

Troop 62 Electronics Policy

To promote the best aspects of scouting on our troop trips, we have an electronics policy.

Before stating the rules, we think it is important to clarify why we feel the rules are important.

First, when the troop is on a camping trip, it is a chance for us to all get away from the noise of everyday life. Electronic devices distract us from one of the biggest benefits of camping – to get away and spend time in the outdoors.

Second, when we are camping as a troop, we would like to promote a spirit of community. When a scout goes off on his own to listen to an iPod or type a text message into his cell phone, he withdraws from the troop and our activities.

Lastly, as Scout Leaders, our job is to keep our boys safe. We work to keep our scouts not only physically safe, but also safe from media (songs, pictures, videos, and games) that may not be appropriate for our scouts. Our electronics policy helps us do our job of ensuring our scouts are not exposed to inappropriate material.

Our policy is as follows:

- Cell phones are not permitted on troop trips. If a cell phone is found on a trip, it will be confiscated and returned to the scout at the end of the trip. Parents will be given a list of leader phone numbers so they can contact their sons in case of emergency.
- Console-type game systems (X Box, Wii, etc.) are not permitted.
- Portable music players and game systems are not permitted on trips unless stated beforehand. Exceptions may be made on some trips with long travel times, but devices will remain in the vehicles when we are not traveling. There will be no sharing of ear buds for sanitary reasons and no sharing of the music via splitters or passing the ipod over to another scout to plug in their headphones / ear buds.
- When portable music players and game systems are allowed, the music and games must be appropriate. If a leader determines that the content is not consistent with scouting values, the device may be confiscated, and will be returned at the end of the trip.
- Individual video players are not permitted. Video players in vehicles are permitted as long as the driver is in control of the player and is familiar with the material being played.
- Cameras are permitted on all trips. The camera must be standalone and not part of any other media device (iPod, Cell phone, etc).

Adult leaders – please be sure to understand this policy and set a good example for the entire troop.

Thanks in advance for your help in enforcing this policy. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Scoutmaster or Committee Chairman.

Please cut here and return below

Scouts, please sign, along with one of your parents. Thank you.

We have read and discussed the important policies outlined in the above letter regarding the Troop 62 Electronics policy. We understand the policies and agree to abide by them.

Printed name of parent: _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Printed name of scout: _____ Signature _____ Date _____