Texas 4-H and Youth Development Consequences of Misbehavior

Violators May Expect:
To have the opportunity to explain actions to the professional Extension staff in charge. Behavior that is disruptive to the event will be documented and a letter describing such will be sent to the District 4-H Leadership Team, County Extension Agent(s) and parents/guardians of those involved. Examples of offenses are as listed below, but not limited to:

Minor Offenses
1. Habitually late to program activities
2. Not in room at designated time
3. Not possessing good manners and using language that is offensive to others
4. Not respecting the rights and privacy of those rooming with or attending an activity
5. Lying or untruthfulness to chaperones, leaders, event organizers or others in attendance

Intermediate Offenses
1. Inappropriate visitation
2. Leaving a 4-H activity without the permission of staff member(s) in charge
3. Intentional damage to meeting site, sleeping quarters, person, or other person’s property
4. Bullying

Major Offenses
1. Smoking or using tobacco products
2. The use of alcohol or drugs
3. Carrying an unauthorized weapon
4. Threatening another person with a weapon or bodily harm
5. Cheating
6. Sexual activities
7. Theft of any kind
8. Acting in a manner considered by 4-H leadership to be harmful or potentially harmful to the health or well-being of themselves or others, whether such act occurred within, or outside of the 4-H program

Consequences
- For every offense 4-H member will receive a verbal reprimand.
- For every offense the violator shall write letters of apology to the appropriate people.

Major Offenses
- Automatic removal from event/activity and/or sending a participant home at the parent’s/guardian’s expense.
- One major offense during any 4-H year may lead to suspension of membership in all Texas 4-H and Youth Development programs for the remainder of the 4-H year, along with the possibilities of facing criminal charges, pending offense. In addition, 4-H member may be asked to resign from all 4-H offices or leadership roles held or give up monetary awards or scholarships from the Texas 4-H program.

Intermediate Offenses
- One or two violations is grounds for removal from the event/activity and/or sending a participant home at the parent’s/guardian’s expense.
- Three violations during one calendar year is grounds for the 4-H member to not be allowed in any county, district or state activities for the remainder of the 4-H year. In addition, 4-H member may be asked to resign from all 4-H offices or leadership roles held or to give up monetary awards or scholarships from the Texas 4-H program.

Minor Offenses
Consistent discipline problems requiring more than two reprimands is grounds for sending a 4-H member home at the parent’s/guardian’s expense. Habitual discipline problems requiring more than four reprimands during one calendar year is grounds for the 4-H member to not be allowed in any county, district or state activities for the remainder of the 4-H year. In addition 4-H member may be asked to resign from all 4-H offices or leadership roles held or to give up monetary awards or scholarships from the Texas 4-H program.

Course Of Action
Event managers responsible for 4-H events and activities are encouraged to communicate to 4-H participants and adult chaperones prior to the event a standard of the Texas 4-H program.

(code of conduct)

During my 4-H involvement...

1. I am expected to attend all sessions that are part of the planned program for all activities. I will inform staff if I am not feeling well or have a schedule conflict.
2. I will dress appropriately to the occasion and adhere to any attire requirements stipulated for the event I am attending. 4-H members should be courteous and clean, and possess good manners.
3. Language must be controlled and appropriate for a 4-H member — I will not use language that is socially offensive.
4. Except for planned tours and outings, I will not leave an activity facility any time without permission of the chaperone and/or staff responsible for the event.
5. I will not smoke or use tobacco products, or be in possession of such products, at any 4-H program event.
6. I will not be in possession of, use alcohol or drugs (except those directed by a doctor), or be associated with or remain in the presence of others when they are being used.
7. I will not be in possession of, use, or threaten another person with a weapon, bodily force or language.
8. I will respect the rights of privacy of those attending an activity and those with whom I may be rooming.
9. I will observe hours established by the staff and be in my room. No boys in girls’ rooms, no girls in boys’ rooms.
10. I will avoid unnecessary roughness to room furnishings, furniture, equipment, etc. Towels, ashtrays, etc., are not to be taken as souvenirs. Occupants of a room or conveyance are financially responsible for any damage or results of misconduct.
11. Any participant at an official 4-H activity who observes a breach of the code of conduct has the responsibility and obligation to report the misbehavior to appropriate chaperones.

______________________________
Date

______________________________  ____________________________
Participant Signature          Parent/Guardian Signature