

## Section 11: Camper Misconduct

### 11.1 Policy

Jun 2009

As set out in (*Section 1*) of this Operating Manual, the Rock Lake United church Camp Society has approved the Mission Statement, Philosophy and Objectives which, in part, state "provide a safe gathering place", "... focussing on love, acceptance and respect for each other" and concentrate on the spiritual and recreational experiences to be enjoyed at Rock Lake Camp. Accordingly, it is the Society's policy that misconduct by a camper which may jeopardize the safety of any individual at camp or prevent the satisfactory delivery of any program at the camp will not be tolerated and will be dealt with immediately. Corporal punishment as a discipline style is not acceptable and is considered grounds for immediate dismissal of a camp staff person or volunteer.

#### Treatment of Camper Misconduct

Breaking rules, fighting, bullying, harassment, etc. will be dealt with by the Camp Cabin Leader using an effective form of discipline as set out under "Disciplining the Camper" (*Section 14.5*). If the misconduct is not corrected as set out above, the camper will be referred to the Camp Director (or his/her designate) for disciplinary action.

If the misconduct is unresolved or the following infractions occur, the parent/guardian of the camper will be contacted and the camper will be sent home. A Child Departure Form (*Form 18*) must be completed.

#### Reasons for Contacting Parent/Guardian and Sending a Camper Home

1. Disregard of camp safety rules.
2. Blatant and continuing disregard for general camp rules.
3. Disruptive behaviour which interferes with the delivery of the camping program to the rest of the campers.

### 11.2 Procedure

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During the pre-camp training session the Camp Director will instruct as to the appropriate handling of any camper misconduct and subsequent discipline. In the event of a misdemeanour or misconduct, the Society will use progressive discipline as outlined in (*Section 10.7*).

An incident report of the misconduct must be completed (*Form 17*).

Camper misconduct will be dealt with by the Camp Cabin Leader using an effective form of discipline as set out in the Training Manual as described above.

Employees/volunteers are encouraged to deal directly with the camper(s) involved by taking the individual(s) aside and privately discussing the inappropriate behaviour.

If the issues cannot be resolved, as a last resort the misconduct issue may be taken (by both parties) to the Camp Director.

If the Camp Director is unable to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of all concerned and he/she decides that this misconduct is detrimental to the camp, a Child Departure Form (*Form 18*) must be completed and the parents/guardians will be contacted to remove the offending camper(s) from the camp, always ensuring that the policy outlined in (*Section 5.7*) Release of Child to Someone Other Than Parent/Guardian is adhered to, if applicable.

### 11.3 Misconduct List

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The following is a list of inappropriate actions or behaviour which will not be accepted at the camp. This list is intended as a guideline only and is not all inclusive.

- Physical aggression and abuse
- Any type of sexual conduct between campers
- Profanity
- Personal use of drugs, alcohol or tobacco
- Violation of dress code
- Change of sleeping arrangements without the Camp Director's written approval
- Leaving camp or any organized activity without the Camp Director's permission
- Behaviour that frightens, degrades or humiliates fellow campers
- Bullying or harassment in accordance with (*Section 10.5.2*)
- Theft
- Disregard of camp safety rules
- Blatant and continuing disregard for general camp rules
- Disruptive behaviour which interferes with the delivery of the camping program to the rest of the campers