

## ***Boy Scout Troop 719 Acceptable Use of Personal Electronics Devices Policy***

For purposes of this policy, “personal electronic device” means any device that a scout is in possession of which electronically communicates sends, receives, stores, reproduces, or displays voice and/or text communication or data. These include, but are not limited to; cell phones, music and media players, gaming devices, tablets, and e-readers.

### **Scout Rights and Responsibilities**

1. Scouts must earn the appropriate Cyber Chip prior to any use.
2. Any Scout who possesses a personal electronic device shall be solely responsible for its care. The Troop shall not be responsible for the theft, loss or damage to personal electronic devices brought to Scouting activities by a Scout. Scouts are not allowed to use other Scout’s personal electronic devices without their specific permission.
3. Scout possession of personal electronic devices shall be permitted, but the use of them shall be limited as outlined below.
4. These devices shall be kept out of sight and powered off or silenced during these Scouting activities:
  - a. From opening through closing at all Troop meetings.
  - b. On camp outs during all scheduled program time, troop campfires, cracker barrel, or when it interferes with assigned duties.
  - c. Anytime their use negatively impacts another’s enjoyment, sleep, or experience.
  - d. Devices will not be used within tents or sleeping facilities if their use disturbs another Scout or Scouter. Headphones are permitted for listening to music, etc.
  - e. Anytime their use creates safety concerns.
5. The requirement that personal electronic devices be turned off does not apply when a Scout is using the device for an educational or instructional purpose as specified by Scoutmaster or youth leadership (i.e., SPL, ASPL, PL).
6. Personal electronic devices shall be permitted in buses and cars during transport to and from Scouting activities as authorized by the driver.

7. Scouts shall not use personal electronic devices on any Scouting activity to access and/or view internet websites that are otherwise blocked to their use at home or school.
8. Scout use of personal electronic devices that disrupts a Scouting activity, or is not in accordance with these rules, will result in its confiscation. When a personal electronic device is confiscated it shall only be released and/or returned either at the conclusion of the activity or to the Scout's parent/legal guardian. In addition, the use of a personal electronics device can be revoked if the policy is repeatedly violated.

### **Unauthorized Use**

Unauthorized use of personal electronic devices includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Devices will not be in or around the area of a bathroom and shower facilities.
2. Possessing, viewing, sending, listening or sharing video or audio information having sexual, violent, or threatening content at any Scouting activity shall be prohibited and may result in confiscation of the personal electronic device.
3. Taking and/or posting on the internet inappropriate photos or videos of others without their parent's or guardian's permission.

### **Special Notes**

At most Scouting events there is limited or no access to outlets for charging electronic devices. It is the responsibility of the Scout to make sure that they conserve battery power in their devices. If charging areas or outlets are present, all rules regarding their use must be followed.

All calls to parents or guardians to pick up a Scout early from a Scouting event will come directly from a Scoutmaster or another adult leader at the event, these calls will never come from a Scout. If parents or guardians have a question concerning pickup, they should contact the adult leader in charge before driving to the event. Per Troop 719 trip policy, Scouts are allowed to call their parents on the way home from a trip to let them know when we're arriving at the Church so that they can be picked up in a timely manner.

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