

Hawk Mountain Council – National and Local Policies

- In compliance with the Civil Rights Act Title IV, the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation is open to all Scouts regardless of race, color, national origin or religion.
- Per action of the National Council Executive Board, BSA, at the October 1987 Meeting – “all outings must have at least two (2) ADULT LEADERS, one (1) who must be twenty-one years old or older and hold current BSA registration. The second adult must be at least eighteen years old or older.
- Each Troop is under the direction of these competent adult leaders who are in residence at all times with the troop.
- With the National Council emphasis on the elimination of CHILD ABUSE, particular care should be taken for the new campers. All too often, the first camping experience becomes the last due to the way a scout is treated by his peers and adults. Hazing will not be permitted in any form. Troop adult leadership is responsible to see that it does not occur. THERE ARE NO ACCEPTABLE INITIATIONS.
- Per National Council Policy on ALCOHOL & DRUGS – “Use of alcohol or drugs are forbidden in any Scouting activity.” Anyone caught with alcohol or drugs on the camp property will be asked to leave immediately. Local and state authorities will be contacted concerning any such cases.
- Tobacco & Vaping Free Environment – It is the responsibility of the Boy Scouts of America to protect the health and safety of the young people in the program. Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation is a tobacco and vaping free environment.
- Per National Council Policy on Firearms – Camp will supply firearms for merit badge work and open shooting. The staff is familiar with our firearms and their condition. Only camp ammunition, firearms, bows and arrows may be used.
- Swim wear per National Standards – For males, brief tank suits, such as speedos are inappropriate. If preferred, males may wear tank suits, but they must be worn UNDERNEATH boxer or gym style trunks. For females, bikini suits are not suitable, one-piece competitive suits are suitable.
- Per Local Council regulations, do not bring any firewood with you. There is sufficient firewood available on the camp property and we do not want any invasive species (i.e. Spotted Lantern Fly) introduced to the reservation.
- Per National Council Regulations, the Buddy System must be used at all times.
- Per the National Council Policy on transportation of scouts, these are the necessary regulations:
 - All drivers must possess a valid driver’s license.
 - All drivers must be twenty-one years old or older.
 - Vehicles must have a valid inspection sticker.
 - Driving should be done during daylight hours.

- Traffic regulations must be adhered to.
 - A relief driver, at least eighteen years of age, is available.
 - Minimum Liability Insurance of \$50,000 - \$100,000.
 - Truck beds and truck campers may not carry passengers.
 - Only one passenger per seat belt.
- As per National and Local Council Policy, all Scouts that are “no shows” to camp need to be verified by a telephone call. In addition, any camper who is a minor and is to leave camp for any reason needs to be signed out by a parent/guardian at the Administration Building. If a camper is leaving with someone other than the legal parent/guardian verification on identification of this individual is required.
 - Per Hawk Mountain Council Policy on Vehicles – “Because of potential safety hazards, vehicle permits are restricted to camp service vehicles and all vehicles used to transport persons with special needs. Any request for special permission to transport must be made, in writing, thirty days prior to your stay at camp, to the Camp Director.” Note: “Bicycles are only allowed in specified program areas.”
 - Per National Council Policy on Parking- All vehicles must be kept in assigned parking areas for the safety of the Scouts. Vehicles will be permitted in campsites for the sole purpose of unloading/loading troop equipment.
 - In compliance with Pennsylvania State and Safety Codes, no dogs or other pets are permitted in camp during camping season.
 - Per Hawk Mountain Council policy on cutting trees – “No trees are to be cut without the specific permission of the Camp Director or designee, A five dollar per inch of diameter penalty fee will be assessed by the Camp Ranger for trees cut without permission.
 - Scout camping at the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation is to be guided first and foremost by the Scout Oath, Scout Law, the Outdoor Code and Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation Leave No Trace principles.

Hawk Mountain Council Portable Electric Generator Policy

The use of portable electric generators at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation is prohibited. No portable electric generators are allowed for personal use in any Troop site, Patrol site, or Campsite area.

Hawk Mountain Council Service Dog Policy

Service Dogs are permitted at the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation. All service dogs brought to HMSR must be registered service animals and identified as such with either a service dog vest or tag. If you are planning on bringing a service dog to camp please be sure to bring a copy of the service dog registration documents for submission to the camp medical staff.

Additionally, the State of Pennsylvania requires that all dogs over three months of age must be vaccinated against Rabies, proof of such must be provided to the camp medical staff.

Hawk Mountain Council Campership Policy

It is the philosophy of the Hawk Mountain Council that no Scout should be deprived of the camp experience due to finances. To that end, there is some support available to Scouts who attend camp at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation. This support is available to youth members of both in council and out of council units. Although the generosity of community leaders has made some limited funding available for Camperships, the Scout and his family, the unit and the Chartered Partner/local community must share in providing the needed support.

The need for Campership support must be determined at the unit level using the Campership Request Form* available on line at <https://hmc-bsa.org>, simply download the form and follow the instructions on the form.

The form must be completed and returned to the Council Service Center by May 1st.

*The completed form must include the Parents/Guardian's written explanation justifying the request and the Unit Leader's certification. Alternately, the Unit Leader may prepare and sign the written explanation with certification provided by a District Representative.

Hawk Mountain Council Tobacco Use Policy

The health and safety of our Scouts, leaders and Scouting families at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation is of the utmost importance to us all. After extensive review, the Hawk Mountain Council has implemented a Tobacco Free policy that is standard protocol at many other youth serving camp facilities. Please understand that the purpose of this policy is to protect the health and safety of youth and adults who visit Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation in support of the Aims of Scouting, specifically Personal Fitness, as well as to reduce environmental impacts.

The use of tobacco products on the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation is prohibited.

Adopted on February 27, 2014
Effective February 24, 2014

Hawk Mountain Council Refund/Cancellation Policy

Scouts or adults unable to attend an event due to an accident, illness or death in the immediate family, family relocation or a summer school related issue may request a refund. All refund requests are to follow the following procedures:

- 1- All refund requests must be submitted in writing to the Hawk Mountain Council, 5027 Pottsville Pike, Reading PA 19605, no later than ten days after the conclusion of the event.
- 2- To be included in the request: Name and date of the event, name of the participant for which the refund is sought, the amount paid to date, the receipt if available, the unit number and the name and address of the unit leader.
- 3- The Summer Camp campsite deposit is not refundable in the event of cancellation. The initial per scout camp deposit is not refundable but may be transferred from one scout to another within the troop. All deposits will be credited toward the balance of fees due. The same policy applies for payments for Cub Scout and Venturing events and activities. All transfer requests must be made in writing one week prior to all events.
- 4- Refunds are issued due to accident, illness, death in the immediate family, family relocation or a summer school related issue. "No Shows" will not receive a refund.
- 5- Refunds or transfers will not be granted to those that register for an event and chose to arrive late or depart early.
- 6- In the event a unit wrote one check for multiple participants all refunds will be sent to the unit leader for appropriate distribution.
- 7- Cancellation of Council events at Hawk Mountain Council properties due to severe weather will be based on a variety of factors including the recommendation of the local Emergency Management Authority, onsite storm shelter availability and the event leadership, both volunteer and professional.

Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation Vehicle Policy

The safety of our Scouts, leaders and Scouting families at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation is utmost importance to us all. After extensive review, the Hawk Mountain Council has implemented safe vehicle use guidelines at Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation that are standard protocol at many other youth-serving camp facilities. Please understand that the purpose of this policy is to protect the safety of youth and adults who visit Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation as well as to reduce environmental impacts.

Respectfully,

Jerry Blecker, Council President

Jim Milham, Scout Executive/CEO

Recognizing the above, please observe the following HMSR Vehicle Policy during your visit:

- On your arrival, please park in the main parking lot and check in with the Campmaster, Ranger, or Camp leadership team at the Welcome Center in the main parking lot.
- After checking in, equipment may be dropped off at campsites or buildings. All vehicles must then be parked in the main parking lot. Units are welcome to leave trailers at campsites provided they do not present a safety hazard or block road access for emergency vehicles.
- Drivers and passengers must wear seatbelts unless riding in a school or charter bus. Individuals are not permitted to ride in open trucks, trailers, etc.
- Camp speed limit is 10 miles per hour.
- During week-end camping season, no vehicle traffic is permitted in camp between 7:00 AM Saturday to 7:00 AM Sunday. During the summer camp season, no vehicle traffic is permitted in the Reservation between 6:00 PM Sunday and 7:00 AM Saturday. Please contact the Campmaster, Ranger, Reservation Director or Camp Leadership team if you need to make other arrangements.
- Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation Disability Parking Passes will be issued to those with a state-issued Disability Parking Pass or if a walking restriction is listed by a physician on the Annual Health and Medical Form.
- Personal vehicles, used for camp purposes, are to be considered "council-operated vehicles". With that in mind, Reservation Director may authorize personnel vehicles in camp for the purpose of forwarding the facilitation of program and administration.
 - All vehicles authorized for this purpose must have a vehicle pass, either in the front windshield or hanging from the rearview mirror.
 - Drivers must provide a copy of their driver's license and may be required to submit to a DMV check and insurance coverage.
 - Drivers will park all permitted vehicles in designated parking areas.
- This policy is subject to adjustment during camporees, summer camp and other events or when the Reservation is closed to campers.

Adopted on November 21, 2013 and Effective January 1, 2014

Harassment Prevention Policy for Scouting Volunteers and Staff

Policy:

It is the policy of Hawk Mountain Council to maintain a Scouting environment based on respect and courtesy. This policy is in effect at all Scouting properties (camps and offices) and at all functions (council, district and unit meetings, activities and events.)

Hawk Mountain Council does not tolerate harassment of any kind of our youth members, adult volunteers, employees, suppliers or other general public. Any form of harassment that violates federal, state or local law is a violation of this policy and will be treated as a disciplinary matter. This includes but is not limited to harassment related to an individual's race, religion, creed, color, sex, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, uniformed service member status, marital status, pregnancy, age, medical conditions, physical or emotional disability or status with regard to public assistance.

For these purposes the term "harassment" includes slurs and any other offensive remarks, jokes and other verbal, graphic or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or version to an individual because of any of these characteristics and that has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment or of unreasonably interfering with an individual's Scouting participation. One type of harassment prohibited by this policy is sexual harassment, which includes unwelcome advances, requests for sexual favors and other offensive verbal or physical conduct. The term of harassment also includes bullying and hazing. Bullying is the use of superior strength or influence to intimidate someone, typically to force that person to do what one wants. Hazing is the imposition of strenuous or humiliating tasks or rituals.

Complaint Procedure:

If you believe you have been harassed or you are aware of harassment of someone else which affects Scouting in any way, you are responsible for reporting it immediately to your Scouting staff leader or adviser, the Camp Director (if you're at camp), the Scout executive, human resources manager, or Council President, whoever you believe is appropriate. All can be reached at (610-926-3406). If feasible, you should tell the person who harassed you what action you consider to be harassment and that it should permanently stop. An accusation of harassment will be investigated quickly and firmly, and in connection with legal counsel or other appropriate investigator. A substantial violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action up to and including withdrawal of BSA membership and termination. Reporting harassment will not result in any form of retaliation.

Your Role:

As Scouting volunteers and employees, we have the Scout Oath and Law to guide us. Thank you for your help in ensuring a positive Scouting environment for everyone.

Adopted by the Executive Board on September 25, 2014