I John 2:15-17; James 4:6).
- c) We treat our own bodies, and those of others, with the honor due the very temple of the Holy Spirit. (I Cor. 6:17-20). **The use of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs,, or tobacco is strictly forbidden anywhere on the Conference grounds.** (Prov. 20:1; Prov. 23: 29-35; I Cor. 6:9-12, 19-20; 2 Cor. 7:1; Gal. 5: 21; Hab. 2:5; Eph. 5:18).
- d) We believe that the Biblical definition of marriage is a union between one man and one woman. We view all other forms of sexual intimacy that occur outside the biblical definition of marriage as sinful distortions of the holiness and beauty that God intended for it. We affirm the biblical position that such acts are sinful. **We will not rent any area knowingly to biblically unmarried couples, and sexual activity between unmarried persons is not permitted on these grounds.** (Rom. 1:21-27; I Cor. 6:9-10, 7: 1-3; Gen. 1:27, 2:24, 19: 1-25; Ex. 20:14; Lev.20:13; I Tim. 1: 8-10; Matt. 5: 27-32; Gal. 5:19).
- e) We honor the Holy Spirit who lives within us, by exhibiting “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control” (Gal. 5: 22-23).
- f) We give faithful witness to the Gospel (Acts 1:8; I Pet. 3:15), practicing good works toward all (Gal. 6:10; Eph. 2:10; Heb. 10:24; I Pet. 2:11), and living lives of prayer and thanksgiving (I Thess. 5:17-18; James 5:16; Titus 2: 7-8).

2. SANITARY CONCERNS

- a) No refuse or other health threatening material shall be disposed of anywhere on the grounds except in the sanitary receptacles provided.
- b) Cottage owners, renters, and guests are **NOT** to dispose of disposable diapers, feminine sanitary disposables, paper towels, facial tissues or other such objects in the toilets or sewer system of the Conference Center.
- c) No soap or detergent or other pollutant is to be used or placed in or near Back Bay.

3. DOG REGULATIONS

Dogs shall be registered yearly at the ABCA office, shall have a current license (from home residence if required there), a name tag, current proof of rabies inoculation, and wear a collar with tags attached. Dogs shall be leashed when being walked and may not be tied outside. Owners will use only approved dog walks for curbing and will remove and dispose of all defecation properly. No pets are allowed on the beach, in the swimming area, ballfield area, or in Conference Center buildings. Renters are not permitted to bring dogs -- exception will be made for assistance dogs.

4. FIRE SAFETY

- a) The use or keeping of fireworks and the keeping or discharge of firearms (except with ABCA permission) anywhere on the Conference Center grounds is strictly forbidden.
- b) Storage of gasoline must be in State Approved containers in a ventilated area.
- c) There shall be no open fires except with approved types of cooking grills, and these must be located a minimum of 5 ft. from any building or flammable materials. These fires must be attended at all times. Use with care.
- d) Each cottage must have an appropriate size **UL APPROVED FIRE EXTINGUISHER and APPROVED SMOKE DETECTOR.**
- e) Parents are to be sure that their children do not carry matches or lighters anywhere on our grounds or the surrounding woodlands.
- f) There will be no fires on the beach, except in the Fire Pit.

5. PROPERTY AND ROADS

- a) Traffic on Conference Center grounds shall be limited to 5 (five) MPH and by any other regulation as posted or announced by the Executive Director. For safety reasons, no motorized scooters may be used on the grounds except for Conference Center personnel when used in connection with his work.
- b) No person shall make any alteration or addition to any Conference Center property or connect or disconnect to any service to or from any Conference Center facility.

6. CONDUCT DURING ABCA RELIGIOUS SERVICES

- a) All persons on the Association property should respect the Lord's Day by attending scheduled worship services and by not engaging in secular work (construction, remodeling, etc.) (Ex. 20: 8-11; Deut. 5:14; Acts 20:7a; Mark 2:27-28).
- b) The beach and other sports areas are closed during Sunday services and the beach is closed at dusk daily. (Isaiah 58:13-14; Rev. 1:10).
- c) During services or concerts in the Tabernacle and in the Chapel, we expect respect for the speakers, musicians, and worshipers with quiet behavior in and around these buildings. (Matt. 7:12).

7. GUIDANCE FOR CHILDREN

- a) Parents are responsible to instruct their children not to injure live trees, strip bark from white birches, or deface any building, picnic table, or other facility on the Conference Center grounds.
- b) Bicycles are to be used cautiously and cannot be used in the circle drive between the Chapel and the Lombard Center, Back Bay Path, and the Trailer Park Path during the summer.
- c) A responsible person should accompany preschool children when using the public restrooms, visitor's lounge, the playground, or other public facilities.

8. OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

- a) All who use cottages, other than the owners, for overnight or longer shall register at the ABCA office.
- b) Renters shall leave lodging facility or campsite as neat and clean as it was found.
- c) All persons on the Conference Center grounds are to maintain quiet between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m.
- d) All boat trailers shall be parked only in designated areas.
- e) Building and Grounds permits are required for all construction, structural alterations, exterior painting, cutting trees, construction of fences or walks, and soil alterations. The ABCA office will provide information about obtaining the needed permits.

The Board of Directors may designate officials to enforce these rules and any other rules enacted by the Association. All rules shall apply to the entire grounds, all buildings thereon, all cottage owners, renters, and the occupants of the grounds whether permanent or transient. Covenant directives are intended to foster an harmonious community in which all participants can freely worship and glorify the Lord. Violation of the rules shall constitute cause for termination of the privilege to participate in the ABCA grounds.

POLICY REGARDING LOSS OF TENANCY

The Executive Committee may terminate any previously granted tenancy at will for any reason or for no reason at all. A tenancy automatically shall terminate when an individual or a married couple who previously has been granted tenancy has:

- a) Consistently ignored the rules of the Association and/or its statement of Purpose, Statement of Faith, or Statement of Mission.
- b) Failed to pay the Cottage fee in a timely manner and are two years behind in their payment of the same without the express written permission of the Board of Directors.
- c) Not dealt with debt obligations including town taxes for up to two years.

If a decision is made to terminate tenancy, each of the following shall occur:

- a) A written notice shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the tenant(s) stating that such tenancy is terminated.
- b) The notice shall clearly indicate that the tenant(s) has a sixty (60) day period in which to apply to the Executive Committee for the reinstatement of tenancy.
- c) In the event such tenancy is not reinstated, the owner(s) shall vacate the cottage immediately; remove all contents to be retained, and sell the cottage and/or other structures within one year to a person or persons who have been approved for tenancy. If such sale has not occurred within one year, the Association shall be entitled to purchase the cottage and/or structure at a price equal to the assessed value set by the Town of Alton at the time of termination of the tenancy, less any indebtedness, including, but not limited to, unpaid interest, fines, or penalties assessed, or other amounts owed to the Association.