

PHILMONT HIGH ADVENTURE EXPEDITIONS

ADULT LEADERSHIP - BSA POLICY*

The best available adult leadership should be recruited to accompany each crew. In keeping with the policy of the Boy Scouts of America, there are no gender restrictions for adult leadership at Philmont except that each Coed Venturing crew must have coed adult leaders. **Each adult must be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.**

Each Philmont Expedition or group must have at least two BSA registered adult advisors for Scout groups, one advisor must be at least 21 years of age; the second advisor must be at least 18 years of age. **Each crew is required to have a majority of youth participants, and the maximum number of adults (over 21) is four (4) per crew.** Participants 18 through 20 years of age may be counted as youth or adult crew members.

Coed Venturing Crews are required to provide coed leadership while en route to and from Philmont and while hiking the trails of Philmont. A Coed Venturing crew must have at least one male advisor and at least one female advisor, each of whom must be at least 21 years of age. Male and female youth participants will not share the same sleeping facility. Male and female advisors are required to have separate sleeping facilities. Married couples serving as adult advisors may share the same quarters if appropriate facilities are available. Female advisors must be responsible for the female participants; male advisors must be responsible for the male participants.

When staying in tents, no youth will stay in the tent of an adult other than his or her parent or guardian.

Expedition advisors must be physically capable of hiking and camping in Philmont's high mountains for the length of the expedition. Each expedition advisor is expected to reflect high moral standards established by custom, traditional values and religious teaching.

Philmont recommends groups identify alternate leadership able to "step in" at the last minute in the event a leader is not able to attend. Philmont cannot provide staff to meet the BSA, two-deep leadership requirement.

* Refer to *Guide to Safe Scouting*, No. 34416, for additional adult leadership policy.

YOUTH PARTICIPANTS

2005 PHILMONT PARTICIPANTS MUST BE AT LEAST 14 BY JANUARY 1, 2005, OR HAVE COMPLETED THE 8TH GRADE AND BE AT LEAST 13 YEARS OF AGE PRIOR TO PARTICIPATION. TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT, PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST OR EXPECT EXCEPTIONS! REQUIREMENTS FOR PHILMONT PARTICIPATION CANNOT BE RELAXED.

In keeping with the policies of the Boy Scouts of America, rules for participation are the same for everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability.

Youth must be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America, and may participate in a Philmont expedition in one of the following ways:

- As members of a chartered unit - Scout Troop, Varsity Team or Venturing Crew.
- As members of a council contingent or district contingent with required leadership.
- As individuals in the Rayado Men/Women, Ranch Hands, Order of the Arrow Trail Crew, or R.O.C.S. Men/Women (Roving Outdoor Conservation School) program.

Unregistered guests or family members are not permitted.

YOUTH PROTECTION

All registered adults must have current BSA Youth Protection Training for participation in any national event/activity. Because of the great concern the Boy Scouts of America has for the problem of child abuse in our society, the Youth Protection program has been developed to help safeguard both our youth and adult members.

Published and videotaped materials have been prepared to give professionals and volunteers information on the resources available for educating our membership about child abuse - how to avoid it, how to identify it, and how to deal with it. These materials and local council training programs are designed to give parents and their children basic information that will increase their awareness and sense of personal power to assist in their own self-protection.

Unit leaders can learn more from these materials:

Child Abuse: Let's Talk About It, (No. 3943); Spanish edition, *Abuso de los Ninos*, (No. 94-006)

Youth Protection Basic Training for Adults (Cub Scout and Boy Scout, No. 90-148; Venturing, No.34-225)

How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide - Included in all Boy Scouts of America handbooks as a special insert

A Time to Tell (video) - Available from district executive or local council service center

HAZING - INITIATIONS - DISCIPLINE

Any form of hazing, initiation, ridicule, or inappropriate teasing is prohibited and must not be allowed.

A WORD ABOUT CONDUCT

The Scout Oath and Law should serve as the guide in all interactions with other participants and staff. Philmont serves groups from many different backgrounds and it is important that each group respect the other. This includes coed and female crews and female staff. It is not acceptable to act in a manner which belittles, harasses or makes others uncomfortable.

Each group should develop a procedure regarding unacceptable behavior and/or conduct. The best method to accomplish this is to outline expectations before the trip, as well as consequences if a participant chooses to act in a way contrary to established guidelines. Parents/guardians must be informed of the guidelines. Remember, advisors are responsible for their participants at all times - Philmont cannot provide supervision should a participant be removed from the trail for discipline reasons, they must be sent home at their own expense. **An adult advisor will be required to come off the trail to provide supervision and assist with transportation arrangements in the event a participant is sent home.**

Philmont strongly recommends tobacco products not be used. Smoking and the use of smokeless tobacco is prohibited in all Philmont buildings, tents, vehicles and on Philmont trails. If tobacco is used it must be in designated areas.

Possession or use of alcoholic beverages or abuse of prescribed or non-prescribed drugs (including marijuana) are expressly prohibited in the Philmont program. Groups or individuals found in violation of this policy will be sent home immediately as arranged with the responsible council or parent/guardian.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

HEALTH AND MEDICAL RECORD

Every camper and advisor is required to have a medical evaluation within twelve (12) months of their participation date by a physician licensed to practice medicine. An examination conducted by a physician's assistant or a nurse practitioner will be recognized for states where they may perform physical examinations to students enrolled in public school systems. **The 2005 Philmont Health and Medical Record must be used.** These forms will be available fall of 2004 and will be mailed to the contact person for your reservation at that time. Advisors are to collect and hold the forms to be turned in at the Health Lodge upon arrival at Philmont. **Review each participant's medical form to be familiar with any health restrictions, check for parental and physician's signatures, and that a copy of participants insurance card is attached.**

An individual should always contact the family physician first and call Philmont at 505-376-2281 if there is a question about the advisability of participation. Philmont's chief medical officer and other medical staff of the Health Lodge reserve the right to make medical decisions regarding the participation of individuals at Philmont.

Participants will be charged for medications dispensed at the Health Lodge. Each crew must bring a first aid kit. The *2005 Guidebook to Adventure* will contain a recommended first aid kit supply list. Many "over the counter" medications are available at the Tooth of Time Traders.

RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND MEDICAL CARE

The following is the policy of the Boy Scouts of America regarding medical requirements:

Medical examinations for camp attendance are required of all campers for the protection of the entire camp group. The immunization requirement is waived for persons with religious beliefs against immunization. (Write or call Philmont for a copy of the waiver form.)

IMMUNIZATIONS

Verification is required that adequate Tetanus Immunization has been given within the last 10 years prior to arrival at Philmont. If this service must be performed at Philmont, you will be charged accordingly.

MEDICATIONS

Each participant at Philmont who has a condition requiring medication should bring an appropriate supply. The pharmacy at the Health Lodge is limited and the identical medications may not be available. In certain circumstances duplicate or even triplicate supplies of vital medications are appropriate. People with an allergy to bee, wasp or hornet sting must bring an EpiPen or equivalent with them to Philmont.

FIRST AID AND CPR CERTIFICATION REQUIRED

Philmont requires that at least one person, preferably two, (either an advisor or a youth participant) in each crew be currently certified in American Red Cross Standard First Aid or the equivalent* and CPR from the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross or the equivalent. Several hours may be required for Philmont staff to reach a remote backcountry location after a message is delivered to the nearest staffed camp. First aid and CPR training will result in proper and prompt attention being given to injuries and/or illnesses. **You must present current certification cards upon check in to verify this requirement.**

*Equivalent training can include instruction by ambulance or fire department personnel, community colleges or other organizations. You must have a letter indicating length of training, topics covered and participant roster.

ORGANIZE YOUR CREW

CREW SIZE - 12 MAXIMUM - 7 MINIMUM

The maximum crew size is 12 people and the minimum crew size is 7 people, including adult advisors. These standards are strictly enforced. Each crew is required to have a majority of youth participants, and the maximum number of adults (over 21) is four (4) per crew.

Experience as well as wilderness emergency procedures have proven that groups of 7 to 12 people is the best size for a Philmont crew. The itineraries have been developed for this number. You will find handling crew chores more efficient, food distribution best and program opportunities greater. Also, keeping the crew together on the trail will be easier. Campsites are designed to comfortably accommodate a maximum of 12 campers.

Council contingents and other large groups should organize their crews according to hiking and camping abilities. Each crew can then choose an itinerary that corresponds to its ability, and travel at its own pace.

Note: Philmont reserves the right to combine smaller crews within contingents or multi-crew groups to maximize staff resources.

CREW LEADER

A well qualified Scout or Venturer should be selected as crew leader before training begins. The crew leader is a key person for a successful Philmont expedition and the advisor must work closely with this person. The crew leader provides leadership for:

- Making itinerary selections based upon the desires and ability of the crew
- Choosing routes during the trek based upon the capability of the crew
- Setting up and breaking camp
- Establishing a duty roster
- Seeing that "smellables" are properly stored
- Making sure that the Philmont Wilderness Pledge is upheld and that every campsite, fire pit and dish water sump is left clean.

CHAPLAIN AIDE

Philmont strongly recommends one crew member be asked to serve as a Chaplain Aide. Someone who has earned or is working on their religious award should be considered. The Chaplain Aide will be asked to lead daily devotionals and other appropriate religious services. A kit of worship resources including the booklet *Eagles Soaring High* will be provided for use along the trail during a training session provided upon arrival at Philmont.

UNIFORMS

Philmont strongly recommends groups wear the BSA field uniform while in base camp, especially at chapel service, dinner and opening/closing programs.

The Philmont Tooth of Time Traders carries a variety of Scouting tee shirts or your group may design its own "informal" shirt for the trail. The use of Philmont logos is permitted, however, groups or individuals are **prohibited** from using the BSA and Philmont logos on items for resale, including, but not limited to, tee shirts, hats, sweatshirts, patches or pins.

EXPEDITION TRAINING

To ensure the success and enjoyment of a Philmont trek, each expedition should be thoroughly trained for the trek. Each crew should carry out several backpacking trips to prepare each member physically and mentally and to mold the unit into an efficient camping crew. These activities should include hiking with full packs and training in the use of map and compass.

Personal physical conditioning should begin **months** prior to the trek. This conditioning should include regular aerobic activity. Please review the information on page 21.

ADVISOR'S KIT

Medical forms will be sent in the fall in order to allow time for physical fitness training and conditioning. In mid-March 2005, each registered Philmont expedition Advisor will be sent a kit of materials for each crew. Included will be the *2005 Itinerary and Advisors Guide*, *2005 Guidebook to Adventure*, a Philmont map, insurance pamphlet, Tour Permit application, crew roster and talent release form. The Expedition Advisor's kit contains all the information needed for final preparation of your Philmont expedition.

Please notify Philmont if a change occurs in Advisors for your Philmont Expedition.

