**North Height Youth Ministry**
**Expectations for Trips, Events, and Activities**

Youth group trips, events, and activities are designed to be fun, engaging, and spiritually enriching. It is my hope that you form some of your most cherished memories while participating with the group. During these trips, however, it is important to remember that we represent our congregation, our families, and our Savior. Therefore, these are expectations for how you are to present and conduct yourself while participating with the youth group.

**Expectations for Respect**
1. All teens are expected to be respectful at all times to the adults and peers they are with.

* This is just as true in private or small group settings as it is in public. Always be courteous. Remember, would you hear Jesus saying what you just said? Memorize Ephesians 4:29 and use it!
* Put-downs or bullying may result in your removal from the activity and your parents called to come pick you up!!
* The trip leaders and adults work very hard preparing food and activities for the whole group to enjoy. So, practice “Do everything without complaining or arguing" (Philippians 2:14).
* Always say ‘Thank You.’

2. Teens are expected to follow all rules and instructions, both written and verbal, given by the adults.

3. All teens are expected to show respect to their own property and the property of others.

* Do not damage or destroy anything including the vans or facilities we stay in or use.
* We will always leave places BETTER THAN WHEN WE FOUND THEM!!

4. Sometime people make mistakes. All teens are expected to give others forgiveness, grace, and the benefit of the doubt and think of others in a positive way.

5. When you’re with the group, be with the group. Being on your phone or separating yourself from the group is rude to others. Give your time and attention to your group.

5. Public displays of affection can make others uncomfortable. Maintain proper boundaries with others even if you are dating or going out with someone. This means no kissing, caressing, leaning on someone, sitting in someone else’s lap, or any other form of flirting.

**Expectations for Proper Dress**

What we wear on the outside says a lot about what’s happening on the inside. Always be conscious of how the clothes you’re wearing honor God and how it may affect those around you.
This dress code applies to boys and girls and is for any and all activities (including Sunday and Wednesday class and worship), whether local or out-of-town, day time or over-night. If clothing is worn that does not comply, the teen will be asked to change.

1. Shorts must be **no shorter than the fingertips** when the arms and shoulders are relaxed. Absolutely no short-shorts!
2. Because skirts and dresses are more likely to be revealing when sitting or moving around, they must be no shorter than the top of the knee when standing.
3. Pants and shorts need to be worn at the waist; no sagging.
4. No tight or form fitting pants including yoga pants, leggings, or spandex pants, unless a shirt covers down to mid-thigh.
5. Sleeveless t-shirts, sleeveless dresses and tank tops must have wide shoulder straps and not reveal undergarments or the sides of the torso. Absolutely no spaghetti-strap tops, not even as pajamas. \*Some trips/activities may require shirts to have sleeves.
6. Shirts, blouses, and dresses may not be low cut, tight fitting, or see-through. **Clothing must cover the chest COMPLETELY.**
7. Writing and graphics on clothing must reflect Godly character.

**Safety Expectations**

Lack of safety is the fastest way to cause injuries to one’s self or others. When injuries occur, activities are called off. Therefore…

1. No horseplay, pushing, shoving, tackling of any kind.

2. No climbing on things that were not made to be climbed on.

3. Play games in such a way that others will have a good time.

4. Teens are expected to respect their limits and the limits given to them.

5. No showing out or pranks.

6. Teens are expected to take responsibility for their actions.

7. Teens must be supervised at all times. You may not go off alone or in a group to a separate room or place where there is no supervision. If there is not an adult around, you are in the wrong place.

8. Boys and girls may not sit next to each other in the church vans or movie theater. At no time ever may a blanket be draped across two people.

**General** **Expectations**
1. While participating in youth group events and activities, teens are required to follow the schedule as determined by the adult leaders.

* Do not leave the group without permission.
* During scheduled events, teens are to be at the specified place and nowhere else.

2. During devotional/worship times, teens should be quiet, respectful, reverent, and attentive. This means…

* No talking or whispering side conversations.
* Do not write or pass notes.
* No cell phone use! Don’t even have it out. If a teen is seen using a cell phone during devo/worship they will be told to put it away. If it is seen again, it will be taken and given back to the parent.

3. On over-night trips, teens are expected to show courtesy in the hotel/cabin/wherever by keeping the noise level down. This shows courtesy to…

* The people who may be in the rooms around us.
* The people who are sharing a room with you.

\*\*Please note that teens will be expected to fully participate in all activities even if they have chosen to deprive themselves of sleep the previous night.

4. Teens are encouraged to invite friends to certain events, activities, and trips. However…

* Teens are responsible for their guest following ALL guidelines, including dress code and respect.
* Teens are responsible for their guest signing up and paying on time.
* As a policy of the NHYG, guests are not permitted on over-night trips or to activities that are designated as Youth Group Members only.

5. Teens (and guests) must sign-up and pay for each event before the designated deadline.

* After the deadline there is no guarantee that anyone else can be signed up.
* Payment must be made before the deadline.
* After the deadline arrangements are made and paid for. So you may not be able to be refunded if you cannot go.

These guidelines are meant for the well-being of our group and congregation. They are not intended to be harsh or negative; rather they are to help ensure safety and to give everyone the opportunity to enjoy the activities and grow spiritually.

**Expectations for Trips, Events, and Activities**

***Please remove, sign, and turn in this last page. Please keep the first two pages for your reference.***

I fully understand the rules and expectations set before me and will make every effort to respect them and the people (Adult Leaders) who uphold them.

**Youth Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Youth Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

I fully understand the rules and expectations set for the NHYG. I have discussed these expectations with my teen(s) and will do my best to encourage and support these expectations.

**Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**