



TRAIL LIFE USA®

Adventure › Character › Leadership

TRAIL LIFE USA POLICY REGARDING MAINTAINING A WORTHY MEETING ENVIRONMENT

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to Troops in the event gathering of Trailmen is disrupted by the behavior of non-registered visitors or in the event non-registered visitors engage in behavior, promotion, or advocacy of acts that are inconsistent with the values and beliefs of Trail Life USA.

The safety of the Trailmen is of primary concern to Trail Life USA. Safety should extend past the physical realm into the realm of the mind and the spirit. Matthew 10:16. "Behold I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

Policy Limitation: Nothing in this policy is meant to limit frank and honest discussion of the issues facing the followers of Christ or His church in the world today. Troop leaders are encouraged to rely on chapter 4 of the Trailman Handbook for guidance on how to engage in age-appropriate discussions with youth regarding sensitive matters.

Policy: Registered Adults should be aware of all visiting individuals at a designated Trail Life USA Troop event or gathering. As soon as any Registered Adult becomes aware of non-registered visitors engaging in behavior that is inconsistent with the values and beliefs of Trail Life USA, steps should be immediately taken to shield the Trailmen from the activity in a manner appropriate to the unique circumstances and setting of the event.

If a disruption or concerning behavior takes place, the registered adult member should:

- 1) Immediately ensure the health and safety of the Trailmen, including isolating the Trailmen from the disruption or the concerning behavior;
- 2) If the C.O.R. and Troopmaster is available, ensure that they are immediately informed of the activity.

If at the normal meeting location of the Troop the C.O.R. and Troopmaster, acting together or with another Registered Adult member should, with courtesy and tact, take the minimum amount of appropriate action to ensure that the individual(s) causing the disruption or engaging in concerning behavior leave(s) the location. In the absence of one or both of the C.O.R. and the Troopmaster, two Registered Adult members should take such action.

If a disruption or concerning behavior takes place at a location other than the normal meeting location, the Registered Adult should:

1. Immediately ensure the safety of the Trailmen, including isolating the Trailmen from the disruption or concerning behavior;
2. If the C.O.R. or Troopmaster is available, ensure that they are immediately informed of the activity.

Registered Adults should remove the Troop/Trailmen from the presence of the disruption or concerning behavior.

For purposes of this policy, examples of disruptions or behavior that are inconsistent with the values and beliefs of Trail Life USA include but are not limited to: consumption of drugs or alcohol, violence of any type directed at Trailmen, Registered Adults, or others in the presence of Trailmen, promotion of homosexuality or the LGBT lifestyle, amorous behavior which is outside the sanctity of marriage.