

## Adult Leader Covenant of Conduct

Oklahoma United Methodist Camps (OKCamps) welcomes ALL children, youth and adults to our Summer Camps and Events.

The conference camps and events that we offer are informed theologically by our United Methodist faith. Participants, especially those adults who choose to bring campers and serve as adult leaders, acknowledge that our faith informs what is taught and practiced and agree to conduct their conversations and activity to respect these perspectives.

Adult leaders have limitations and should feel comfortable taking a step back and not having all the right answers. At these times, deans are available to step in and guide.

I agree as an adult leader to:

1. Comply with all policies and practices as outlined in Camps' Safe Sanctuaries Training and camp/site-specific policies.
2. Attend camp training and prepare in advance for the events I participate in.
3. Follow and support the prayer, work, and commitment of Conference camp leadership in providing a camp experience that is developed through a Wesleyan lens and United Methodist Doctrine and Social Creed.
4. Offer a presence of support, care, and encouragement for the camper and for the leadership.
5. Respect each child, youth and adult, acting in an appropriate and Christian manner with each person I come into contact with.
6. Act and speak only in ways that build up participants, and will refrain from verbal abuse, put-downs, inappropriate jokes, sarcasm, and racial slurs.
7. Create a supportive, affirming Christian community. We do not tolerate bullying or behavior that discriminates on the grounds of race, creed, gender, sexual orientation, age, etc.
8. Act as a good steward. Campers and guests are stewards of the camp property and land. The areas used for the camp, meeting, or retreat shall be left clean, free of graffiti, and in good condition. Trees and flowers are growing things and should not be damaged or disturbed.

I also agree to the following policies:

1. The use or possession of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, tobacco or vape products is prohibited.
2. Pets, lighters, matches, fireworks, electronic game systems, pagers, roller blades, skateboards, magazines, or sexually explicit literature or items of any kind are not allowed.
3. Weapons including but not limited to firearms, knives, air, BB or pellet guns, are not allowed, although certain of these items may be used as part of a supervised program element.
4. Swimwear shall be modest, and closed-toe and -heel footwear is required.
5. Sleeping quarters are to be respected- boys only in boys' cabins, girls only in girls' cabins, and no sharing bunks.

6. All individuals are expected to participate in group activities.
7. All site- or trip-specific rules will be followed
8. **Discipline.** Corrective action used is expected to be constructive and reflect our value that all persons are deserving of respect and love. Corporal punishment is never permitted. Disciplinary activities involving isolation, humiliation, or ridicule are prohibited. Examples of positive discipline include verbal praise and high fives.
9. **Inappropriate use of smart phones, cameras, imaging, or digital devices prohibited.** Although most campers and leaders use cameras and other imaging devices responsibly, it is easy to unintentionally or inadvertently invade the privacy of other individuals with those devices. The use of any device capable of recording or transmitting visual images in or near shower houses, restrooms, or other areas where privacy is expected is inappropriate.
10. **No one-on-one contact outside of camp between adult leaders and campers.** Leaders may not have one-on-one private online communications or engage one-on-one in other digital activities (games, social media, etc.) with campers. Leaders should copy a parent and another leader in digital and online communication, ensuring no one-on-one contact exists in text, social media, or other forms of online or digital communication.
11. Communicate respectfully and avoid using profanity or harassing behavior in online platforms as well as ask permission to post photos of others.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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The conference camps and events that we offer are informed theologically by our United Methodist faith. Participants, especially those adults who choose to bring campers and serve as adult leaders, acknowledge that our faith informs what is taught and practiced and agree to conduct their conversations and activity to respect these perspectives. As an ecumenical camp, we recognize that we are not all United Methodist. Leaders and students will come from a variety of faith backgrounds. However, we all affirm God's love for creation, and God's salvation offered to all through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As host of this event OKCamps will provide curriculum informed and shaped by United Methodist doctrine and set the training and safety policies of the event.

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2. Attend camp training and prepare in advance for the events I participate in.
3. Follow and support the prayer, work, and commitment of Conference camp leadership in providing a camp experience that is developed through a Wesleyan lens and United Methodist Doctrine and Social Creed. It is the responsibility of every adult leader to read and review curriculum before camp and bring to the attention of the dean any areas where clarification is needed or the content contradicts one's own faith tradition. In the event that there is not a satisfactory resolution to questions of doctrine the dean(s) has (have) may choose to relieve an adult leader of small group teaching duties.
4. Participate in the sacraments in a manner that is respectful to the United Methodist traditions, including support of an open communion table (not hindering any camper or adult from coming to receive communion) and refraining from celebrating baptisms at camp.\*
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\* In The United Methodist Church baptism is a "Once-made covenant and can only be reaffirmed and not repeated (Book of Discipline ¶216.2b). A remembrance of baptism may be celebrated at camp as long as it is a communal act open to all baptized persons present that would be confused with baptism such as submersion, pouring, or sprinkling by a clergy person. The United Methodist Church also requires, in most situations, that baptism occur in the congregational setting where a person will become a member after baptism.

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