



SCOUT & PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Troop 424 • Merrimack, New Hampshire
Final • October 2026

Purpose. This Code establishes clear expectations for Scouts and families, describes how conduct concerns will be addressed, and provides a fair framework for consequences when behavior interferes with safety, respect, or the Scouting experience.

Our Commitment

Troop 424 is committed to providing every Scout with a safe, welcoming, respectful, and enjoyable Scouting experience.

Membership in Troop 424 comes with the expectation that Scouts will make a good-faith effort to live according to the Scout Oath and Scout Law at troop meetings, activities, campouts, service projects, trips, and other Scouting events.

Scouts are young people who are learning and developing. Mistakes will happen. Discipline is intended to correct behavior, teach responsibility, protect the safety and well-being of everyone involved, and give Scouts an opportunity to learn and succeed.

Every Scout also has the right to participate without being bullied, harassed, threatened, harmed, or prevented from enjoying the program because of another person's behavior.

Scout Expectations

- Live the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Strive to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.
- Treat others with respect. Respect fellow Scouts, youth leaders, adult leaders, parents, volunteers, visitors, and members of the public.
- Keep Scouting safe. Follow health and safety instructions, use equipment appropriately, follow the buddy system when required, and comply with Scouting America Youth Protection and safety policies.
- Respect personal boundaries. Respect another person's body, belongings, personal space, privacy, sleeping area, and reasonable request to be left alone.

- Reject bullying and harassment. Do not bully, haze, threaten, intimidate, deliberately embarrass, harass, or repeatedly target another person physically, verbally, socially, or electronically.
- Keep hands to yourself. Fighting, hitting, kicking, pushing, unwanted physical contact, dangerous horseplay, or intentionally harming another person is not acceptable.
- Use appropriate language and behavior. Avoid excessive profanity, insults, discriminatory or degrading comments, sexually inappropriate language or behavior, and other conduct inconsistent with the Scout Oath and Law.
- Respect property. Respect troop equipment, facilities, campsites, vehicles, and personal property. Theft, intentional damage, and taking belongings without permission are not acceptable.
- Follow reasonable directions. Cooperate with youth and adult leadership and follow reasonable instructions needed to safely and successfully conduct an activity.
- Participate positively. Make a reasonable effort to participate, help the patrol and troop, complete responsibilities, and avoid intentionally disrupting activities.
- Use technology responsibly. When devices are permitted, follow troop or event-specific expectations for phones, cameras, messaging, social media, gaming, and other technology.
- Speak up when something is wrong. Tell a trusted adult leader if someone is being hurt, bullied, harassed, threatened, or placed in an unsafe situation.

Addressing Behavior & Conduct

Troop 424 believes conduct concerns should be addressed clearly, promptly, and constructively. Whenever practical, Scouts will be given an opportunity to understand what went wrong, correct their behavior, and successfully return to participation. Consequences depend on the seriousness of the behavior, safety considerations, repetition, and the Scout's willingness to correct the behavior.

STEP 1 | Correct & Redirect

For minor conduct concerns, a youth or adult leader will address the behavior and give the Scout an opportunity to correct it. If the behavior continues after reasonable redirection, an adult leader will become involved and the Scout's parent or guardian may be notified.

STEP 2 | Parent Involvement / Removal From the Activity

If the behavior continues, is significantly disruptive, or warrants more immediate intervention, an adult leader will contact the Scout's parent or guardian. The Scout may be removed from the activity. If troop leadership determines the Scout must leave, the parent or guardian is responsible for arranging prompt transportation, regardless of the location of the activity. Depending on the circumstances, a parent or guardian may instead be required to attend and remain with the Scout as a condition of continued participation.

STEP 3 | Restriction From Future Activities / Membership Review

For serious misconduct or repeated behavioral concerns, troop leadership may restrict the Scout from participating in future meetings, outings, campouts, trips, or other troop activities. Before returning, the Scout and parent or guardian may be required to meet with troop leadership and agree upon expectations for future conduct. In rare circumstances involving serious misconduct, ongoing safety concerns, or behavior that has not improved after reasonable intervention, the Scoutmaster and Troop Committee may review whether continued membership in Troop 424 is appropriate.

SERIOUS CONDUCT

These steps are guidelines, not a required sequence. Troop leadership may move directly to any appropriate consequence based on the seriousness of the behavior. Conduct involving safety, fighting, threats, bullying, harassment, hazing, theft, vandalism, prohibited substances, serious boundary violations, or other significant misconduct may result in immediate removal from an activity and/or restriction from future activities.

Serious or Immediate Safety Concerns

Some conduct may require immediate adult intervention and may result in removal from an activity without first progressing through earlier steps. Examples include:

- Fighting or intentionally injuring another person
- Credible threats of violence or serious harm
- Severe bullying, harassment, or hazing
- Possession or use of prohibited weapons
- Possession or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, or other prohibited substances
- Theft or intentional destruction of property
- Sexual misconduct or serious violations of personal boundaries
- Intentionally leaving a designated area without permission when doing so creates a safety concern
- Deliberate violation of a safety rule that places the Scout or others at significant risk

- Conduct that may constitute a violation of Scouting America Youth Protection policies

When the safety or well-being of a Scout is involved, protecting youth takes priority over the normal progression of consequences.

Adult Conduct & Conflict Resolution

Troop 424 expects adult leaders, parents, and guardians to model the same respect, courtesy, and good judgment that we expect from our Scouts. Disagreements will occur from time to time. Adults are expected to address those disagreements respectfully and with the best interests of the Scouts and the troop in mind.

Adult leaders, parents, and guardians are expected to:

- Treat other adults, Scouts, and families with respect, even when there is disagreement.
- Address concerns directly and constructively, avoiding personal attacks, hostile behavior, threats, or unnecessarily confrontational communication.
- Never engage in arguments, confrontations, or contentious discussions in the presence of Scouts. When a disagreement arises during a troop activity, adults should move the conversation to an appropriate private setting or defer the discussion until it can occur away from Scouts.
- Make a reasonable effort to resolve disagreements directly between the adults involved.
- When a disagreement cannot be resolved directly, involve another appropriate adult leader to serve as a neutral mediator.
- If mediation does not resolve the matter, bring the concern to the Troop Committee for review and resolution.

Disagreement itself is not the problem. Adults may have different perspectives, challenge decisions, or raise concerns. The expectation is that disagreements are handled in a way that models the values and behavior we ask of our Scouts.

Parent / Guardian Commitment

Scouting works best when Scouts, families, youth leaders, and adult leaders work together. As a parent or guardian, I agree to:

- Review this Code of Conduct with my Scout and reinforce the Scout Oath, Scout Law, and troop expectations.
- Support reasonable decisions made by troop leadership to maintain a safe and respectful environment.
- Communicate relevant concerns that may help troop leadership support my Scout.
- Treat Scouts, leaders, volunteers, and other families respectfully.
- Respond when troop leadership needs to contact me regarding my Scout.
- Arrange prompt transportation if notified that my Scout must leave an activity because of behavior or safety concerns.

Fairness & Individual Circumstances

Troop 424 recognizes that every Scout and every situation is different. Leadership will consider the Scout's age, maturity, circumstances, seriousness of the behavior, prior incidents, safety considerations, and willingness to accept responsibility when determining an appropriate response. Consequences are therefore not necessarily identical for every incident, but expectations will be applied as fairly and consistently as reasonably possible.

Event RSVPs

Accurate and timely RSVPs are essential to planning safe and successful Troop 424 activities. Event RSVPs provide troop leadership with an accurate headcount and allow us to confirm required medical forms and other documentation, ensure appropriate adult leadership and supervision, and make necessary arrangements for the activity.

Each event will include a communicated RSVP deadline. Scouts and families are expected to respond by that deadline, whether attending or not attending, so troop leadership can plan accordingly.

Once the RSVP deadline has passed, event planning will proceed based on the confirmed attendance. A Scout who has not RSVP'd by the deadline is not guaranteed the ability to participate in that event. Requests to attend after registration has closed will be considered only when the troop can safely and reasonably accommodate the additional Scout, including any requirements for adult leadership, transportation, medical documentation, reservations, equipment, or other event-specific needs.

Planning depends on timely responses.

RSVP deadlines allow troop leadership to finalize staffing, documentation, transportation, reservations, and other event requirements. Please respond by the communicated deadline.



ACKNOWLEDGMENT & SIGNATURES

By signing below, we acknowledge that we have read and discussed the Troop 424 Scout & Parent Code of Conduct. We understand the behavioral expectations and possible consequences when those expectations are not met. We understand that participation in Troop 424 activities is conditioned upon following Scouting America policies, the Scout Oath and Scout Law, and reasonable behavioral and safety expectations established by troop leadership.

SCOUT	
Scout Name	
Scout Signature	Date

PARENT / GUARDIAN	
Parent/Guardian Name	
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date

TROOP 424	
Scoutmaster / Designee	
Signature	Date

Final - October 2026