

THE WAY PARENT AND YOUTH CONSENT FORM

(Must be signed by parent/guardian and youth)

THE WAY Christian youth ministry, is pleased to have you as a participant in the activities it offers. We are an inter-denominational, non-profit, all volunteer ministry with the goal of providing the youth of this area a safe and enjoyable place to go for recreation with an emphasis on ministering to their spiritual growth and well-being, at no cost. In order to meet these goals, we must strictly adhere to a CODE OF CONDUCT that will protect both youth and volunteers and maintain the Christian standards upon which this ministry is founded and supported. Each youth and parent/guardian must sign this document acknowledging their agreement to abide by the stated Code of Conduct and the penalties for non-compliance. Signatures also indicate agreement to hold THE WAY blameless in the unlikely event of any accidents or injuries that may occur while the youth is in the facility or participating in an activity of THE WAY. THE WAY has required insurance. In addition, THE WAY is not responsible for the safety or whereabouts of the youth prior to, or after leaving the facility, nor any loss of personal property. We appreciate your understanding and support and ask for your prayers for God's blessing upon this ministry and all who participate or serve in it. The telephone number at THE WAY is 270-522-6441.

AS A PARTICIPANT AT THE WAY I WILL OBEY THIS CODE OF CONDUCT

1. I will respect myself, other people, other people's property, and the property of THE WAY.
2. I will be an encourager, not one who ridicules, makes fun of, or criticizes others.
3. I will deal peacefully with anger and disagreements, not contribute to them.
4. I will participate and contribute in a positive way in all group activities and obey the instructions of the youth ministry staff.
5. I will show respect by paying attention, not causing disruptions, and not talking out of turn especially during devotions and prayer time.
6. I will show responsibility by signing the record each time I arrive at the facility, and sign out when I leave the facility.
7. I will use language that reflects a Christian attitude by not cursing, swearing, or using other foul or crude language.
8. I will maintain my witness by keeping my hands to myself; no tickling, wrestling, piggybacking, or inappropriate touching (which means not touching anyone anywhere that a bathing suit would cover!) In addition, physical displays of affection such as kissing, full body hugs, sitting on laps, lying or sleeping next to each other on the furniture or floor, or being isolated or alone with another is not allowed.
9. I will wear modest clothing. Shirts, shoes and pants are required. No swim suits, even with cover-ups. No clothing that is sexually suggestive, spiritually degrading, evil, vulgar, illegal, or inappropriate advertisements will be permitted. All shorts and skirts must reach 5 inches from the straddle. In addition, no midriffs can show, no low-cut tops, no spaghetti straps, no see-through clothing, no sagging pants (no boxers, thongs, or underwear showing). No Speedos, guys. I understand that if a volunteer staff member does not feel that my clothing meets these criteria that I will be required to go home and change to something that is appropriate, unless the facility has items to loan me while I am there.
10. I will not possess a gun, any type of knife, or any other weapon in or on the grounds of THE WAY.

11. I will not use, possess, or be under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, or any illegal drugs or prescription narcotics (unless prescribed to you), at this facility. In addition, I will not attempt to distribute any of the above described substances. THE WAY works in close contact with the local police agencies.
12. I will refrain from actions that could result in injury and/or damage to property and agree to reimburse THE WAY for any property damage resulting from my personal misconduct.
13. I will keep my belongings with me at all times or use The Way's Security Procedure of placing my property in the shopping carts which will be put in the kitchen until time to leave. Smaller items may be given to kitchen staff to be placed in the shelving provided for them. Students may not go into the kitchen unless in a cooking class.

CONSEQUENCES FOR BREAKING RULES IN THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Conduct this year will be handled a little differently than last year. If a youth at THE WAY breaks a rule, any volunteer has the right to ask the student to stop the behavior. The volunteer may give a warning first but doesn't have to do so. If the student does not quit the behavior they are given a demerit which we are calling a "strike". The system is based on the number of "strikes" the student gets in one day. If he/she receives 3 in one day they are asked to go home for the rest of the day, and/or perhaps for the next day if the 3rd "strike" is given late in that day. Also, the same procedure applies if a student gets 7 "strikes" in a week they are required to go home on that day. They may return the next week and the timing starts all over.

The 3rd time a student is sent home he/she is then suspended. He/she can only return to The Way after the student and the parent(s) attend a Way Board Meeting to assure the Board that their behavior will be improved if they are permitted to return.

Eighteen-year-old participants who are suspended will not be permitted to return to The Way.

- The first time a student is sent home, calling the parents is recommended, but optional.
- The second time a student is sent home, parents must be called to discuss misbehavior and to alert them that the 3rd time will result in suspension.
- The third time a student is sent home, parents are informed of suspension and are invited to attend the next scheduled Board Meeting to discuss how they will work with us to improve the student's behavior should suspension be lifted.
- Documentation of all "strikes" is kept on file at The Way so that accurate counts and causes are on record.
- The number of "strikes" or demerits given for any infraction will depend on the severity of the action ranging from one to three with three being the most serious. Three "strikes" would be given for such things as fighting, being confrontational with volunteers, stealing, etc.

STUDENT NAME _____ (please print clearly)

[Please return this sheet **ONLY** to The Way. Please keep the remaining pages for your records]

Do you give permission for The Way and persons acting through them, the right to use, reproduce, assign and/or distribute photographs, films, videotapes, and sound recordings of myself or my minor student without compensation, for use in promotion/advertising, educational publications, electronic publishing (websites), and personal memorabilia? Student's name may be published.

Yes No (Parent's, please circle your answer.)

IMPORTANT THE WAY HAS NEW GUIDELINES ABOUT STUDENTS LEAVING THE PROPERTY

On Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, The Way is open from 3 to 6pm. This is such a short time that students are not permitted to leave the premises and come back. If they check out (leave) they must leave our property. Friday, The Way is open from 3 to 9pm. It is our preference that students stay with us the entire evening, but we have neither the authority or resources to keep them from leaving, regardless of destination. If you do NOT want your students to leave and return on Fridays for any reason, please contact 270-498-1933 and/or bring a note to The Way stating your intent along with two phone numbers for us to contact immediately should your student decide to leave without your approval. We will do our best to support your decision, but ultimately it is your student's responsibility to carry out your instructions. **Do you give permission for your child to leave and return on Friday nights?**

Please circle your answer Yes No If "no" follow the instructions above.

**I HAVE READ THE WAY'S MINISTRY POLICY AND CODE OF CONDUCT
AND AGREE TO FOLLOW THE RULES LISTED**

SIGNATURE OF STUDENT _____

PRINTED NAME OF STUDENT _____ Date _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN _____

PRINTED NAME PARENT/GUARDIAN _____

Parent/Guardian Contact Information

Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Text (Y) (N) Email Address _____

Mailing Address _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Text (Y/N) _____

Email Address _____

Thank you so much for completing and returning this page only. The information on the first page is important and contains our phone number. Please retain for your records.